



## **FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-L12 EARLY TERMINATIONS OF PAROLE**

**Status:** Implementation Complete

### **Actions/Updates**

#### **2012 STATUS UPDATE**

Since implementation in 2010 and in the spirit of improving efficiency and effectiveness, the Department has updated Administrative Regulation (AR) 250-29; Recommending Early Discharge from Parole Supervision.

The AR has been vetted by the Parole Board and division personnel awaiting signature from CDOC's Executive Director.

#### **2011 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ACTION STEPS**

Department of Corrections Chief Financial Officer Karl Spiecker will report back to CCJJ staff on the status of this recommendation.

#### **2010 UPDATE**

*Implementation complete.* Department of Corrections officials report that DOC Administrative Regulation 250-29 "Recommending Early Discharge For Parolees" was signed by DOC Director Ari Zavaras on 9/2/09 and re-enacted on 10/1/10. DOC has fully implemented the recommendation. From September 9, 2009, 1,573 recommendations for early discharge were submitted to the Parole Board. To date (October 2010) the Board has discharged 1,377 offenders.

#### **2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION**

The Department of Corrections developed DOC Administrative Regulation 250-29 and plans on full implementation by January 1, 2010. This regulation was endorsed by the Post Incarceration Supervision Task Force with the modification that violent offenders be included for early discharge consideration. The Department of Corrections supports this modification with the conditions that there is an avenue for victim input and a full parole board review.

#### **2009 IMPACT**

When data become available, annual Commission reports will include the number of early discharge requests from parole officers and parole board decisions that result in early termination of parole.

#### **2009 BARRIERS**

The potential barrier noted by the Department of Corrections is that of timing and sequencing.

DOC plans complete implementation and acknowledges the requirement of funding for the information technology program Colorado Web-Based Integrated Support Environment (C-WISE) and training of the Community Parole Officers and Parole Board members.

## **Description**

The Commission requests that the Department of Corrections develop and implement a standardized policy regarding early terminations of parole and require parole officers to submit such requests to the parole board when a parolee has served at least half of the parole period and has met other risk reduction benchmarks. In addition, the Department of Corrections should provide data on the numbers and decisions of early termination requests to the Division of Criminal Justice. The Commission further requires that such request comply with the Victim's Rights Act.\*

*\* In a focus group conducted with representatives from the victims' community, participants were comfortable with this recommendation only if this applies to nonviolent offenders, excluding offenders using the Victim Rights Amendment definition of violent crime. Also, focus group representatives wanted to ensure that the victim is informed of every request for early termination, and that these requests should be limited to one per year per offender.*

## **Agencies Responsible**

Department of Corrections, Parole Board

## **Discussion**

*Implementation of this recommendation is underway. This effort reflects the evidence-based practice of focusing on individual needs and risk levels, and using parole resources for those most in need of supervision. It is consistent with the Commission's statutory mandate to "focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives..." and enhance "the cost-effective use of public resources" [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(1)].*