

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
Sentencing Reform Task Force

Parole Working Group
Minutes

November 25, 2020 3:00PM-4:00PM
VIRTUAL MEETING

ATTENDEES

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Kristen Hilkey, Chair, Colorado State Board of Parole
Taj Ashaheed, Second Chance Center
Michelle Aswad, Victim Representative
Kazi Houston, Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center
Mollie Shultz, District Attorney, 2nd Judicial District
Susan White, Department of Corrections

STAFF

Kim English, Division of Criminal Justice
Stephané Waisanen, Division of Criminal Justice

ABSENT

Jeff Chostner, District Attorney, 10th Judicial District

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Welcome, Introductions, & Updates on Membership <i>Kristen Hilkey</i></p>	<p>Working Group Leader Kristen Hilkey welcomed Michelle Aswad to the group. She asked members to introduce themselves.</p>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Revocations <i>Kim English</i></p>	<p>Kim presented an analysis on technical parole violations where there was an underlying arrest. The analysis searched for crimes within 90 days of the revocation, but Kristen said this window should be one year. Kim will pursue conducting a new analysis using the 12-month period.</p> <p>Noteworthy, a majority of the arrests were related to substance abuse.</p> <p>The information presented gave the group an accurate idea of how substance abuse is a prime factor in technical parole violations.</p>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Standard Conditions of Parole – Applied to Individuals & Individual Conditions of Parole – Address the needs of Individuals <i>Kristen Hilkey & WG</i></p>	<p>Kristen asked the group what suggestions they had for revising the STANDARD conditions of parole.</p> <p>The group agreed that many of the conditions of similar content could be consolidated. Conditions 1, 2, 4, and 11 could be combined under reporting and 5, 9, and 10 could be combined under court orders.</p> <p>There was discussion on whether the language of the conditions should be condensed in order to simplify. The group agreed not to condense the wording, but make the language more succinct. It was noted that the state of Georgia had combined conditions related to fees.</p> <p>Enforcement of conditions was also discussed.</p> <p>Kristen summarized that the STANDARD conditions of parole should be, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tied to recidivism • Succinct and clear • Enforceable <p>The group agreed that the conditions that involve substance abuse should be in the INDIVIDUAL conditions and apply to those who had a dependency on drugs and alcohol that was linked to the crime.</p>

<p>Issue/Topic Next Steps <i>Kristen Hilkey</i></p>	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Kristen, Kazi and Susan will meet before the next meeting and look at reformatting and combining the INDIVIDUAL conditions. It was also mentioned to eliminate the condition regarding “no association with other convicted individuals” as it is not enforceable.</p>
<p>Issue/Topic Public Comment</p>	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Kristen asked if there were public comments for the Working Group.</p> <p>Linda Summers stated that when an individual is released there is long adjustment period for the person. There are many conditions they have to comply with, and sometimes individuals become hopeless and this results in the use of drugs and alcohol. She mentioned restitution has also been a problem.</p>
<p>Issue/Topic Wrap Up & Adjourn <i>Kristen Hilkey</i></p> <p>ACTION Revise Standard Conditions of Parole <i>Kristen Hilkey, Kazi Houston & Susan White</i></p>	<p>Discussion</p> <p>Kristen reminded the group that a preliminary recommendation to be presented to CCJJ by the end of December.</p> <p>Kristen, Kazi, and Susan will work on revising the current STANDARD of conditions for the group to discuss at the next meeting.</p> <p>Kristen thanked the group for their time and mentioned the next meeting will be Wednesday, December 2, from 3:00 – 4:00 pm.</p>