

State Board of Pardons and Paroles

Nationally Recognized as a Leading Paroling Authority



Annual Report FY 2011

Our Mission

To serve the citizens of Georgia as an integral component of the Criminal Justice System by making informed release considerations and protecting the public through effective offender supervision.

Our Vision

To be the most efficient and effective paroling agency in the nation.

Our Core Values

We value Ethics, Integrity, Fairness and Honesty.



Governor Nathan Deal
and
Georgia's
Parole Board

Parole Highlights for FY 2011

Georgia's Parole Board in Fiscal Year 2011 worked to strengthen its capability of meeting its core mission of public safety and to improve the agency's operations.

By actively engaging stakeholders, the agency is developing strategies, streamlining processes and making more efficient use of state resources. In FY11, the agency also looked to technology to improve operations in key areas.



Regional Parole Chief meetings help keep the agency focused on its mission.

FY 2011 Highlights:

- Implementation of CONS, an electronic data and document management system (page 13)
- Implementation of a pilot voice recognition supervision system (page 15)
- Increased collaboration with the Department of Corrections, local, state and federal law enforcement to improve public safety (page 17)
- Eliminated unnecessary leases and utilized state owned space through office restructuring and consolidation (page 19)
- Increased reentry programming (page 20)
- Consolidated offender payments in conjunction with the Department of Corrections, streamlining and making the process consistent (page 24)



Michael Nail, Executive Director of Parole, speaks to staff at an agency quarterly administrators' meeting.



Parole increased participation in joint law enforcement operations in FY 2011.

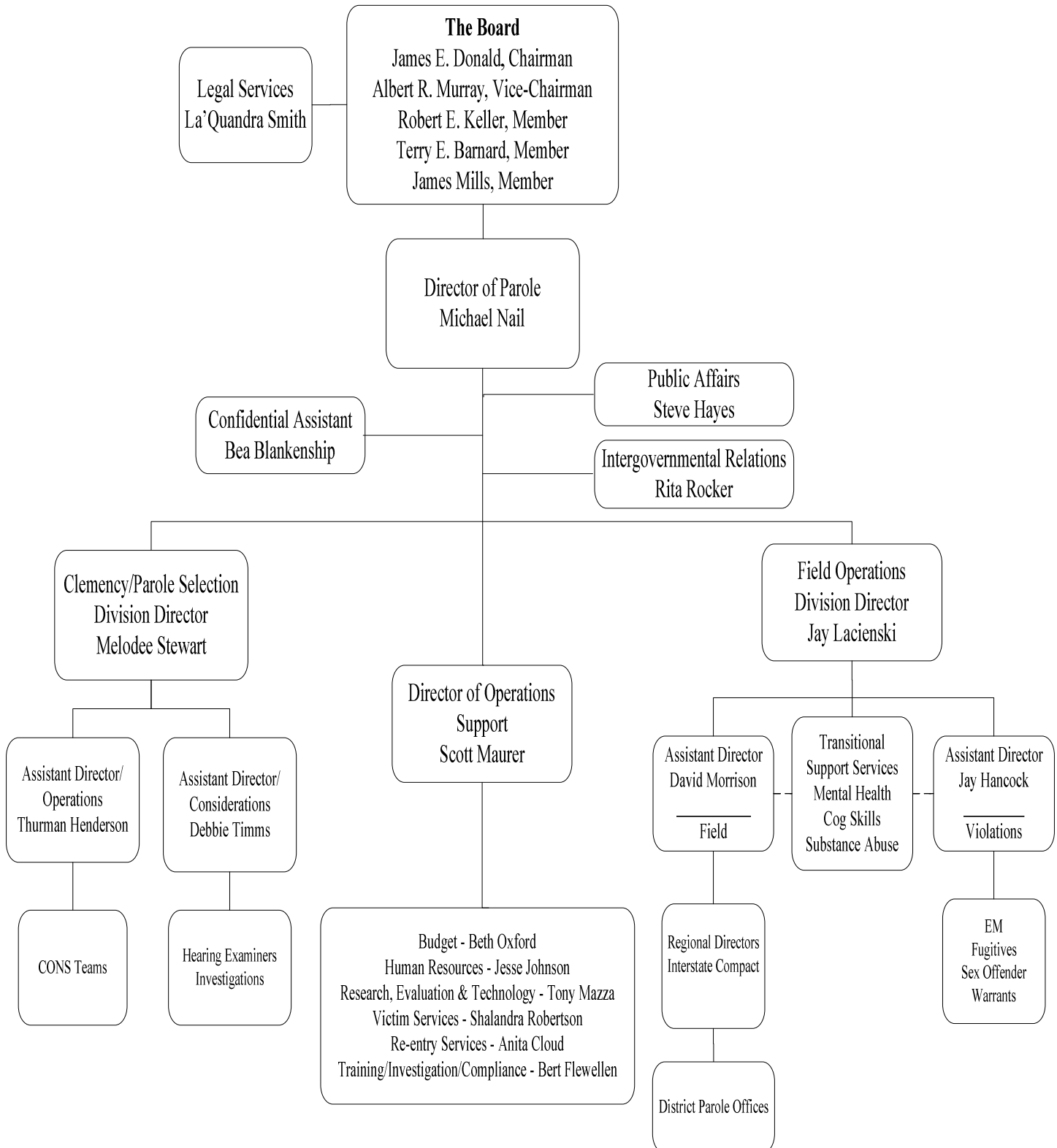


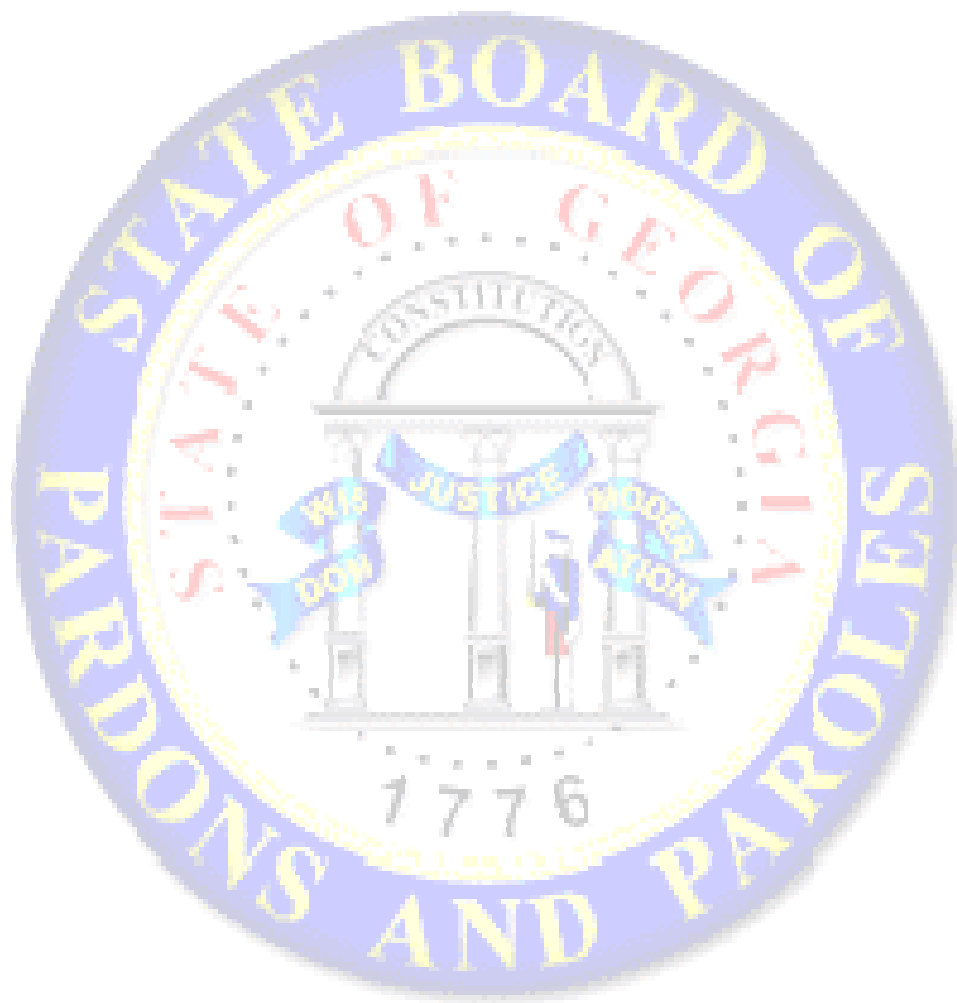
In FY 2011, the Parole Board and the Department of Corrections worked together to improve common areas of operations.

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State Board of Pardons and Paroles





Website: www.pap.state.ga.us



THE GEORGIA PAROLE BOARD

Georgia's Constitution provides for three branches of government to serve as checks and balances on the power of government over the offender. The legislative branch sets the minimum and maximum range of the prison sentence, the judicial branch sentences the offender within that range, and the Parole Board, as part of the executive branch, serves as a check and balance on the other two branches, while managing the finite resource of state prison beds.

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles is the **only** entity in the state with the constitutional authority to commute a death sentence. The Parole Board makes informed decisions on which inmates are deserving of parole, thereby ensuring that the state's prison beds are dedicated to the offenders who have committed the most serious crimes.

The Board's core mission is ensuring public safety by successfully managing prisoner reentry. Parole Officers skillfully and carefully reintegrate offenders into the community under strict supervision. In Fiscal Year 2011, the five members made 70,261 clemency votes and set 16,170 preconditions to parole. In FY 2011, the percentage of parolees successfully completing their parole supervision was 71%, while the national average was 51%. For the past several years, the Board has maintained a success rate of 20% higher than the national average. As a result, the Georgia Parole Board is viewed as a nationally recognized paroling authority.

Above: The Georgia Parole Board meets monthly to conduct agency business. The Board's five members are full time employees. Please see Member profiles starting on page 9.

Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report

The Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the Georgia General Assembly
Citizens of the State of Georgia

On behalf of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles, I am pleased to present our FY 2011 Annual Report. The past year brought many challenges to state government and this agency. These challenges have been met as our workforce remained focused on priorities while bringing change and improvement to an already great agency. Despite being one of the state's smallest agencies in size and budget, we have accomplished a great deal while effectively managing the resources afforded by the state.

Within this report you will learn how our agency is leveraging new technology and evidence based practices to enhance offender supervision. With a parole population of nearly 24,000, parole caseloads continue to average 85-90 per officer, and the state's parole completion rate is a remarkable 71%. This is a result of dedicated parole officers who work tirelessly to ensure accountability of offenders and assist with their reentry in the community.

We are working more closely with our law enforcement partners in communities across Georgia to ensure mission accomplishment. We have highlighted some of these areas for you in this report.

As criminal justice reform comes to Georgia, we recognize that more cost effective programming alternatives are needed. We welcome this reform led by Governor Nathan Deal, as we continue to strive to give offenders paroled from the prison system the tools they need for effective reentry. Our goal is not to give them a free ride, but to help them understand they can be successful by working hard and becoming law-abiding citizens.

As Parole Board Chairman, it is my hope you find this report informative.

Sincerely,
James E. Donald



Board Chairman, General James Donald addresses parole, probation and Atlanta Police Officers as they prepare to conduct a joint law enforcement operation in FY 2011.



PAROLE BOARD MEMBERS

In 1943, Georgia voters ratified a landmark amendment to the State Constitution establishing the State Board of Pardons and Paroles as an independent agency authorized to grant paroles, pardons, reprieves, commute sentences (including death sentences), remit sentences and remove disabilities imposed by law.

The Georgia Constitution provides that Parole Board Members are to be appointed by the Governor to serve seven-year staggered terms, subject to confirmation by the State Senate. Originally, the Board consisted of only three members. In 1973, when the prison population reached 9,000 inmates, the Constitution was amended to expand the Parole Board to five members.

The Board still stands at five members, although the prison population exceeds 53,000 inmates. The Parole Board Members are full time employees and are professionals from various fields including criminal justice, the legislature and private business.



General James E. Donald

Board Chairman, Major General (R) James E. Donald, of DeKalb County, was re-elected chairman by his fellow Board Members in May 2011, to serve his second term as chairman. He was appointed to the Parole Board by Governor Sonny Perdue in January 2009. Governor Perdue described General Donald as, “a results oriented manager who excels at leading people and building teams.”

The former Commissioner of the Department of Corrections was the driving force behind transformational changes in one of the State’s largest departments. As commissioner, General Donald oversaw the fifth largest prison system in the nation, consisting of approximately 200,000 felons in prison or on probation, and an annual budget of more than \$1.2 billion.

Donald’s decisions as prison’s chief saved taxpayers an estimated \$66 million in FY 2009 and “triple bunking” prison cells reduced the need for a new prison, a cost avoidance of approximately \$120 million. Another significant accomplishment was the planned relocation of the Corrections Headquarters and Training Academy to Tift Campus in Forsyth, Georgia, saving an estimated \$4 million annually.

Also, General Donald opened and began operating six new 200 bed Pre-Release Centers and eight in-house Transition Centers, a commitment to better prepare offenders for society and rehabilitate inmates, thereby stopping the revolving door of recidivism. General Donald’s expansion of Day Reporting Centers for supervising low risk felons helped relieve overcrowding, reducing the tax burden to Georgia’s citizens. General Donald has brought that leadership to the Parole Board, recognizing the need for more effective reentry methods to include better employment opportunities and initiatives to increase transitional housing for released offenders, addressing the two important factors for reentry success; those being employment and housing.

Prior to his appointment as the Commissioner of Corrections in 2004, General Donald retired as a Major General of the United States Army Forces Command. He earned the Bronze Star for his bold leadership as a Task Force Commander with the 101st Airborne “Screaming Eagles” during Gulf War I. He also served as Deputy Commanding General, U. S. Army Pacific, Assistant Division Commander to the 25th Infantry Division, and Director of Operations/J3 U.S. Pacific Command in Hawaii.

General Donald is a native of Jackson, Mississippi, and a graduate of the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. He earned his master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Missouri. He is the 2010 recipient of the Mississippi Trailblazer Award honoring his outstanding achievement in the military and government. He is a member of Cascade United Methodist Church and serves on several boards.

Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report



Albert R. Murray

Vice Chairman Albert R. Murray, of Rockdale County was re-elected to a second term as vice chairman by the Board in May 2011. Mr. Murray was appointed to serve on the Board by Governor Sonny Perdue in May 2010, leaving his post as commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice. Murray had served in that capacity from January 2004 to May 2010, making him the longest serving juvenile justice commissioner in Georgia's history.

It was Murray's long and successful career in criminal justice, specifically youth services, that brought him to Georgia. He began his service to troubled youth in his native state of Tennessee as a counselor and was promoted to Superintendent of the Tennessee Youth Center and eventually to Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Children Services and the Department of Youth Development for the state of Tennessee, a position he held for sixteen years. His successful career in Tennessee resulted in his appointment as the first commissioner of the newly created Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority in 1996. There, he worked to create a comprehensive Juvenile Justice System for the state of Kansas, serving as commissioner until 2003. In 2003, Mr. Murray served as Deputy Commissioner of Programs for the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Mr. Murray's service to Georgia is notable. A major accomplishment as Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice was the completion of all requirements for the release from the agency's memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice on May 05, 2009, ending eleven years of federal oversight. Also under his leadership the agency maintained an accredited school system for the youth in custody, new community programs were added, as well as a newly created victim advocacy component, and more training opportunities were created for staff.

Mr. Murray has served for many years in several capacities as a member of the American Correctional Association, and in 2009 he received the ACA's Cass Award for lifetime achievement. Mr. Murray graduated cum laude with a master's degree in Education from Middle Tennessee State University and a bachelor's degree in English from Tennessee State University.



Robert E. Keller

Board Member Robert E. Keller, of Clayton County, was appointed to the Board by Governor Sonny Perdue on January 3, 2007, and served previously as Vice Chairman of the Parole Board from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2010.

Mr. Keller served as Executive Counsel to the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia, and is the former chairman of that organization. Before joining the Prosecuting Attorneys Council, he served as the Assistant District Attorney of Clayton County from 1972-1974. He maintained a private practice from 1974-1977. Mr. Keller served as the District Attorney of Clayton County from 1977-2004. During those years he was voted District Attorney of the Year in 1987 and 2001.

Mr. Keller served as a member of the Georgia Board of Public Safety, the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, the Georgia Code Revision Plan Committee and the Commission to Assess Crime Laboratory Needs into the 21st Century. He also served as vice chair of the Governor's Commission on Certainty in Sentencing. In addition, Mr. Keller was a 2009 delegate to Israel with the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange.

Mr. Keller earned a bachelor's degree from Birmingham Southern College and a law degree from Emory Law School. He has a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system, and his reputation and credibility among the judiciary and prosecutors is highly admired.

State Board of Pardons and Paroles

Board Member Terry E. Barnard, of McIntosh County, was appointed to the Board in May 2010 by Governor Sonny Perdue and reappointed December 31, 2010.

The former State Representative served nearly sixteen years in the Georgia House of Representatives prior to being appointed to the State Board of Pardons and Paroles. During his eight term tenure, the Coastal Georgia lawmaker faithfully served the state as a member of several key House Committees to include Appropriations, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Children and Youth, Rules and State Institutions and Property, where he served as the distinguished chairman for six years. He vacated his seat upon being appointed to the Board.

Mr. Barnard has a vast intuitional knowledge of the Georgia Department of Corrections from a legislative perspective which is proving invaluable as a member of the Board. As a State Representative, Mr. Barnard shepherded every bill introduced into the Georgia Legislature, that had any impact on the Department of Corrections.

In 1995-1996, Mr. Barnard guided through the Georgia House the framework for the State Sex Offenders Registry and Sexual Predators Review Board. As a result, interested parties can easily learn if a convicted sex offender is living in a neighborhood of interest.

Mr. Barnard is a native of Tattnall County. He is a graduate of Atlantic Community College and has a strong background in business. He has owned and operated several businesses, among those a Real Estate Brokerage. With over eighteen years of experience in the financial industry, he served as Vice President and Manager of First Citizens Bank of Reidsville, and as a regional marketing director for Green Tree Acceptance, a national mortgage lender. He is involved in a local Baptist Church and takes part in many community events and activities.



Terry E. Barnard

Board Member James W. Mills, of Hall County, was appointed to the Board by Governor Nathan Deal and was sworn in on November 14, 2011. The former State Representative served nineteen years in the legislature representing the 25th district. Mills served as secretary of the Rules Committee and was a member of the Appropriations, Banks and Banking, and the Ways and Means committees. He also served previously as chairman of the Banks and Banking committee.

During his legislative service, Mills has sponsored or helped pass notable and important legislation. His amendment placed, "IN GOD WE TRUST," on the Georgia state flag. Mills passed "proof of citizenship when registering to vote" legislation and he shepherded through the House the bill calling for driver's license tests to be given in English. He also helped pass the Georgia Mortgage Fraud law allowing district attorneys to prosecute mortgage fraud. Mills also passed the "Option of Adoption" legislation, the first of its kind in the nation.

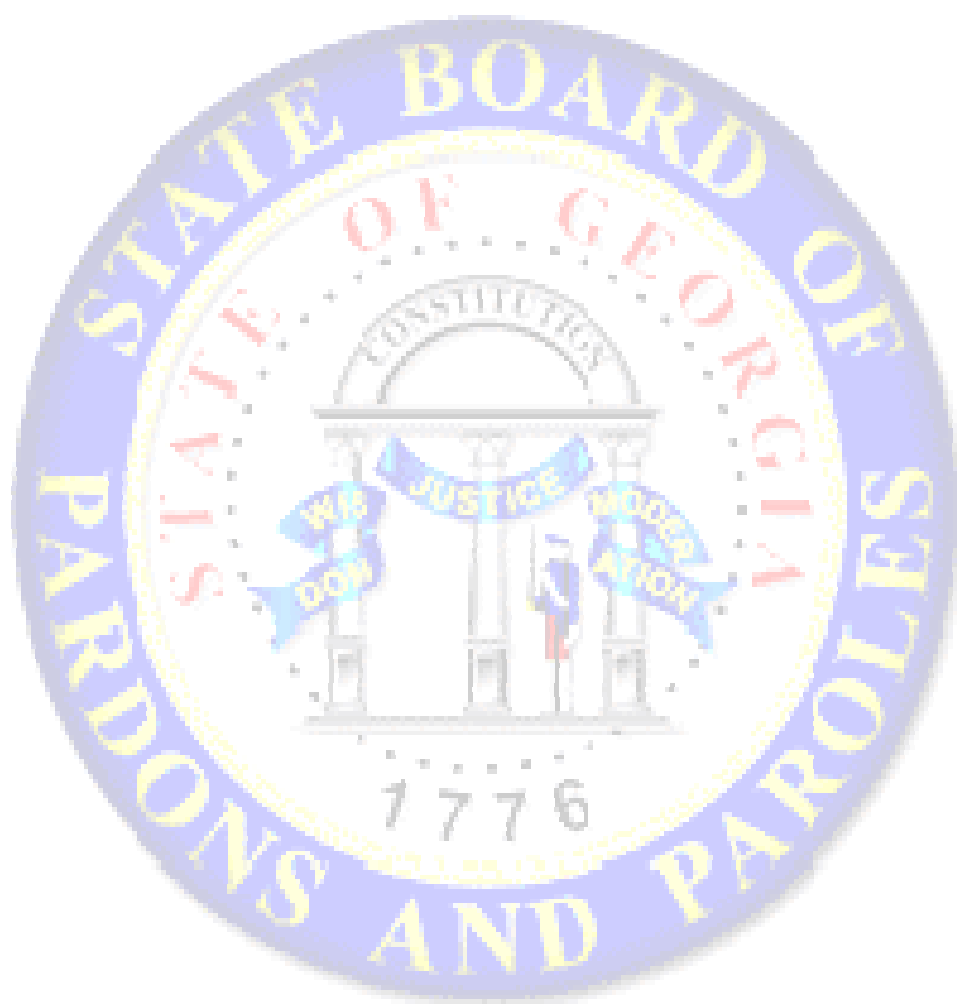
Mills was named Christian Coalition Legislator of the Year in 2001. In 2007, he was named "Legislator of the Year" by the Georgia Retail Association. That same year he received the "Outstanding American Award" and was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is the recipient of the "Pro-Life Hero" award from the Georgia Right to Life organization and in 2007 was named the Pro-Life Hero Legislator by the Justice Foundation.

Mills is a successful businessman, who owns and operates mini storage warehouse businesses and was invited to the White House on two occasions as recognition for his tax cutting efforts as a state legislator. Three times he has been named to the Atlanta Business Chronicle's Who's Who in Finance.

Mills graduated from Mercer University in 1985 with a bachelor's degree. In 1990, he received a master's degree from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (N.O.B.T.S.). Mills is involved in many community youth activities and he's led numerous overseas mission trips through his local church. He's married to Rita and the couple has four children.



James W. Mills



CONS

Clemency Online Navigation System

In December 2010, The Georgia Parole Board made a major change in the manner in which parole case files are constructed and ultimately voted on by the agency's five Parole Board members. The introduction of CONS, the Clemency Online Navigation System, eliminated the production of paper offender files, converting entirely to an electronic process.

CONS, in production since 2007, is being followed by an imaging project that will convert all existing paper offender files to an electronic format. The new electronic data and document management system is designed for all of the Board's business processes. Board members are now able to view the entire case on computer and determine a parole decision, recording the decision electronically.

Clemency and Parole Selection



Georgia's five full time Parole Board Members voted 1,974 cases using CONS in FY 2011. The new electronic case preparation and management system also will save the agency resources. (Vice Chairman Albert Murray votes a CONS case in 2011)

The Parole Process

As the transition to the Clemency Online Navigation System continues, the actual consideration process remains unchanged. Parole Investigators throughout the state collect details of conviction offenses, interview inmates and their family members.

For non Life Sentence cases, Hearing Examiners review all of the information obtained in the investigations. They process, and prepare summaries using a parole decision guidelines scale utilized by the Board for making equitable decisions.

CONS cases are electronically forwarded to a Board Member with a recommended number of months to be served prior to parole. In FY 2011, the same process occurred with existing paper files.

Board members individually consider the cases and can agree with the time to serve recommended by the guidelines scale or they may increase or decrease the recommended number of months to be served before parole is granted. (continued on page 14)



During FY 2011, Board staff created **21,416** new offender files and completed **48,376** investigations on behalf of the Board.

Clemency and Parole Selection

Parole Process continued

Tentative Parole Months or TPMs

A **Tentative Parole Month (TPM)** is set when three of the five Board Members agree on a specific time for an offender to serve. Offenders receive written notification of the Board's decision. Tentative parole months or "grants" can be rescinded at any time. The public is able to view the TPM status of an inmate on the agency's web site at www.pap.state.ga.us. The "Inmate TPM Lookup" link is located on the home page.

Life Sentence Parole Considerations

Life Sentence inmates are considered when they become eligible under Georgia law. The consideration process is similar to the steps described above except

there is no Guidelines Scale and Life Sentence inmates are not assigned a TPM. The decision is either to grant or deny parole. If parole is denied to a life sentence inmate, the Board by policy will reconsider the case again at least once every



Parole Board members routinely visit state prisons informing offenders about the parole process. Chairman James Donald speaks to inmates at Phillips State Prison.

eight years. At the time of the decision, if denied, the Board will determine when, within the next eight years, the case will be considered again.

Clemency Actions in FY 2011

RELEASE ACTION	Totals
Parole	10,938
Supervised Reprieve	1,587
Conditional Transfer	1,085
Commutation	350
Remission	0
Other Release Action	23
TOTAL RELEASES	13,983

TOTAL PAROLE REVOCATIONS **2,594**

DISCHARGES

Discharge from Parole	7,638
Discharge from Reprieve	1,656
Commutation to Discharge Parole	659
TOTAL DISCHARGES	9,953

INITIAL DECISIONS UNDER GUIDELINES **8,585**

LIFE DECISIONS

Deny Parole to Life Cases	723
Grant Parole to Life Cases	230
TOTAL LIFE DECISIONS	953

OTHER BOARD ACTIONS

Pardon	817
Commutation to Reduce Sentence	0
Medical Compassionate Reprieve	99
Restoration of Rights	117
Visitor Interview	3,274
Revocation Hearing	374
Preliminary Hearing	109

RELEASES UNDER SUPERVISION (June 30, 2011)

Georgia Releases in Georgia	22,772
Out-of-State Releases in Georgia	957
Georgia Releases Out-of-State	3,107
TOTAL PAROLEE POPULATION	26,836

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

During Fiscal Year 2011, Georgia again experienced an increase in the number of offenders on parole. The parole population increased from 22,403 parolees on July 1, 2010, to 23,729 (supervised in-state) on June 30, 2011. Meanwhile, the parole completion success rate rose to 71% (see chart on page 16). The cumulative total of parolees under supervision in Georgia for the fiscal year was 38,905.

The average caseload per parole officer in the state during the fiscal year was 85, up from 78 the previous fiscal year. The Parole Board employs annually, approximately 300 parole officers statewide. Parole officers must have a four year college degree and are required to complete an eight week basic training course at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC). (See Training information on page 26)



Georgia's parole officers made 389,762 face to face contacts with offenders across the state during Fiscal Year 2011.

By visiting parolees at their homes, on the job, at counseling and treatment programs and other locations in our communities, parole officers effectively monitor the offender's activities.



Technology Enhances Parole Supervision

In an effort to leverage technology to improve effectiveness and efficiency, the Parole Board is piloting the AnyTrax voice monitoring system. AnyTrax is a 100% offender funded web-based service system, in which low risk/low need offenders are enrolled after performing well while under parole supervision. It is a self reporting program, requiring participants to call AnyTrax at least once a month to verify or update their status (address, place of employment, etc.). The parolee's identity is confirmed through advanced voice recognition software, which is over 99% accurate.

The goal of the program is to eliminate the need for these high performing parolees to report monthly in person to the parole office. This program is anticipated to improve communication between the parolee and officer, save resources, and promote successful outcomes. Parole officer resources will be reallocated toward the supervision of high risk/high need offenders in the community, thereby increasing public safety.

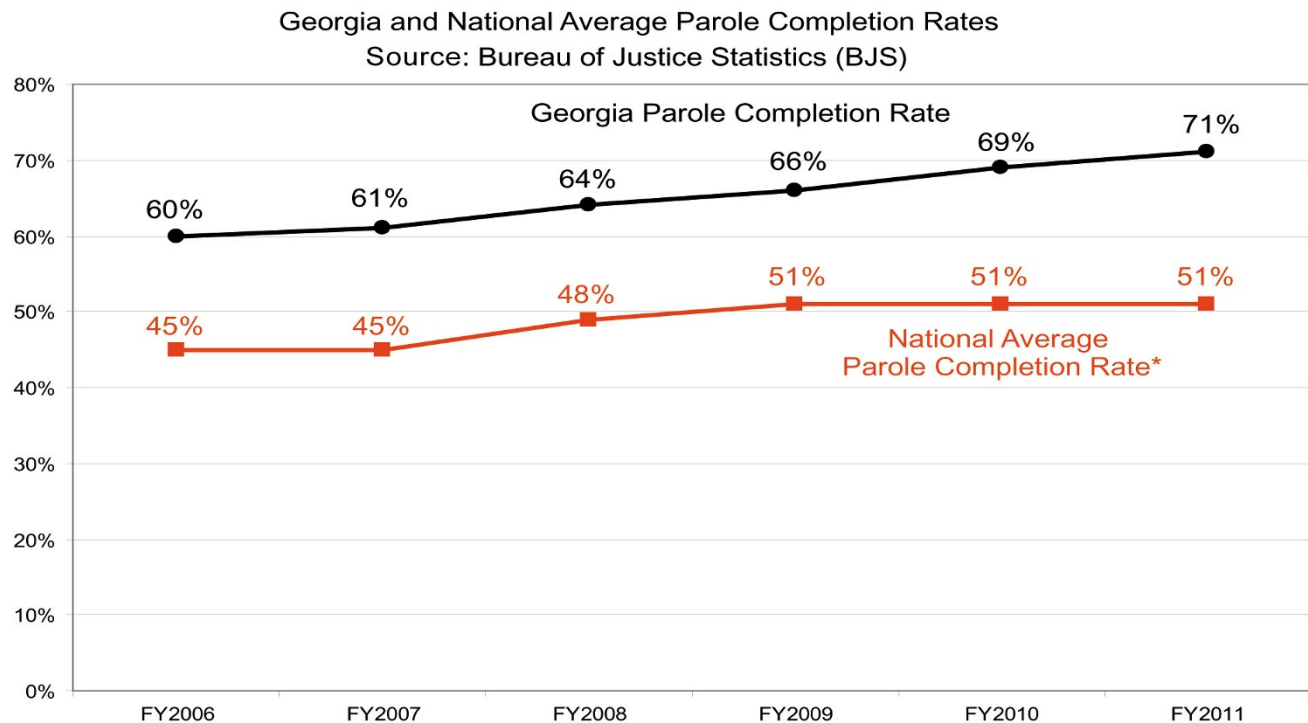


Parole Board Chairman James Donald, Vice Chairman Albert Murray, and Parole Director Michael Nail are briefed on the AnyTrax system.

Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

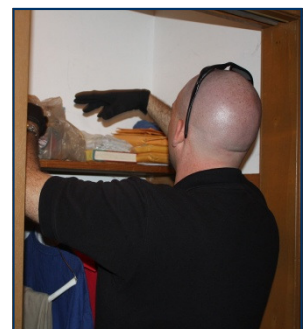
For the fifth consecutive year, the rate of Georgia parolees successfully completing supervision has increased and is 20% above the national average. The calculations are based on BJS methodology.



* Estimated National Averages for FY10 and FY11

Supervision of Georgia's Parole Sex Offender Population

During FY 2011, the monthly average of the Parole Sex Offender population increased by more than 38% to 530 offenders. The Board requires sex offenders to be supervised at the highest level to include electronic monitoring. Parole officers check to ensure compliance monthly by conducting property searches and verifying residence requirements.



Sex offenders under supervision are visited monthly by parole officers who check their residences for contraband such as pornography.

Year	Radio Frequency Electronic Monitoring (RF EM)	Global Positioning System Electronic Monitoring (GPS EM)	Total Electronic Monitoring	Sex Offenders
FY2010	1054	279	1333	384
FY2011	989	222	1211	530
% Change	-6.2%	-20.4%	-9.2%	38%

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

Parole Revocations and Warrants

During Fiscal Year 2011, 2,594 offenders had their parole revoked, down from 2,750 in FY 2010. Revocations have gradually declined since 2006. Revocations as a result of technical violations accounted for only 10.4%. Intermediate sanctions help some offenders avoid revocation. In FY 2011, Parole expanded its use of Corrections' Day Reporting Centers as an alternative to revocation. (See page 20)

Parole Board Members conducted 374 final revocation hearings during the fiscal year. The hearing is held by an individual Board Member who makes a recommendation to the full Board to revoke or continue parole.

In FY 2011, a total of 13,408 warrants were issued by the Board. Parole officers arrested 3,507 parolees in FY 2011 and 604 fugitive arrests were made.

Joint Law Enforcement Operations were a method in which the State Board of Pardons and Paroles ensured compliance by parolees and aided public safety through arresting parole violators and fugitives in FY 2011. Joint operations were conducted in several counties in metro Atlanta and also in Columbus, Lawrenceville and Macon.



Above: Gwinnett police, Corrections' Probation Officers and Parole Officers prepare to serve warrants.
Middle and bottom: Parole, Probation and Atlanta Police conduct a three day operation.

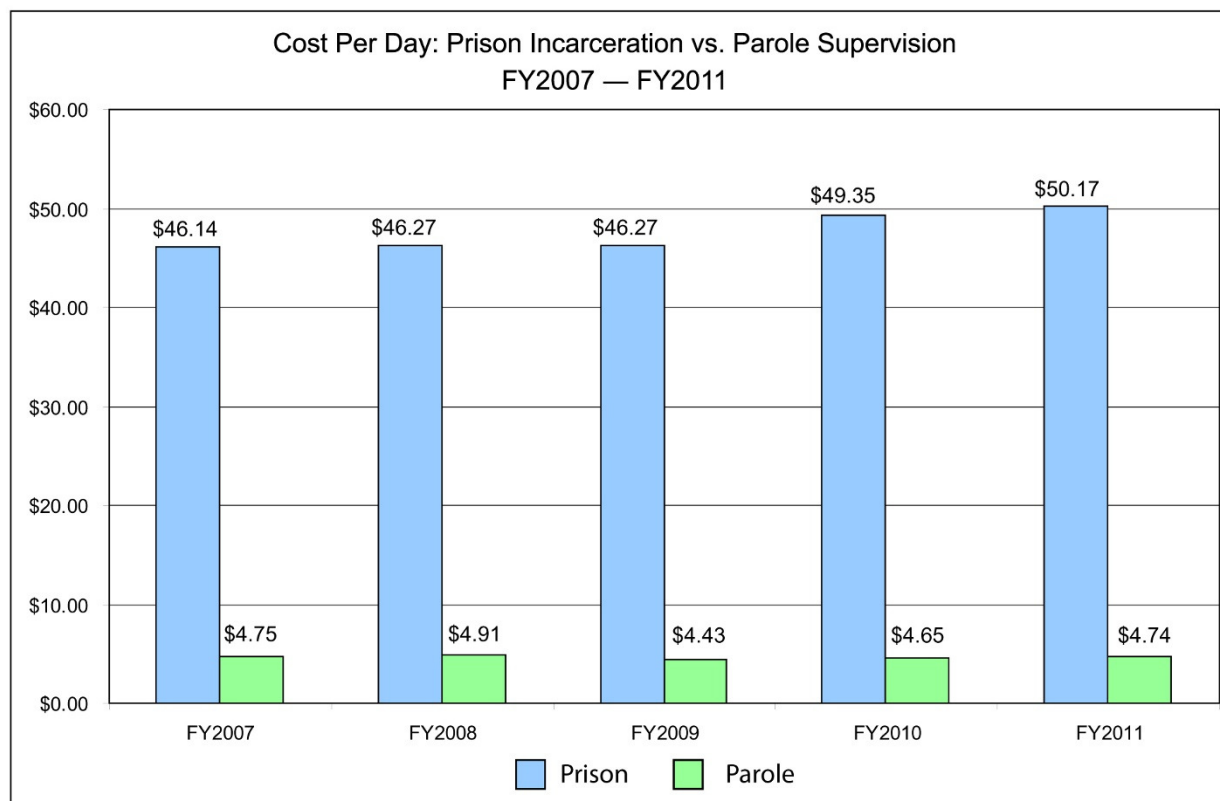
Interstate Compact

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles Interstate Compact Unit is responsible for overseeing the placement and transfer of all parolees into and out of the state of Georgia and is a member of the nationwide Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS). In addition, the unit is responsible for responding to violations, handling extraditions and responding to victim needs. The unit maintains the files of all the conditional transfers to Federal custody and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees.

Fiscal Year 2011:

- Offenders Released/Paroled to Out-of-State Supervision: 446
- Offenders currently under Out-of-State Supervision (June 30, 2011): 3,107
- Offenders Released to ICE for deportation: 280 (a cost savings for Georgia of \$15,728,098)
- Current offenders under Conditional Transfer Supervision to a Federal or Out-of-State Detainer: 1,488
- Other State's Offenders currently under Georgia supervision: 957

Field Operations and Parole Supervision



On June 30, 2011, there were 53,341 offenders incarcerated in Georgia prisons and 26,836 (in-state and out-of-state) under parole supervision. In FY 2011, the annual cost avoidance to the prison system as a result of offenders on parole is calculated at \$298,299,469.

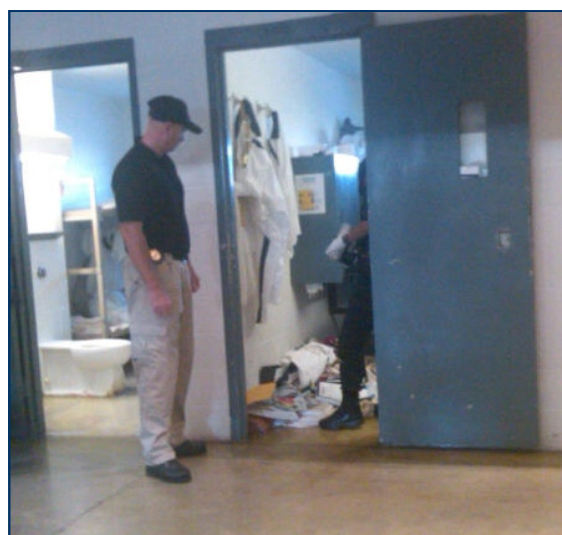
Parole visits GDC Prisons

State inmates began seeing parole officers inside prisons in FY 2011. The visits have several objectives.

One objective is to show inmates that corrections and parole are working closely together and that an inmate's behavior while incarcerated can impact parole decisions. The interaction with the inmates also helps dispel rumors about the parole process.

In FY11, 29 visits were made by Parole managers and staff to 20 GDC prisons and facilities.

Another objective is to increase communication and the understanding by prison staff about the parole process.



Georgia parole officers observe a shakedown at Hays State Prison

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

Drug Testing and Drug Treatment FY 2011

During FY 2011, **10,449** parolees were referred to drug treatment programs and **10,268** parolees were enrolled into drug treatment programs. The number of parolees completing drug treatment successfully during the fiscal year was 5,653 (67% completion rate).

Drug Testing

Drug testing is used to identify parolees who need counseling and verify compliance with parole conditions, to include counseling and special conditions. Testing is also used to determine the level of drug usage among those on parole. A total of **84,016** drug tests were administered by parole officers in FY 2011. The agency conducted 16,490 random drug tests of which 10% or 1,603 parolees tested positive.

Drug Treatment FY 2011

FY 2011 Outpatient Parolee Substance Abuse Recovery Services	
Part-time, Contracted Substance Abuse Counselors	53
Motivation, Assessment & Planning (MAP) Groups	2432
Recovery Groups	8737
Delivered in each parole district, successful discharge from the program requires attending six consecutive weeks of group sessions and continued negative drug tests.	
FY 2011 No Turning Back Recovery Program	
Admissions	160
Graduates	147
Unsuccessful Discharges	13
The No Turning Back Program at the Whitworth Parole Center is an intensive addiction treatment program for parolees who are identified as both high-risk and high-need.	

Parole closes leased offices, moves in with Corrections

In Fiscal Year 2011, The Parole Board eliminated some office space leases, an effort to optimize resources. Where state owned space existed, the Board began looking at ending existing leases and moving staff into the state owned property. In a few locations, parole officers are now working side by side with state probation officers. Moves included relocating the parole offices in Gainesville, Rome, Dublin and Augusta into Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC), state-owned facilities. Other cost saving moves included closing the Louisville office. Parole officers at this office are now working in the Augusta and Thomson Parole Offices. Additionally, the Cuthbert Parole Office was closed with those officers now working in the Albany Parole Office. "It makes little sense to continue to pay leases when we have state owned office space available," stated Director of Parole Michael Nail.

Reentry and Transitional Services

Employment

Employment and housing are two critical components of successful reentry for offenders coming out of prison. Studies show that for every day a parolee is employed, there is a 1% decrease in the chance that they will be re-arrested.

In FY 2011, the average monthly rate of parolees employed was 69%. Offenders under parole supervision are required to be employed or actively seeking employment as a supervision requirement. Parole officers actively work with offenders on their caseload to find suitable jobs. In FY11, the Parole Board endorsed offender employment related grant proposals in an effort to increase employment opportunities for parolees.

Housing

Adequate housing or an acceptable residence is another barrier offenders may face either to be granted parole or to remain under compliance and on parole. Each year, several hundred inmates in the state prison system are unable to be paroled due to not having a place to live. The Parole Board is actively engaged in working with existing and new housing partners to provide more housing opportunities for offenders leaving prison. (See RPH and THOR on page 21)



Project Destiny is a non-profit in Dalton assisting offenders re-entering society.

Day Reporting Centers and Community Partners Help Keep Parolees From Returning to Prison



Board Chairman James Donald talks with three parolees graduating from a Day Reporting Center in FY 2011.

Day Reporting Centers

The Parole Board in FY 2011 began stepping up referrals of parolees to the Department of Corrections' Day Reporting Centers (DRC) as an alternative to revoking parolees and returning them to prison for violating parole. Through a collaboration with the Department of Corrections, each of Corrections' thirteen DRCs are allotting up to ten slots for parolees. DRCs include programming such as substance abuse counseling, cognitive restructuring, adult basic education and help with employment. Failure to complete the DRC program results in revocation proceedings. In FY 2011, twenty four parolees on their way back to prison for violating parole graduated a DRC program and avoided prison, helping themselves and saving the state \$51 per day in prison costs per inmate.

Community Partners

The Parole Board engages a variety of community and government resources to assist parolees. In Atlanta, the Board is working with "New Beginnings," a reentry project spearheaded by the U.S. Attorney's Northern District office. The project helps match employers and services to offenders exiting prison.

Reentry and Transitional Services

Reentry Partnership Housing Program (RPH)	Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR)
<p>The goal of the RPH program is to provide short term financial assistance to help stabilize an offender's re-entry process to enhance his or her ability to remain crime-free. RPH provides housing to convicted felons who remain in prison due solely to having no residential options after the Parole Board has authorized their release.</p> <p>Participating housing providers are compensated \$600 per month for up to three months, a total not to exceed \$1,800 per parolee. In return, parolees are provided room and board without charge for this period. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is the administrative agent that processes all RPH funding.</p>	<p>Through the Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR) program, there are an additional 143 approved residential providers. Many of these residential providers offer treatment services to parolees, supporting their efforts to become law-abiding, self-sufficient, and free from substance abuse.</p> <p>The THOR Directory is a an online resource accessible to parole and corrections staff to assist in finding offender housing. The service is accessible at www.pap.state.ga.us/thor.</p>
<p>FY 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44 RPH providers • 594 parolees placed in RPH • RPH expenditures—\$874,202 • Cost avoidance program generated by paroling offenders to RPH—\$5,313,173. 	<p>Parole Board employees have frequent contact with staff in these facilities, and are able to assist with any issues that may arise prior to the parolee arriving at the facility or after the parolee arrives. Staff conduct site visits a minimum of every two years to re-approve facilities based on THOR Directory standards. In FY 2011, the Parole Board's Transitional Support Services Unit inspected 105 of the facilities to ensure standards were being met.</p>

Total THOR facilities	143
Number of inspections completed	105
Number of structured housing residences	32
Number of standard recovery residences	67
Number of intensive recovery residences	44



Grace Village housing was constructed by Georgia Department of Corrections' inmates.

Victim Services



The Department of Corrections and State Board of Pardons and Paroles Office of Victim Services serves victims of crime and their families by keeping them informed about their offender's case and by answering questions about parole. Through this office, Parole Board members are informed about the views and concerns of victims. Registered victims are informed prior to any parole decision about activity in their case. Correspondence and contacts by victims with the office are made a permanent and confidential part of the parole file on the offender.

Victim Information Program or V.I.P.

V.I.P. is a 24-hour automated information system used by the Georgia Department of Corrections, in partnership with the State Board of Pardons and Paroles, to provide victims of crime and/or their families with access to information about their offender.

Victims or family members of the victim of a crime can register for Victim Information Program (V.I.P.) notification by returning a completed Crime Victim Notification Request Form and/or a Victim Impact Statement to the Office of Victim Services. The Victim Notification Request Form and/or the Victim Impact Statement can be obtained from the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Assistance Program serving the local community. This form also may be obtained by contacting the Office of Victim Services or downloaded from the Parole Board's website: www.pap.state.ga.us.

Upon receiving a completed form, the Office of Victim Services will register the contact in V.I.P. allowing victims to receive notifications about their offender. A letter is sent to the victim confirming the request has been received and recorded. Along with the confirmation letter, the registrant also will be issued a PIN (Personal Identification Number) that will be used to acknowledge that notification of a release has been successfully completed. In FY 2011, there were **3,437** new V.I.P. registrants.

Once registered, how V.I.P. works:

By dialing the toll-free V.I.P. number, (800-593-9474) information regarding the custody status of an inmate can be obtained. In Fiscal Year 2011, **17,585** calls were logged into the V.I.P. Automated Phone system by victims and others.

V.I.P. also operates as a notification system.

Through computer generated telephone calls, registered victims automatically receive notification calls when the offender is released from prison under the following circumstances:

- after completing the court ordered term of incarceration (end of sentence),
- if placed on probation supervision,
- or placed on parole supervision.

In Fiscal Year 2011, **1,149** calls were automatically made to victims of crime.

Victim Services

Fiscal Year 2011:

- The Office of Victim Services received **3,969** direct phone calls from victims or family members.
- **2,921** correspondences from victims or family members were officially filed as part of offender records.
- **14,215** correspondences were sent to victims or family members addressing their concerns.
- Victims filed **2,819** victim impact statements and notifications with the Office of Victim Services.
- **3,123** victims received **\$179,391** in restitution from offenders.

Victims Visitors' Days

Victims Visitors' Days were another method used by Victim Services to serve victims of crime in Fiscal Year 2011. Victim Services conducted two Victims Visitors' Days, making Board Members and other parole staff available to meet face to face with the victims and families.

Parole Board staff conducted Victims Visitors' Days in Dalton and Forsyth in FY 2011.

Since 2006, the Board has met with over 1,000 crime victims and their families. In FY11, **212** victims were seen at two Victims Visitors' Days and **98%** of the participants rated their overall experience as good or excellent.

- Notification of the release of an inmate from the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections
- Ensuring Victim Impact Statements and Protest Letters are submitted to the Parole Board for review
- Notification of Parole consideration, release, and supervision
- Access to Georgia V.I.P. (Victim Information Program) automated information system (1-800-593-9474)
- Advocacy for victims, including but not limited to, situations involving harassment or unwanted contact from offenders either incarcerated or under parole supervision, and compliance with court-mandated conditions
- Referrals to community based resources and services
- Preparation and orientation for family members of homicide victims for pending executions in death penalty cases

The Office of Victim Services hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Office of Victim Services
2 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, S.E.
Suite 458, East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 651-6668 Fax (404) 654-6377
Statewide Toll-free Number
1 (800) 593-9474

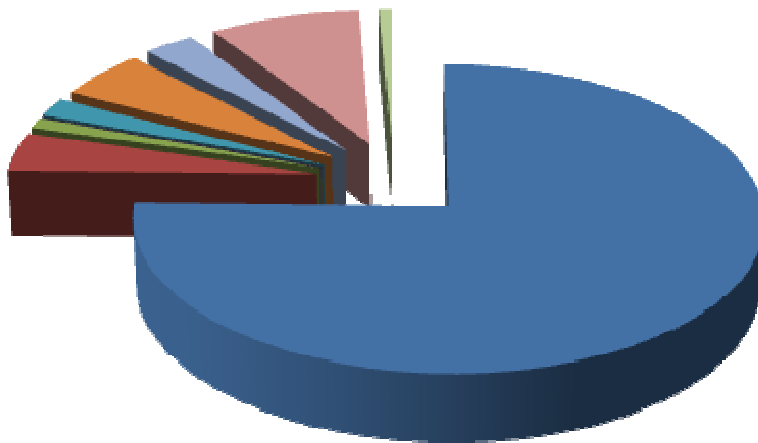


Board Members and Parole staff discuss issues after a Victims Visitors' Day in Forsyth, Georgia in April.

Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report

Budget Services

Fiscal Year 2011 Expenditures



Total Expenditures for FY 2011 \$54,849,088

FY11 Funds

Federal	\$544,099
Other	\$136,914
Stimulus	\$1,981,380
State	\$51,867,654
Total Funds	<u>\$54,530,047</u>

Consolidated Banking Process

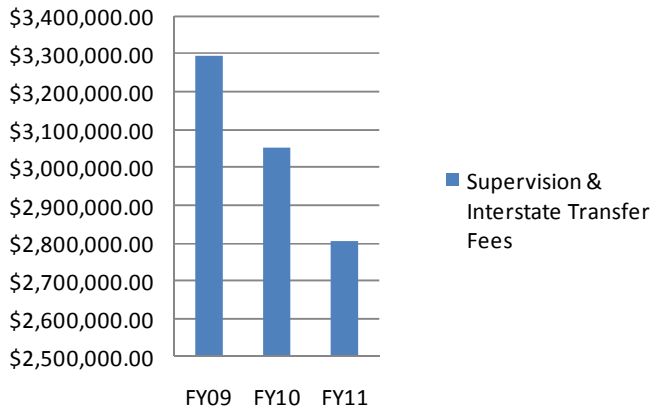
During FY 2011, the State Board of Pardons and Paroles' Budget Office worked to improve the process of collection and distribution of offender payments. The goal is to consolidate all offender transactions in order to achieve consistent processes, improved communication and greater accountability.

Effective July 1, 2011, offenders on parole began paying supervision fees, victims compensation fees, court ordered restitution and interstate compact application fees through the Georgia Department of Correction's Consolidated Banking Unit.

(continued on page 25)

State Board of Pardons and Paroles

Supervision & Interstate Transfer Fees



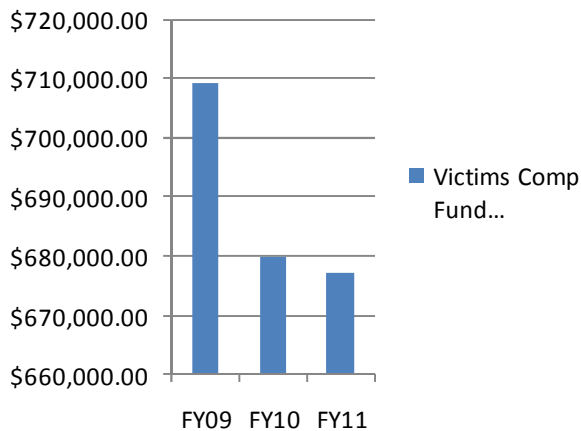
**FY 2011 Payments
by Offenders
\$3,692,397.71**

**Supervision
\$2,802,850.67**

**Victims Compensation
\$677,234.79**

**Restitution
\$212,312.25**

Victims Comp Fund

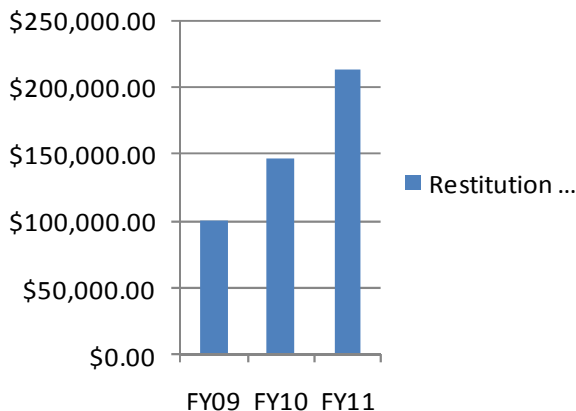


Supervision fees collected from parolees go directly into the treasury.

Victims Compensation fees go into the Victims Compensation Fund which is administered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Restitution is disbursed directly to crime victims.

Restitution



Consolidated Banking (continued)

The system now collects and disburses all offender fees, regardless of the offender status. The Consolidated Banking Unit was created in January 2009 to handle financial transactions for state inmates and probationers. Parolees used a separate system to make payments. Now offenders, regardless of their status, have options to send payments by money order, cashier check, personal check, credit or debit card.

Benefits

Offenders now have one clear, consistent method of payment of fines, fees and restitution throughout their sentence. All offender payment data will be captured in one repository, which will result in better communication and accountability regarding financial obligations owed, collected and disbursed.

Parole Officer Training



Joint training exercises are conducted with law enforcement partners.



Parole officers must qualify twice annually with agency provided service weapons.



Fifteen new parole officers graduated the 52nd BPOTC in May 2011.

During Fiscal Year 2011, the Board's training unit delivered 33,745 hours of training to the department's workforce. The unit's two full time employees facilitated the training, increasing the total number of training hours by more than 12,000 above FY 2010 totals. Sworn staff training hours totaled more than 26,000 and non-sworn staff received just over 7,700 of the training hours.

All newly hired parole officers must complete the eight week basic training course within twelve months of their hire date. In FY 2011, two Basic Parole Officer Training Courses (BPOTC) were conducted, graduating 29 new parole officers. The course is conducted at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth.

Basic Training Curriculum Breakdown



BPOTC includes supervision techniques, investigation procedures, intervention strategies, criminal and Georgia law, Parole Board policy and procedure, interview skills, physical fitness, arrest procedures, defensive tactics, computer interaction and firearms qualification. The training includes certification to use an agency issued service weapon.

All agency employees must complete In-Service training on an annual basis. Sworn staff must complete twenty hours annually which includes mandatory firearms re-qualification and use of deadly force.

Non-sworn staff must complete eight hours of In-Service training annually.

Human Resources

Human Resources provides support to the agency staff in key areas such as payroll and benefits. The agency's workforce in Fiscal Year 2011 shrunk slightly to 676 employees, down from the previous fiscal year total of 689.

A breakdown is as follows:

Total full time staff:	<u>676</u>
Sworn staff:	
• Chief Parole Officers:	48
• Assistant Chief Parole Officers:	35
• Parole Officers:	284
• Other sworn staff:	65
Total sworn staff:	(432)
Non sworn staff:	(244)

The parole officer turnover rate for FY11 was 4.2%.

Employees by gender: Male (306/45%)
Female (370/55%)

Employees by age:

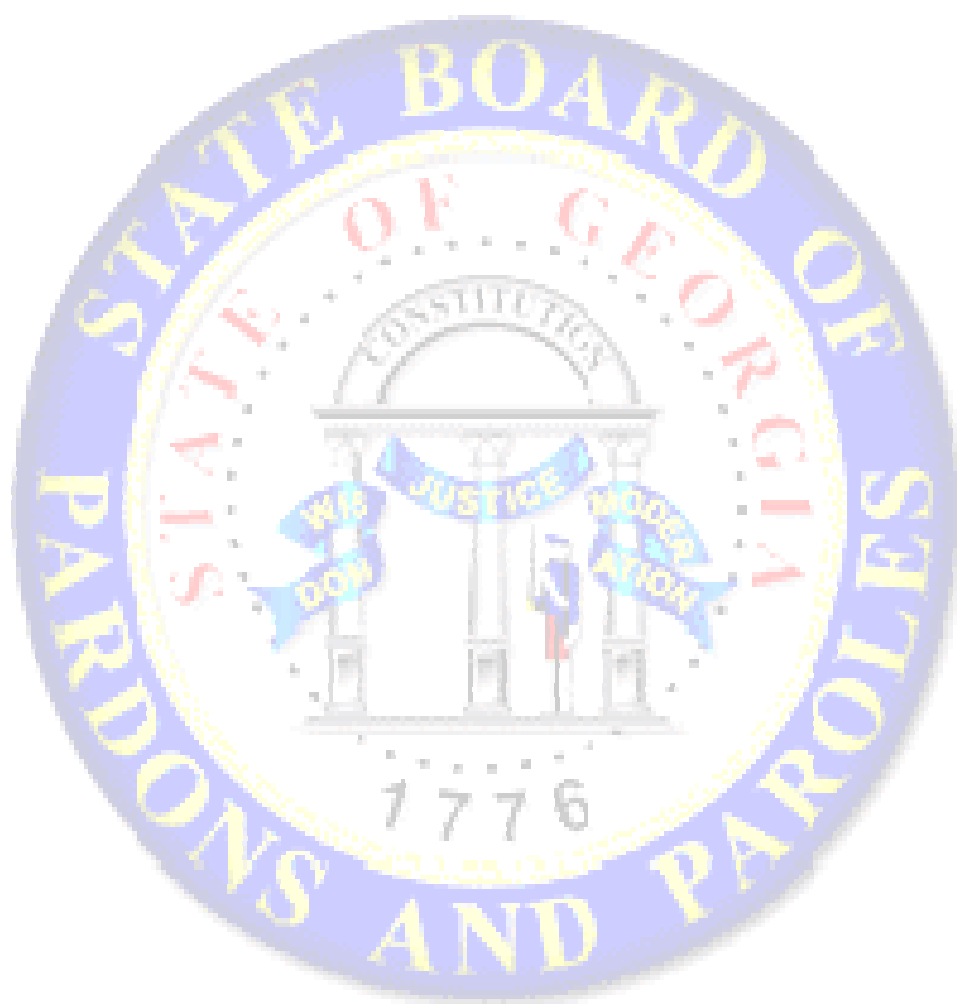
- 20-29 (67/10%)
- 30-39 (180/27%)
- 40-49 (215/32%)
- 50-59 (169/25%)
- 60 + (45/6%)

Employees by race/
ethnicity:

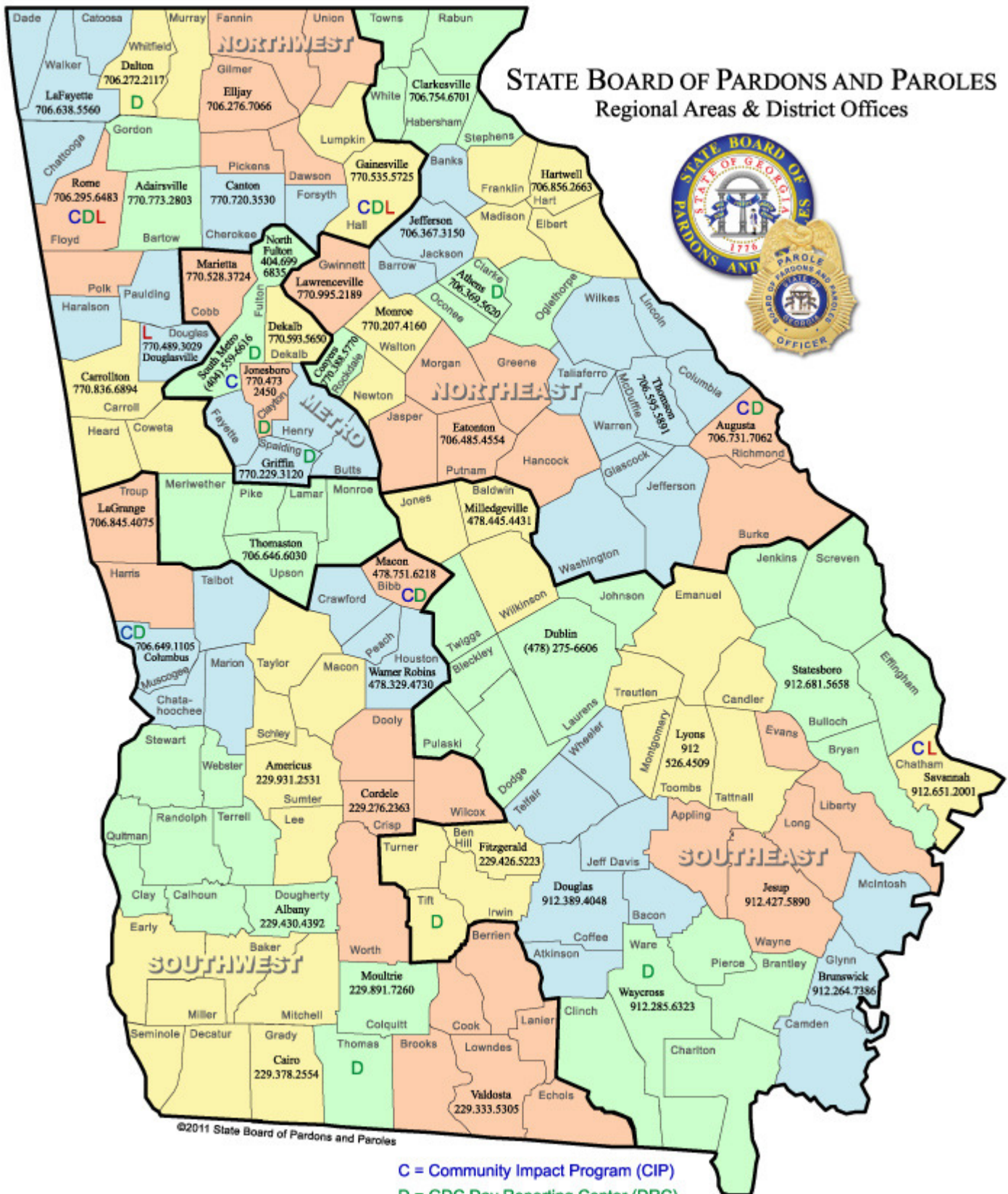
- American Indian (2/0.3%)
- Asian (10/1.5%)
- Black (261/38.6%)
- Hispanic (5/0.74%)
- Multiracial (1/0.15%)
- White (397/58.8%)

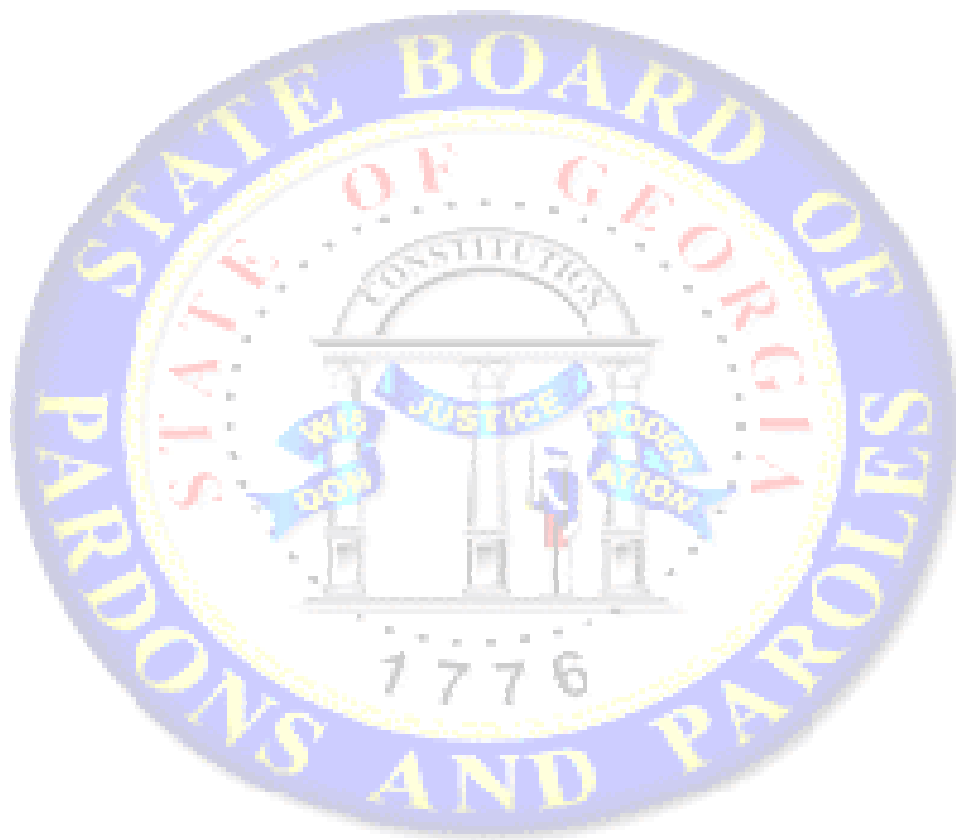


The Parole Board routinely recognizes its employees for their dedication to public safety. Top three photos: employees receive recognition through the agencies quarterly program. Bottom photo: Director Nail recognizes employees at the Board's monthly meeting.



State Board of Pardons and Paroles





The Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report
was prepared by the Parole Board's
Office of Public Affairs
Cover by Richard Oleson

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404-657-9450

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