



Nationally Recognized as a Leading Paroling Authority



# **Our Mission**

To enhance public safety by making informed parole decisions and successfully transitioning offenders back into the community.

# **Our Vision**

A parole system that leads to a safe Georgia.

# **Our Core Values**

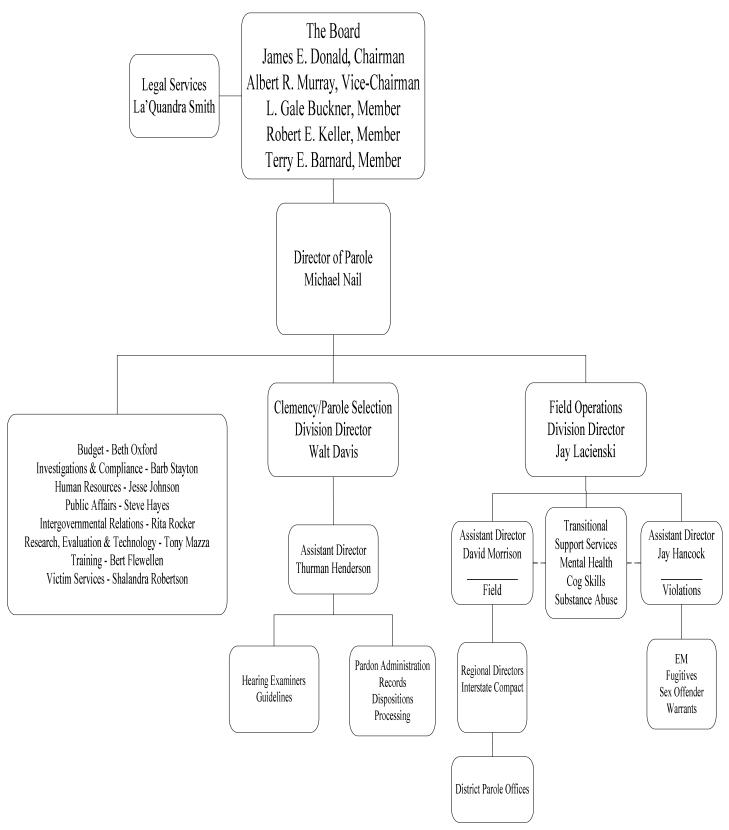
We value Ethics, Integrity, Fairness and Honesty.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> GEORGIA PAROLE: Nationally Recognized as a Leading Paroling Authority

## **State Board of Pardons and Paroles**



# 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 individual. 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 grant executive clemency. The Parole Board makes informed decisions on which inmates are deserving of parole, thereby ensuring that hard prison beds are dedicated to the offenders who have committed the most serious crimes.

The Board's core mission is to manage prisoner reentry. Parole Officers skillfully and carefully reintegrate offenders into the community under strict supervision. Without the influence of parole's intense supervision, more offenders would return to Georgia prisons, creating a costly cycle of increasing recidivism.



Pictured from left to right: Board Member Robert E. Keller, Vice Chairman Albert R. Murray, Chairman James E. Donald, Board Member L. Gale Buckner and Board Member Terry E. Barnard (see member profiles on pages 8-9)

Georgia's five Parole Board Members cast 79.922 individual votes on offender cases in FY10 and imposed 42,105 pre-release conditions on offenders. In addition to making decisions regarding the release of every eligible offender entering prison, the Board presided over 430 final revocation hearings in FY10. Through Board action 13,926 offenders were released to parole supervision during the fiscal year, 988 more than the previous fiscal year.

Parole Board fast fact: It costs \$49.35 to incarcerate an offender per day, and \$4.65 to supervise an offender in the community. See graph on page 16.

The Honorable Sonny Perdue, 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 2010 Annual Report. This report will detail our agency's use of the precious state resources allotted to it by the state legislature through Georgia's taxpayers as well as inform about the manner in which our agency successfully completes its mission of ensuring public safety and successful offender reentry.

We use state resources to complete our mission through the effective supervision of offenders released on parole. In FY 2010, our parole completion rate or the percentage of parolees successfully completing their parole supervision rose to 69%. That percentage remains 20% above the national average which is due to our entire staff performing their duties at the highest possible level. It is a difficult job whether that's preparing inmate files for Board review and parole consideration or working directly supervising the nearly 23,000 parolees across the state of Georgia.

At the Parole Board, we realize that all Georgians are experiencing the same economic troubles that state government has experienced over the past several years. Although our agency's state funding was reduced in FY 2010, as was the case with other state agencies, our dedicated staff continued to excel at their jobs. Our workforce has been reduced, further making that accomplishment difficult. Yet I am proud to say our agency employees have maintained a high level of professionalism and commitment to those we serve. Considering the continuous decline in state revenues, parole supervision at a cost of \$4.65 per offender per day is a cost effective means of providing public safety.

As Parole Board Chairman since July 1, 2010 and as a board member since January 2009, I share that same level of commitment as do my fellow board members.

This report shows how the agency dealt with adversity in FY 2010. The information also gives insight as to what lies ahead in order for us to make even better informed decisions for Georgia and its citizens.

We are proud to serve as a member of Georgia's law enforcement community, doing our part and working together to protect the public.

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles looks forward to serving you. Please review this report and call on us if we can ever assist you.

Janus Ce. Donald

Sincerely, James E. Donald

#### PAROLE BOARD MEMBERS

In 1943, the Georgia General Assembly enacted legislation to create the State Board of Pardons and Paroles as an independent agency to administer executive clemency, 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 had 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 50,000 inmates. The Parole Board Members are professionals from various fields including corrections, juvenile justice, law enforcement, legislative and the judiciary.

#### Board Chair, Major General (R) James E. Donald, of DeKalb

County, was elected Chairman by his fellow Board Members in June of 2010. He was appointed to the Board by Governor Sonny Perdue on January 8, 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 Prisons Chief, General Donald oversaw the fifth largest prison system in the nation, some 200,000 felons in prison or on probation, 15,000 employees, of which 10,000 are sworn peace officers, and an annual budget of more than \$1.2 billion.

General Donald's commitment to Governor Perdue's vision of a safer, healthier, better educated and best-managed Georgia led to many groundbreaking initiatives. Under his leadership, management and efficiency decisions 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 Headquar-



General James E. Donald

ters and its Training Academy to Tift Campus in Forsyth, Georgia. This decision will save Georgia taxpayers \$4 million annually as the move will place operations more central to the state's prison population.

Also, General Donald opened and began operating six new 200 bed Pre-Release Centers and eight in-house Transition Centers. Twelve new Faith and Character-based dorms and 15 full-time chaplain positions have been added as a result of his leadership and as affirmation of the Department's commitment to rehabilitate inmates and stop the revolving door of recidivism. General Donald's implementation of Day Reporting Centers for supervising low risk felons is helping relieve overcrowding and costing taxpayers less.

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.



Albert R. Murray

**Vice Chair Albert R. Murray** of Rockdale County, was appointed to the Board on May 15, 2010, by Governor Sonny Perdue. He was elected by the Board to the position of Vice Chairman in June and began serving in that role on July 1, 2010.

Mr. Murray began his service to troubled youth in his native state of Tennessee as a counselor and was promoted through the ranks 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, Mr. Murray forged a partnership between public and private entities to create a comprehensive Juvenile Justice System for the state of Kansas. In 2003, Mr. Murray served as Deputy Commissioner of Programs for the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Mr. Murray was sworn in as Commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) on January 23, 2004. He ended his tenure May 14, 2010 as the longest serving juvenile justice commissioner in Georgia's history. Included in his many accomplishments as Commis-

sioner of DJJ is an accredited school program, new and strengthened community programs, a newly created victim advocacy component, and expanded training opportunities for staff. 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.

Mr. Murray has served on the American Correctional Association's (ACA) Board of Governors, as an auditor and as an elected member of the Commission on Accreditation. He is also a member of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ). 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.

**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.

Former State Representative Terry E. Barnard 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.

Mr. Barnard brings to the State Board of Pardons and Paroles a vast intuitional knowledge of the Georgia Department of Corrections from a legislative perspective. Passionate and persuasive, Representative 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. Today with just a click of a
mouse, interested parties can learn if a convicted sex offender is living in a neighborhood of interest.



Terry E. Barnard

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.

**Board Member L. Gale Buckner**, of Chatsworth, Georgia, was appointed to the Board in January 2005 by Governor Sonny Perdue. She served as Vice Chair of the Parole Board and she was elected Chair, serving two years, from July 2008 until June 30, 2010.

Ms. Buckner started her career with the Chatsworth Police Department, rising to the level of Sergeant and was honored as Officer of the Year. She began her service with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation in 1981 as an undercover operative and earned the Director's Award for Outstanding Investigations in 1984. At the GBI, she also served as Director of Personnel and as Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. In 2000, Ms. Buckner was appointed Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Under her leadership, the agency administered \$100 million annually in federal grant monies for Georgia's criminal justice community, received three national awards for its State Analysis Center, and also served as Georgia's Crime Victims Compensation Board providing offender-generated dollars to the victims of violent crime. Ms. Buckner coordinated criminal justice policy initiatives regarding offender reentry, victims services, and other public safety projects during her tenure.



L. Gale Buckner

Ms. Buckner has served as a member of many law enforcement associations and advisory boards including the National Criminal Justice Association, the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange, the International Association of Women Police, the National Center for Women and Policing, the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, the Georgia Child Fatality Review Panel, and the Georgia DARE Advisory Board. She is also a member of the Parole Association of Georgia, the Peace Officers Association of Georgia, and state and national Chiefs of Police Associations. She is the recipient of the 2001 Secretary of State Outstanding Leadership as a Georgia Woman in Public Safety Award. Ms. Buckner received her bachelor's degree from Georgia State University, and her graduate degree from Brenau University. She is a graduate of the 169th session of the FBI National Academy.

Ms. Buckner's criminal justice system experience has enhanced the implementation of the mission of the Board. It was her leadership that inspired the Victims' Visitors Day program as a means of further assisting victims of crime while fulfilling Governor Perdue's vision of making state government more accessible to Georgia taxpayers.



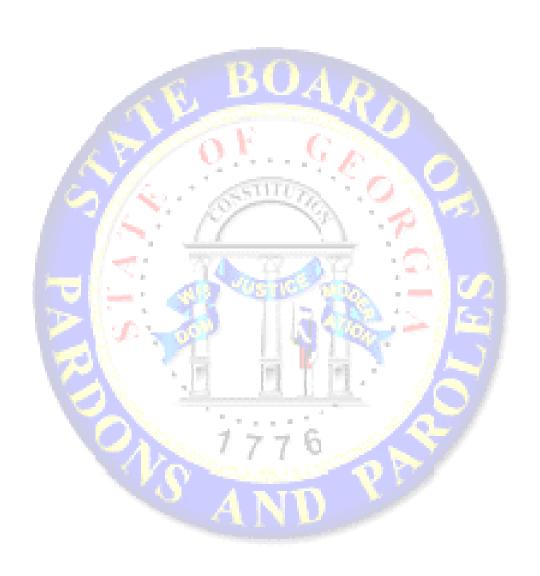
Robert E. Keller

**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 Chair 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. Mr. Keller 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.



#### **Clemency and Parole Selection**

Board members begin by reviewing a comprehensive case file on each eligible offender. The file generally includes investigative reports, correctional reports, a summary of the offender's criminal history, circumstances of current offenses and a recommended number of months to serve based upon the application of the Parole Decision Guidelines. Eligible inmates are automatically considered for parole. For more information on parole eligibility and the process visit: www.pap.state.ga.us.

#### The Parole Process

- Investigation: Parole Investigators collect all offender information and interview the offender.
- Hearing Examiner Review: A summary is prepared for the Board Members utilizing parole guidelines approved by the Board. The file is forwarded to a Board Member with a recommended number of months to be served prior to parole.
- Board Members individually consider the case and can agree with the recommendation or they may increase or decrease the recommended number of months to be served before parole is granted.
- A tentative parole month or TPM is set when three of the five Board Members agree on a specific time to serve.
- Offenders receive written notification of the Board's decision.
- Tentative parole grants can be rescinded at anytime.

#### **Clemency Online Navigation System**

The Clemency Online Navigation System or CONS, remains on schedule for implementation in December 2010. Paper driven business processes to include thousands of paper offender files will eventually be replaced by electronic data and a document management system. As a result, all business processes concerning offender file preparation will be enhanced.

The system will mean more efficient use of resources ultimately saving taxpayer dollars.

CONS has been in development since 2007.

## THE CASE FILE OF AN OFFENDER

Drug Reports
Personal History
Sentencing Reports
Criminal History
Legal Investigation
Parole Review Summary
Victim Impact Statements
Employment History
Prison Diagnostic Summary
Social Investigations



During FY 2010, Board staff created **21,227** new offender files and completed **58,250** investigations on behalf of the Board.

Clemency Hearing Examiners meet with visitors the second Tuesday of the month to answer questions about offender's cases. In FY 2010, 3,527 visitors met with central office staff.

## **Clemency and Parole Selection**

## Clemency Actions in FY 2010

RELEASE A	ACTION	Totals
Р	arole	10,511
S	supervised Reprieve	1,645
	Conditional Transfer	1,076
	commutation	694
	Remission	0
0	Other Release Action	0
т	OTAL RELEASES	13,926
TOTAL PAR	ROLE REVOCATIONS	2,750
DISCHARG	ES	
D	Pischarge from Parole	7,107
D	ischarge from Reprieve	1,610
С	Commutation to Discharge Parole	513
т	OTAL DISCHARGES	9,230
INITIAL DEC	CISIONS UNDER GUIDELINES	12,109
LIFE DECIS	SIONS	
D	eny Parole to Life Cases	857
G	Grant Parole to Life Cases	219
т	OTAL LIFE DECISIONS	1,076
OTHER BO	ARD ACTIONS	
Р	ardon	518
С	Commutation to Reduce Sentence	0
	Medical Compassionate Reprieve	86
	Restoration of Rights	95
	isitor Interview	3,589
	Revocation Hearing	430
Р	reliminary Hearing	115
RELEASES	UNDER SUPERVISION	
	Georgia Releases in Georgia	21,686
	Out-of-State Releases in Georgia	883
	Georgia Releases Out-of-State	3,072
т	OTAL PAROLEE POPULATION	25,641

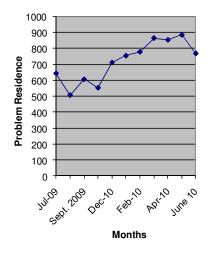
#### **Reentry Partnership Housing Program (RPH)**

The Reentry Partnership Housing (RPH) Program provides housing to convicted felons granted parole by the Board but who would remain in prison without this residential option. These offenders are called Problem Residence Inmates. This population increased from 644 to 768 during the fiscal year.

The RPH program funds housing units that are approved for parolee placement and provides short term financial assistance to help stabilize the parolees' reentry process, so that they can remain crime free.



#### **Reentry Partnership Housing FY10**



- In FY 2010, 199 parolees were placed in the RPH program.
   A total of 992 parolees have been placed since the program's inception.
- The Parole Board has approved 40 Reentry Partnership Housing providers.
- In FY 2010, the cost for the Reentry Housing Program was \$157,500.

Cost Savings Based on Reentry Partnership
Housing Program for FY 2010
\$5,168,646

#### **Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR)**

Through the Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR) there are an additional 134 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.

The THOR Directory is a an online resource accessible to parole and corrections staff to assist in finding of-fender housing. The service is accessible at www.pap.state.ga.us/thor. 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 2010, the Parole Board's Transitional Support Services Unit inspected 130 of the facilities to ensure standards were being met.

FY 2010 Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry Directory			
Total Facilities Structured Housing		Standard Recovery Residences	Intensive Recovery Residences
134	26	60	48

#### **Field Operations and Parole Supervision**

During Fiscal Year 2010, Georgia experienced an increase in the number of offenders on parole. The parole population increased from 21,307 parolees on July 1, 2009 to 22,403 (supervised in-state) on June 30, 2010. Meanwhile the parole completion success rate rose to 69% (see chart on page 18).



Effective supervision and exceptional results demand that the supervision happens where offenders live and work in our communities.

The average caseload per parole officer in the state during the fiscal year was 78, up from 74 the previous fiscal year. The Parole Board employs 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). Course work 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 a Board issued service weapon.

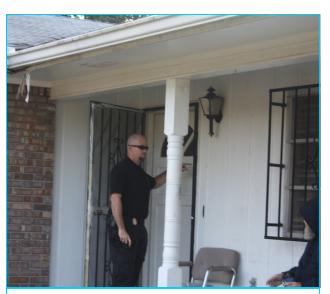
Georgia's parole officers made 477,527 face to face contacts with offenders across the state during Fiscal Year 2010.

#### Supervision of Georgia's Parole Sex Offender Population

During FY 2010, the monthly average of the Parole Sex Offender population increased by more than 7% to 384 offenders. The Board requires sex offenders to be supervised at the highest level to include electronic monitoring. Parole officers check to ensure compliance monthly to include searches and residence requirements.

	Yearly Averages			
				Sex
Year	RF EM	GPS EM	Total EM	Offenders
FY2009	1087	250	1337	358
FY2010	1054	279	1333	384
% Change	-3.04%	11.60%	-0.30%	7.26%

This chart shows the total number of parolees on electronic monitoring (EM) for the past two fiscal years. RF refers to radio frequency and GPS is Global Positioning System. Total EM use decreased slightly during the fiscal year.



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.

### **Field Operations and Parole Supervision**

Studies show that for every day a parolee is employed, there is a 1% decrease in the chance that they will be re-arrested.

The parolee employment rate in FY 2010 was 73%, down from 78% in FY 2009.

Research shows every time a parolee attends a program, the likelihood of success improves.

• 11,222 parolees were enrolled in drug treatment programs during Fiscal Year 2010.

#### **Drug Testing**

The agency uses two types of drug testing to monitor parolees, identify those who need counseling and ensure compliance with parole conditions.

A total of **97,217 n o n - r a n d o m** drug tests were administered by parole officers in FY 2010.

- Targeted drug testing is used to verify compliance with counseling or special conditions.
- Random drug testing is used to determine the level of drug usage in the
  population and identify offenders who need counseling but may not have
  been identified through other means. Each month a random sample of
  10% of the active parole population is selected for drug testing.

FY 2010 Random Drug Tests— 15,668 Positive - 1,434 or 9.2%

#### **Drug Treatment**

FY10 Outpatient Parolee Substance Abuse Recovery Services			
Part-Time, Contracted	Motivation, Assessment and	Recovery	
Substance Abuse Counselors	Planning (MAP) Groups	Groups	
60	2,394	7,924	

Delivered in each parole district, successful discharge from the program requires attending six consecutive weeks of group sessions and a minimum of two negative drug tests.

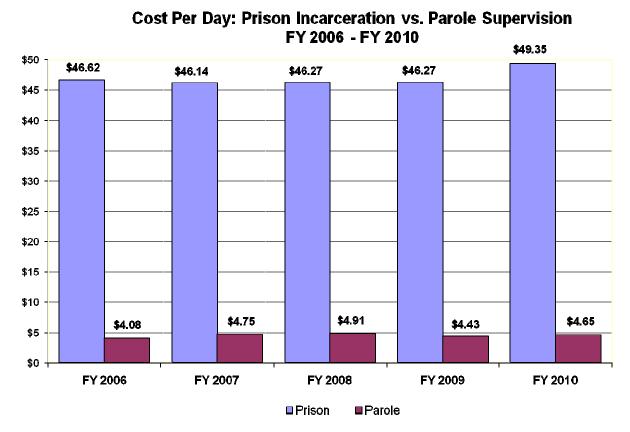
Faith-Based Residential Substance Abuse Project: March 2009 – March 2010			
Admissions	Admissions Graduates Unsuccessful Disch		
56	54 (96%)	2	

From March 2009 to March 2010, this 6-week residential treatment program was an option for parolees in seven parole districts who chose to enter a Faith Based program. The Board contracted with Penfield Christian Homes, a Georgia Association of Recovery Residences and THOR Directory approved program. Remarkably, 96% of admitted parolees completed treatment.

FY 2010 No Turning Back Recovery Program			
Admissions Graduates		Unsuccessful Discharges	
146	131	15	

The No Turning Back Program at Whitworth Parole Center is an intensive addiction treatment program for parolees who are identified as both high-risk and high-need.

#### **Field Operations and Parole Supervision**



Although the cost of parole supervision has increased slightly over the past decade, it remains less than 10% the cost of incarceration in Georgia. In FY 2010, the annual cost avoidance as a result of offenders on parole is calculated at \$366,527,300. On June 30, 2010, there were 52,291 offenders incarcerated in Georgia prisons and 25,641 (in-state and out-of-state) under parole supervision.

#### **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) detainers.

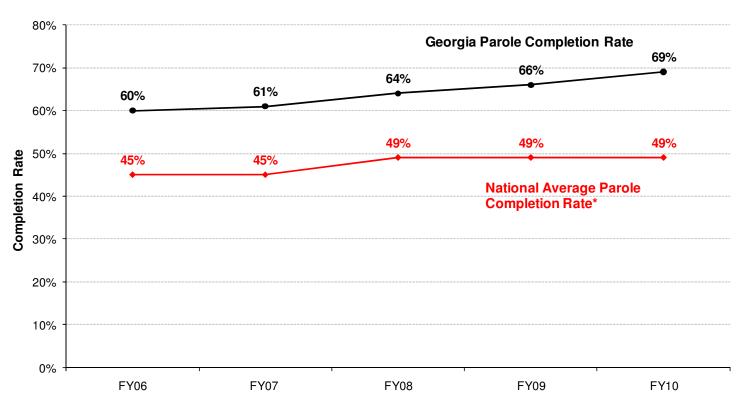
#### Fiscal Year 2010:

- Offenders Released/Paroled to Out-of-State Supervision: 528
- Offenders currently under Out-of-State Supervision (June 30, 2010): 1,638
- Offenders Released to ICE for deportation: 526, (a cost savings for Georgia of \$29,558,016)
- Current offenders under Conditional Transfer Supervision to a Federal or Out-of-State Detainer: 1440
- Other State Offenders currently under Georgia supervision: 852

### **Field Operations and Parole Supervision**

#### Georgia and National Average Parole Completion Rates

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)



For the fourth 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.



An offender talks with his attorney during a parole revocation hearing at Phillips State Prison.

#### **Parole Revocations and Warrants**

During Fiscal Year 2010, 2,750 offenders had their parole revoked, down from 3,093 in FY09. Revocations have gradually declined since 2006. Revocations as a result of technical violations accounted for only 13%.

In FY 2010, a total of 11,189 warrants were issued by the Board. 642 fugitive arrests were made.

Parole Board Members conducted 430 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.

#### **Victim Services**

- Notification of the release or escape 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 courtmandated conditions
- Referrals to community based resources and services
- Preparation and orientation for family members of homicide victims for pending executions in death penalty cases



#### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Office of Victim Services is to provide post sentencing support and information to crime victims, their families and to members of the community.

The Office of Victim Services works with victims and/or their families to answer questions about parole, to ensure their views and concerns reach the Board Members prior to any parole decision, and keep them notified of activity in their case. All letters and contacts with the office are made a permanent and confidential part of the parole file on the offender.

Additionally, the Office of Victim Services encourages victims of crimes to become informed about and involved in the case of their offender. By utilizing the services provided through the Office of Victim Services, victims have access to information concerning the status of their offenders.

## How to Register with the Office of Victim Services

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. For more information about V.I.P., see page 19.

The Victim Notification Request Form and/or the Victim Impact Statement can be obtained from the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Assistance Program serving your community. This form may also be obtained by contacting the Office of Victim Services or downloaded from our website: www.pap.state.ga.us.

Upon receiving a completed form, the Office of Victim Services will register the contact for notification into the system and mail a letter confirming the request has been received and recorded. Along with the confirmation letter, the registrant will also be issued a PIN (Personal Identification Number) that will be used to acknowledge that notification of a release has been successfully completed.

**Registered victims** automatically receive notification calls when the offender is released from prison:

- after completing the court ordered term of incarceration (end of sentence)
- and placed on probation supervision
- and placed on parole supervision

#### V.I.P.— Victim Information Program

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. By simply picking up a telephone and dialing the toll-free V.I.P. number, (800-593-9474) information regarding custody status of an inmate can be obtained.

In Fiscal Year 2010, 12,958 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, individuals who have registered with the Office of Victim Services will automatically receive notification of the release of the offender from custody.

In Fiscal Year 2010, 832 calls were automatically made to victims of crime.

#### Fiscal Year 2010:

- The Office of Victim Services received **2,588 direct** phone calls from victims or family members with questions pertaining to offenders.
- 2,894 correspondences from victims or family members were officially filed as part of offender records.
- 12,617 correspondences were sent to victims or family members addressing their concerns.
- Victims filed 2,325 victim impact statements and notifications with the Office of Victim Services.
- 2,338 victims received \$132,080 (48% more paid out than in FY09) in restitution from offenders.

## **Victims Visitors' Day**

Victims Visitors' Days enhance services to victims of crime as Board Members and staff travel to various cities in Georgia to address, face-to-face, the needs of victims and their families. Since 2006, the Board has met with over 970 crime victims and their families. In FY10, 179 victims were seen at two Victims Visitors' Days and 97% of the participants rated their overall experience as good or excellent.



Office of Victim Services

2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive

Suite 458, East Tower

Atlanta, GA 30334

(404) 651-6668 Fax (404) 654-6377

Statewide Toll-free Number

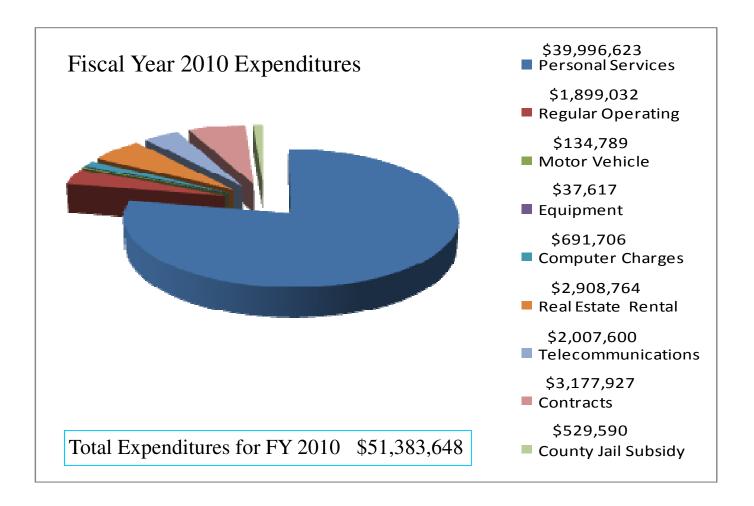
1 (800) 593-9474



"We remind offenders that victims have a vote too, regarding whether they receive a parole release" - Chairman James Donald

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

### **Budget Services**

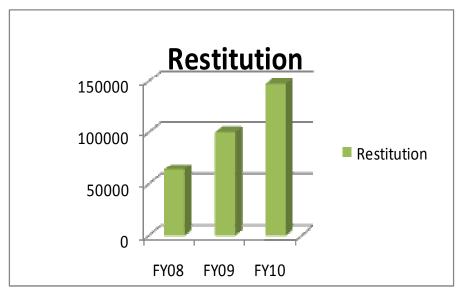


FY09 Funds		<u>FY10</u>	FY10 Funds	
Federal	\$1,432,766	Federal	\$1,342,042	
Other	\$552,434	Other	\$192,599	
State	\$51,287,955	Stimulus	\$880,701	
		State	\$50,056,373	
Total Funds	<u>\$53,273,155</u>	Total Funds	<b>\$52,471,715</b>	



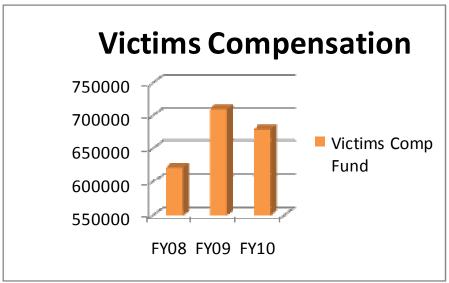
FY 2010 Payments by Offenders

> **Supervision** \$3,049,733.19



Restitution \$147,094.25

**Victims Compensation** \$679,690.81



Supervision fees collected from parolees go directly into the treasury.

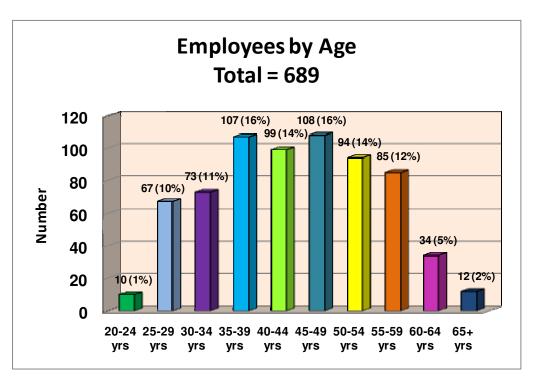
Compensation Victims goes into the Victims Compensation Fund which is administered by Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

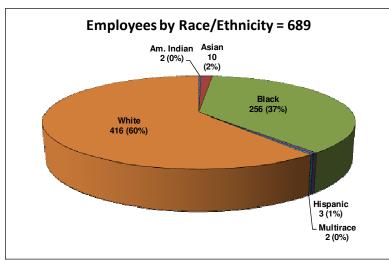
Restitution is disbursed directly to crime victims.

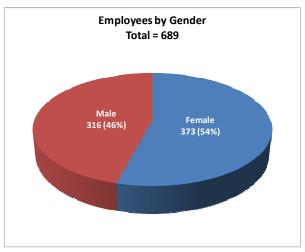
#### **Human Resources**

The number of employees at the State Board of Pardons and Paroles has declined since 2006 from 725 to 689 at the close of FY 2010.

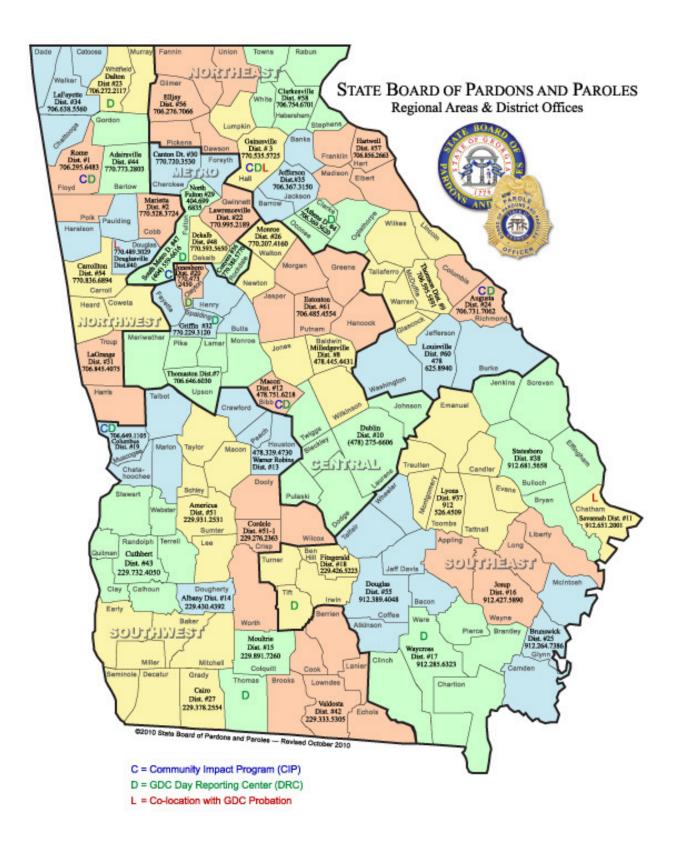


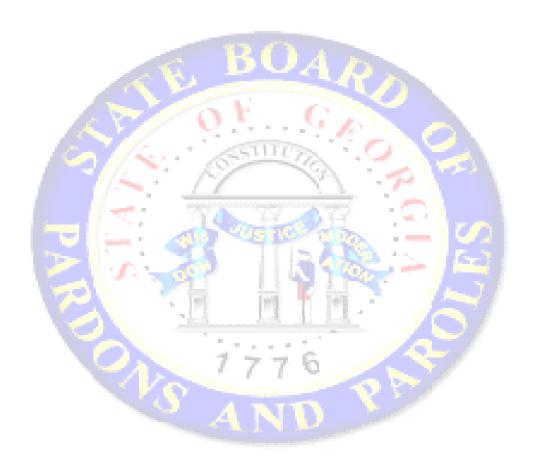












The FY2010 Annual Report was prepared by the Parole Board's Office of Public Affairs

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