

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



**Budget Hearing
January 8, 2016**

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FY 2015-16 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Monday, January 8, 2016
10:00 am – 11:50 pm**

10:00-10:15 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS

10:20-11:10 DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

1. Please provide an update on how S.B. 15-124 (Reduce Parole Revocations for Technical Violations) is working. Is it achieving its goals?

Answer: Since the Sure and Swift program began in September 2015, enough data does not yet exist for more in-depth analyses. Further assessment of the program and its impact on reducing parole revocations for technical violations will be completed for future updates to the legislature.

S.B. 15-124 provided direction to the Department of Corrections and the Division of Adult Parole in responding to technical violations, effective July 1, 2015. For a complete review of the Division's efforts in responding to technical violations, please see the full report that was submitted to the Joint Judiciary Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives on January 1, 2016, which provides a status update for July 1 to November 30, 2015.

From July 1 to November 30, 2015, the Division utilized various methodologies in responding to technical violations of parole. Those responses consisted of the use of intermediate sanctions, short-term jail stays, referrals to community organizations for treatment, and other needed support services. Intermediate sanctions are those responses to technical violations that do not seek revocation and are selected based on parolee risk level and severity of the violation and consist of low, medium, and high-level options. During the noted time period, Division staff utilized a total of 21,716 intermediate sanctions, of which 61 percent were low-level, 37 percent were medium-level, and 2 percent were high-level.

In September 2015, the Division instituted the use of short-term jail stays (for one to five days) as an additional intermediate sanction option at the medium and high sanction levels. This sanction, called Sure & Swift, provides officers with the ability to utilize jail time in response to a violation without having to seek revocation. As of November 30, 2015, the Sure & Swift stays were being utilized in 7 counties (Bent, Douglas, El Paso, Fremont, Las Animas, Prowers, and Pueblo) and Letters of Agreement are in negotiation with local jails in other areas of the State to expand capacity. From September 1 to November 30, 2015, 347 Sure & Swift placements occurred in the 7 counties, with an average of 116 placements per month. Those placements were for 253 distinct parolees.

Finally, the Division continued its use of providing referrals to parolees for needed services. From July 1 to November 30, 2015, the Division made 5,337 referrals to Approved Treatment Providers (ATPs). Each referral can consist of more than one completed service; thus, ATPs provided a total 24,929 services to parolees during the time period.

2. How do lengths of parole in Colorado compare with other states?

Answer: C.R.S. 18-1.3-401 currently requires the Department to use the felony class of the

governing sentence to determine the length of time served in parole. Based on C.R.S. 17-22.5-403 and in accordance with DOC Administrative Regulation 250-29 – Recommending Early Discharge for Parolees, the Colorado Board of Parole is permitted to discharge an offender during the period of parole if it finds the offender has been sufficiently rehabilitated, reintegrated into society, and can no longer benefit from parole supervision.

The Department’s Office of Planning and Analysis has researched what other states do in this regard, and found that Colorado is not comparable to many other states, if any. Sentencing laws are substantially different and unique within each state, as well as the definition of parole itself. Additionally, many states combine probation and parole in the same department. Another significant difference is that many states do time computation within facilities as opposed to DOC’s centralized unit, which ensures consistent time computation.

Each state uses different criteria in determining parole sentences which makes direct comparison difficult. For example the state of Washington uses indeterminate sentencing, and the Board of Prison Terms and Parolees determines the period of parole consistent with the purposes, standards, and maximum sentencing ranges. There are some states where, once a parolee is revoked, they return to DOC to complete the remainder of their sentence. Seven states, representing over 50% of the nation's parolees, have different rules and regulations regarding parole violations and revocations. Louisiana DOC requires the Parole Violator to return to DOC. Pennsylvania, Texas, Illinois, and New York have the option to have Parole Violators serve their entire remaining sentence back in DOC, but also have other options available. In California, revoked parolees serve no more than 180 days in jail per violation. In Missouri, the revocations are handled on a case by case basis, with a wide range of options available determined by the violation.

3. How much excess capacity is there in state prisons?

***Answer:** The Department does not have excess capacity, but does have a vacancy rate that is used for management of offender movement. Since the FY 2013-14 supplemental budget request, the Department’s capacity management plan has included a two percent vacancy rate in state facilities. This was based on the recommendation in the Colorado Prison Utilization Study to “...factor in a “vacancy rate” in recognition of the fact that at any given time, a system will have a number of vacant beds in its facilities.” The Department’s vacancy rate fluctuates between 1.8 and 2.7 percent of capacity, excluding specialty beds.*

4. How much deferred maintenance do we have on the state prisons?

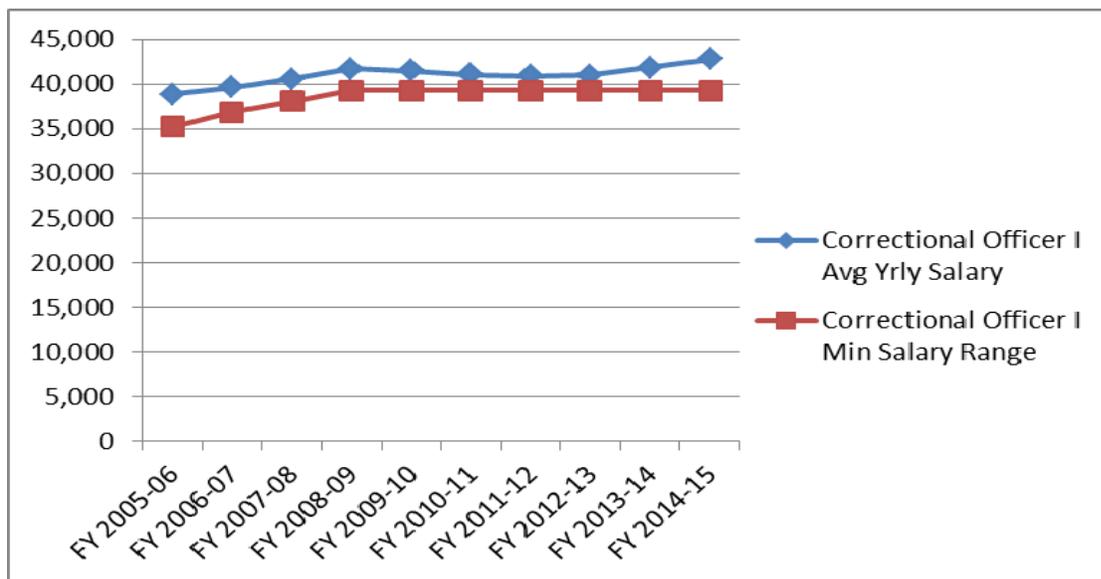
***Answer:** The Department has identified over 600 deferred maintenance projects with an estimated cost of \$226,979,009. This information can also be found in the Office of the State Architect’s annual report to the Capital Development Committee (page 4 of 19 in Appendix B).*

5. Referring to the chart on the bottom of page 18 of the JBC Staff briefing document, why are salaries lower now than they were in FY 2004-05?

***Answer:** The minimum base salary for a Correctional Officer I (CO I) in FY 2004-05 was \$2,877 per month and gradually increased to \$3,273 per month in FY 2009-10 where it has remained the same for the past six years. There has been no salary range movement during this time period for any of the three classes in question. In 2001, the State’s compensation system transitioned from a grade and step (employees received a yearly step increase) to a merit/pay-for-performance system. The latter system has been used intermittently during this period depending on funding availability.*

The combination of static minimum base salaries and the intermittent use of merit pay increases have, over time, resulted in a heavier weighting of salaries near the minimum salary range as the longer tenured employees that had received step increases leave the pool of employees in the job classes. When annual inflation is factored in, this has resulted in decreasing average salaries over the past 10 years.

The relationship between the average yearly salary (not adjusted for inflation) and the minimum of the yearly salary range of a CO I is depicted in the following graph. As noted on the graph, the average yearly salary has stayed steady with the yearly range minimum. This illustrates two things: 1) there has been no inflationary movement in the minimum salary range of a CO I, and 2) with the Department's turnover in this series, new staff is being hired at the minimum rate, which has been the same since FY 2009-10.



6. Referring to the charts on bottom of pages 18 and 19 of the Staff briefing document, have any of these changes impacted safety? If so in what way?

Answer: Yes, the Department has seen a decrease in the number of reportable incidents within our institutions. Fewer reportable incidents equate to safer facilities for both staff and offender populations.

While the minimum base salary for correctional officers has remained the same at \$3,273 per month since FY 2009-10, and there has been no in-range salary movement for any of the three classes in question besides merit increases, the Department has not experienced an increase in staff turnover or significant difficulty with filling vacant correctional officer positions throughout the state, factors that could be contributing to safety. The slight decrease in the CO II (Sergeant) to CO I (Officer) ratio of .344 in FY 2005-06 to .322 in FY 2014-15 cannot be equated to a noticeable impact on safety.

7. Please provide an update on how DOC plans to use CSP II.

Answer: C.R.S., Section 17-1-104.3(b.5), requires that the Department “actively pursue options to sell or lease” CSP II. Accordingly, the Department has complied with the General Assembly’s directive and continues to respond to any and all potential CSP II buyers or lessees. Several months ago, the Department was contacted by the U.S. Department of Defense as to the potential sale of

CSP II. In compliance with statute, the department evaluated this option and responded to all federal inquiries on the suitability of CSP II for the federal government's needs, including the potential housing of relocated Guantanamo Bay detainees. Federal law bars the transfer of Guantanamo Bay detainees to the U.S. Furthermore, since 2011, the U.S. Congress has repeatedly prohibited the use of federal funds for housing Guantanamo detainees within the U.S. The Department has seen no indication of a reversal in position by the federal government; therefore, at this time, we anticipate that no detainees will be relocated to Colorado.

In addition, earlier this year, the Office of State Planning and Budgeting funded a study to evaluate a possible scenario to fill CSP II. The Department is currently waiting for finalization and release of that OSPB-funded study for the operational swap between the Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center and Centennial Correctional Facility (CCF) (which includes utilization of the currently empty CCF south campus, also known as CSP II). Any plan recommended by the study must be thoroughly evaluated for budgetary and operational impact, and proper funding obtained before a plan could be implemented.

Any plan to re-open beds at CSP II for the housing of DOC offenders would require legislation. The closure was mandated pursuant to C.R.S. Section 17-1-104.3(b.5), which states:

“Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subsection (1), beginning February 1, 2013, the Centennial south campus of the Centennial correctional facility shall not be operated by the department for the purpose of housing inmates in the housing units but, if necessary, may be maintained to provide support and other services to the Centennial correctional facility.”

8. Has the DOC stopped testing parolees for alcohol and marijuana use or will it stop testing in the near future? If so, what is the reason for this policy change? Will alcohol and marijuana use be managed in the community? What does "manage in the community" mean?

Answer: The Division of Adult Parole has not stopped testing for alcohol or marijuana. Currently, C.R.S. 17-2-201(5.5) (a) mandates that the Division test for alcohol and controlled substances. The statute also mandates the frequency of the testing. Therefore, the Division will continue to do what is required by law until the legislature approves a change.

Alcohol and marijuana are legal in Colorado, and the Department is open to having this conversation with the legislature. Colorado Probation as well as other states (Washington and Michigan) that have legalized medical and/or recreational marijuana are not testing parolees for these substances unless there is a nexus between a parolee's use and their criminal behavior.

Adult Parole could reduce costs for unnecessary drug testing and divert those funds to effective treatment strategies for those parolees who have true substance abuse needs.

The Division is working to manage all low level violations in the community which includes positive tests for alcohol and marijuana. The primary elements of evidence-based responses to violations (from the Carey Group¹) include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Use responses that hold the parolee accountable AND reduce the likelihood of future violations/new criminal behavior.*
- Resolve problems at the lowest level possible.*
- Responses do not have to be harsh to be effective. A sure and swift response to violations helps change behavior. The severity of the penalty does not.*

¹ *The Carey Guides: Responding to Violations, Carey Group Publishing (Madeline Carter) (2011).*

- *Incarceration does not change behavior. It temporarily stops behavior.*

National trends view drug and alcohol abuse/addiction as a serious public health issue, not a criminal justice one. Therefore, the focus is to safely get these parolees the treatment they need in the least restrictive setting, understanding that they are likely to relapse along the way. The concept is to resolve violations with the proper dosage of supervision and treatment. Responding to violations at the lowest, safest level both increases public safety and is fiscally responsible.

Adult Parole has worked diligently with two county jail partners (Washington & Fremont) to implement jail based treatment programs. These programs provide programming and the option of Vivitrol (alcohol and heroin addiction tool), within a confined setting, for up to 90 days. The Division wants to provide all the tools possible to have these parolees become as invested in their sobriety as the Division is.

9. Based on the JBC Staff analysis of factors driving the budget, what does the Department think we should be doing differently?

Answer: Given the multitude of competing demands on limited state General Fund dollars, the Department believes that it has submitted a FY 2016-17 budget request that adequately meets the needs of the state and the agency. However, due to downward pressures on the state budget, one funding line which the Department has identified as being drastically cut in recent years is the inmate pay line. In 2002, offenders were paid for jobs and program compliance on a graduated pay scale up to \$2.50 per day. Current rates for FY 2015-16 only allow for offenders to be paid up to 74 cents per day for fulltime employment (food service workers or offender care aides are slightly higher). Such cuts have reduced the incentive for offenders to be employed or to participate in programs; transferred the financial burden to offender families for the offender's court costs, restitution, child support, and medical co-pays; and made it more difficult for releasing offenders who are reintegrating into the community.

FY 2016-17 Requested Appropriation and Related Questions

R3 Medical Caseload

10. What was the rationale for breaking external medical costs into 2 separate line items (1. Purchases of Medical Services from Other Medical Facilities and 2. Catastrophic Medical Expenses)? When was this first done? Would it be beneficial to combine them in a single line item?

Answer: The Catastrophic Medical Expenses line was added to the Long Bill in the 2005 session through the supplemental appropriation (SB05-109). The creation of the new line was a collaborative effort between the Department and JBC Staff due to the wide fluctuation in medical expenses caused by lengthy hospital stays. As a result, the original definition of catastrophic expenses was costs associated with hospital stays exceeding 10 days.

For the FY 2006-07 Long Bill, the Department requested a change in the definition of catastrophic expenses to \$50,000 per offender per year, based upon the rationale that a relatively small number of offenders with serious medical conditions, and not exclusively long hospital stays, can skew the results of year-long effective patient management. The JBC approved this request, and this definition has remained in place to the present day.

In regards to combining the two budget lines for external medical costs – this can certainly be done by the Committee. In fact, once inpatient and outpatient budget lines were combined during FY

2001-02, all external medical purchases were housed in one line until the Purchases from State Hospital line was created during the FY 2003-04 budget cycle.

The Department believes that if the two budget lines are to remain separate as they currently are, then at minimum, the definition of catastrophic medical expenses should be updated to reflect the payment environment after the implementation of SB13-200. However, if the Committee prefers to house all offender medical expenses in one budget line, the Department can easily accommodate that request. In fact, this action would simplify the process by removing the steps involved to separate claims into the two current categories.

11. Is there a statewide policy for the use of psychotropic drugs in HCPF, DHS, and DOC? Has the State ever tried to make a consistent formulary for all departments which also establishes how and when drugs are prescribed and administered? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of statewide uniformity?

Answer: *There is currently no statewide policy for the use of psychotropic drugs in HCPF, DHS, and DOC.*

A statewide medication consistency committee was established approximately one year ago to address the issue of consistency of medication administration. This committee has been meeting to discuss ways of implementing a statewide formulary to ensure consistency of treatment across multiple agencies, such as jails, prisons, community mental health centers, etc. The committee has produced a formulary and is presently working to develop a buying cooperative to help with costs and to help provide a central pharmacy which might be used to purchase and stock these medications. The advantages of a statewide formulary would be to ensure consistency of treatment across multiple agencies, so that established medication regimens are not changed or disrupted when patients move through the various systems. The disadvantage is cost associated with broadening a formulary for smaller counties that operate small jails, for instance, which would then require that they stock many more medications than they do now, which would increase their operating expenses.

It is important to note that efforts regarding “medication consistency” relate to ensuring that these various state agencies have a consistent formulary so that patients who have an established and effective psychotropic medication regimen may be continued on that treatment regimen without interruption or having to change to different medications. This is NOT an attempt to standardize treatment across institutions or establish “how and when medications are prescribed.” The “how and when” is part of an individual treatment prescribed by a licensed health care professional, not an administrator. The treatment of mental disorders is very complex and often requires a significant amount of time to figure out which medication or combination of medications works best for which individual, given individual differences in tolerance of various medications and different expressions of various disorders which respond in different ways to different medications and/or combinations of medications.

The DOC currently receives a significant cost savings through a group purchasing organization for government facilities that provide healthcare services. While this is a worthwhile effort, the DOC believes it would be best to establish a consistent formulary through agency policy versus state statute.

12. At the DOC Smart Act Hearing, Dr. Charles Clark, a former psychiatrist at Denver Women's Correctional Facility, described the facility's mental health treatment program.

- a) He stated that those newly admitted are locked down 23 hours per day. DOC's regulations require offenders to be offered 20 out-of-cell hours per week. Why the difference? Are some offenders spending 23 hours daily in their cells? If offenders are declining out-of-cell time, can't DOC do more to make out-of-cell time appealing?

Answer: Offenders in the Denver Women's Correctional Facility (DWCF) Residential Treatment Program (RTP) are offered 10 hours of therapeutic out of cell time per week and 10 hours of non-therapeutic out of cell time per week at all 3 levels. Unfortunately, due to their serious mental illness symptoms, some offenders refuse out of cell time. The RTP staff explores individual interventions and encourages offenders to engage in activities such as art, recreation, and animal-assisted therapy. Enhancing treatment compliance occurs through established rapport with offenders, ongoing education, and encouragement.

- b) To echo a question asked by Dr. Clark, must non-violent mentally ill offenders be placed in isolation?

Answer: The Department does not utilize isolation to house and manage non-violent mentally ill offenders. The only time that any mentally ill offender would be placed and held within an isolated environment is if the offender is removed from population as the result of their violent, dangerous, or disruptive behaviors that jeopardize the safety and security of the living unit, of staff and/or other offenders, and no alternative housing placement is available. Upon removing the offender from population, mental health clinicians are consulted to provide an assessment and determine whether the behavior was due to their mental illness. In accordance with DOC Administrative Regulation 600-1 Offender Classification, the length of time that an offender can be removed from population is 10 days.

- c) The program is a progressive system with 5 levels. Dr. Clark spoke of severely mentally ill individuals who have been on level 1 for a year or more. Are offenders remaining on level 1 this long? Are some released directly from level 1 to the street?

Answer: The Residential Treatment Program at DWCF is a progressive system with three levels. Yes, though rare, there are offenders remaining on level one for extended periods of time. In these instances, the offender's mental illness is very severe and psychiatric interventions have not been effective, creating a perceived unsafe environment resulting in their refusal to come out of their cells and engage in treatment. As stated previously, clinicians provide continuous, innovative interventions to encourage treatment engagement.

Releases from level one have only recently been monitored electronically. According to the Department's Office of Planning and Analysis, only one offender has released directly to the community during the last three months.

- d) Dr. Clark stated that some offenders cycle repeatedly between the treatment program and the general prison population. Is this so? Can't cycling be reduced?

Answer: Treatment of the mentally ill is cyclic, and decomposition does occur. Periods of acute symptoms and remission is expected, especially among those with serious mental illness. Treatment goals provide offenders with tools to effectively cope in their environments. Due to a variety of reasons such as stress and medication side effects, stability for some might be a period of only a couple of months. For others, stabilization might mean years of remission.

13. Update the Committee on efforts to access Medicaid for inmates. Should the related budgeting involve appropriations to HCPF?

Answer: Offenders between 19-64 years old who are releasing may apply for Medicaid benefits prior to release provided they are US citizens and are remaining in Colorado after release. Nurse case managers obtain offender names from weekly release lists and work with facility case managers to get the required worksheet C (permission) signed. This form allows nurse case managers to apply for Medicaid on behalf of the offender. Medicaid benefits are approved for 100% of applications submitted for offenders that meet eligibility criteria.

Nurse case managers apply for Medicaid benefits through PEAKPro, the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's (HCPF) online application portal. Once a determination is made, the Medicaid card is downloaded from PEAKPro and forwarded to the offender in his or her release documents.

HCPF is working toward a Medicaid suspend function for offenders. It is important that this project has the budget it needs for the Medicaid application process; the suspend function will keep DOC from having to reapply for Medicaid benefits upon hospitalization or release and will also prevent Medicaid applications from being manually reworked.

Medicaid is obtained for offenders hospitalized on inpatient status for at least 24 hours that meet the age criteria. Nurse case managers work with facility case managers and hospital personnel to obtain consent. The hospital application is entered into PEAKPro once the signed permission is obtained.

Per the fiscal note for SB 13-200, which expanded Medicaid eligibility to include qualifying offenders with inpatient hospital stays exceeding 24 hours, savings to the Department of Corrections were reflected in direct reductions to both the Purchase of Medical Services from Other Medical Facilities and the Catastrophic Medical Expenses budget lines, and not as a reappropriation of funds to HCPF.

14. Please provide an overview of the Department's objectives and metrics.

Answer: For fiscal year 2015-2016 the Department selected four strategic policy initiatives (SPIs) that are instrumental in assisting offenders to successfully reintegrate back into society. These SPIs are depicted in depth in the Department's performance plan.

SPI #1: Re-Entry Units/Pods in Correctional Facilities

The Department of Corrections will implement re-entry units/pods in 12 level II, III, and IV state correctional facilities, along with private facilities, by September 1, 2015, to bridge the gap between transition from facilities to the community by providing releasing offenders with tools and resources necessary to facilitate a fluid transition to the community and to promote successful reintegration. The Department will accomplish this by developing collaborative partnerships with governmental and private entities to identify resources that will enable offenders to successfully release back into the community; implementing programs in the re-entry living units/pods to enhance offender motivation, problem solving, and thinking processes; and developing employability screening to ensure offenders are engaged in meaningful employment after release.

Metrics Tracked

- *Number of collaborative relationships developed with governmental and community participants that facilitate resources for offenders through a process of in-reach*

- *Number of in-reach functions*
- *Number of offenders reached through in-reach services*
- *Number of offenders released from prison and use (on some level) community partners*
- *Number of program completions*
- *Number of facilitated family contact events*
- *Number of complete portfolios*

SPI #2: Technical Parole Violators

The Department of Corrections will reduce the percentage of technical parole violators (TPVs) from 32% to 25% by June 30, 2016, through a proactive approach using case management and intervention skills, which focus on successful outcomes for parolees. The Department will accomplish this by increasing the use of intermediate sanctions for parolees; implementing a parolee positive reinforcement program in conjunction with the Colorado Violation Decision Making Process; and implementing an in-jail Vivitrol program for TPVs, along with providing cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) and medicated assisted therapy (MAT).

Metrics Tracked

- *Number of jails participating*
- *Number of jail bed days*
- *Number of weekly arrests for revocations*
- *Number of staff trained*
- *Number of prompts generated by electronic case management program (CWISE) that the Community Parole Officer (CPO) receives to give positive reinforcement at appropriate milestones*
- *Number of CPO completions of incentives/positive reinforcements*
- *Number of population that meets MAT criteria*
- *Number of eligible population receiving MAT/CBT*

SPI #3: Intensive Residential Treatment Beds for Parolees

The Department of Corrections will expand the number of intensive residential treatment (IRT) beds for parolees from 125 beds to a total of 250 beds over the next two fiscal years by opening a minimum of 50 beds by June 30, 2016, and an additional maximum of 75 beds by June 30, 2017. This will provide intensive residential substance abuse treatment and aftercare in a community setting to avoid revocation and to support successful reintegration. The Department will accomplish this by implementing Senate Bill 15-124 fiscal note, which appropriated 48 IRT beds for parolees, along with collaborating with the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) on a request for proposal for an additional 48 IRT beds for FY 2016-17; and seeking to gain an additional 36 IRT-type beds by exploring alternatives to IRT with different organizations.

Metrics Tracked

- *Number of new beds through DCJ*
- *Waitlist for IRT beds once DCJ has awarded contracts*
- *Length of time until relapse for parolee after program completion*
- *Percent of offenders who successfully complete IRT program*
- *Number of new beds through alternative sources*
- *Number of eligible population receiving MAT/CBT*

SPI #4: Parolee Intensive Supervision Program Failures

The Department of Corrections will reduce the percentage of parolee intensive supervision program (ISP) failures from 22% to 19.5% by June 30, 2016, to improve public safety and re-entry outcomes through a proactive approach using case management and linking incentives with intermediate sanctions. The Department will accomplish this by implementing a parolee positive reinforcement program in conjunction with the Colorado Violation Decision Making Process; linking risk to the appropriate supervision and contact level, also referred to as “dosage”; and implementing a program that provides a pathway for parolees to earn early transition to general parole supervision through ISP program compliance.

Metrics Tracked

- *Number of prompts generated by electronic case management program (CWISE) that the CPO receives to give positive reinforcement at appropriate milestones*
- *Number of CPO (with ISP-P caseload) completions of incentives/positive reinforcements*
- *Number of newly released parolees placed on ISP up to 180 days*
- *Number of newly released parolees placed on ISP up to 120 days*
- *Number of newly released parolees placed on ISP up to 90 days*
- *Number of parolees who progress to general parole supervision from ISP supervision at 50% of the parolee’s time in the ISP Program*
- *Number of parolees who progress to general parole supervision from ISP supervision at 75% of the parolee’s time in the ISP Program*
- *Number of parolees who progress to general parole supervision from ISP supervision at 100% of the parolee’s time in the ISP Program*

11:10-11:50 ISSUES

R2 Utilities Inflation

15. Update the Committee on wastewater costs at Buena Vista, a decision item approved during the 2015 session that will result in FY 2017-18 wastewater expenses that are 469 percent higher than in FY 2013-14. What is the rationale for this large cost increase, which will result in wastewater costs for Buena Vista Correctional Center that are higher than wastewater costs at any other DOC facility? Please ask the town of Buena Vista to also respond to this question.

Answer: *The Department’s understanding of the large increase in rates set by the Buena Vista Sanitation District (BVSD) (the District) is as follows:*

The District has not had a rate increase in 15 years; the current costs are exceeding district revenues and the BVSD is being forced to use existing reserves. In addition, the plant (built 15 years ago) is facing the replacement of large, expensive equipment over the next 10 years and BVSD does not have sufficient reserves to fund the necessary repairs. Compounding the problem is the fact that the plant is more expensive to operate than lagoon-type systems and the district is relatively small (limited customers to support) compared to areas like Denver, Canon City, and Pueblo. The District is catching up on increased costs to sustain its operations, meet increased utility costs, and address deferred maintenance in their collection and waste treatment facilities.

In addition to adjusting the rates to meet increased costs and deferred maintenance, the BVSD is also adjusting to changes in Water Quality Control Commission regulations, namely Nutrient

Standards. The District believes that in the near future, it will be faced with having to add nutrient treatment to its treatment works to address nitrogen and phosphorus limits (regulations) coming into effect. The District's engineer reports this is a multi-million dollar change to the facility.

Please ask the town of Buena Vista to also respond to this question.

Answer: The town of Buena Vista, a statutory municipal corporation, is a wholly distinct governmental entity from the District, which is a statutory special district. On December 23, 2015, the Department forwarded the Committee's request to the District, and the District Manager responded that they will meet with the District Engineer to discuss a response. They did not provide an exact timeframe.

16. When will the prison utilization study be available? Should high utility costs such as those at Buena Vista be a consideration when we decide to decommission facilities?

Answer: The high utility costs at the facilities are not currently part of this study, which analyzes the feasibility of swapping operations between the Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center with the Centennial Correctional Facility, including the south campus, also known as CSP II. It is also not an update to the 2013 Prison Utilization Study, which gave recommendations for prison utilization and/or closures.

Budget constraints, prison physical plant conditions, population changes, or mission changes typically drive prison closures, rather than utility costs. Utility costs are certainly one of the factors taken into consideration when a facility closes. Typically, the decreased funding calculated for closure includes the actual costs of running the facility, so these higher utility costs would be included.

Regarding Buena Vista Correctional Facility specifically, however, while wastewater (sewer) service will be exceptionally expensive at least for a few years, potable water costs are extremely low, due to the fact that the facility has its own water treatment and distribution system on grounds.

17. Can the State Architect, who is looking at deferred maintenance, examine water facilities at Buena Vista and prioritize this issue?

Answer: The DOC has discussed the Buena Vista water and waste water issues with the Office of the State Architect and the priorities are included in the Department's capital and controlled maintenance requests.

R5 Provider Rate Decrease

18. How will the one percent community provider rate decrease affect services provided by external capacity providers, i.e. jails, private prisons, the pre-release parole revocation facility, and community return to custody facilities? How will it affect the Department's other community providers?

Answer:

Private Prisons: *Due to the nature of the Department's operations, the provider rate decrease will affect the private prison providers and their respective business profit margins, but services to the department should not be affected. Private prisons are contracted to provide specific services to the Department, which effectively maintains equal treatment for all offenders in DOC.*

Parole Services: *A one percent decrease causes a detrimental impact to parole services and public*

safety. The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Technical Assistance Study recommended Adult Parole provide great opportunities for programming and treatment services for parolees in community settings. A provider rate decrease undermines the work accomplished over the past 2.5 years to implement the NIC recommendations.

In accordance with SB-124, Community Parole Officers (CPOs) are applying interventions prior to seeking revocation. An intermediate intervention may include an increase in treatment services or protocols. An increase in treatment would be a more intensive treatment program, additional treatment classes, or increased substance abuse testing. Additionally, a CPO may use a short term jail stay as an intermediate sanction to address violation behavior.

Treatment services and jail services would be negatively impacted by a provider rate decrease. In some areas of the state, Adult Parole is challenged to find adequate treatment services due to the limited rates the Department is able to pay. Imposing a provider rate decrease would only further hamper the Department's ability to deliver effective and efficient services to the parole population.

Adult Parole has agreements with seven jails to detain parolees for a Sure and Swift jail sanction or intermediate jail sanction. A provider rate decrease would be a disincentive for jails to participate in this voluntary op-in program.

Adult Parole has partnered with two contract jails to provide a jail-based treatment program for parolees in lieu of revocation. A provider decrease would impact the sustainability of this program.

The Department continues to achieve long-term budget reductions through policy and programmatic change. The department testified at their Smart Act hearing that revocations for technical parole violations are down 11% for November 2015 over November 2014.

Clinical: The provider rate decrease would potentially result in a reduction in the number of medical and mental health care providers available through DOC contracted staffing agencies utilized to cover necessary shift vacancies. Shift vacancies are created by FTE position vacancies across the Department and are critical in providing necessary health care to offenders. The Department contracts with three staffing agencies for medical health care providers and two staffing agencies for mental health care providers.

Changing Appropriations in Criminal Sentencing Bills and Changes to the Statute Governing Those Bills

19. Are offenders who were convicted under H.B. 15-1043 (Felony Offense for Repeat DUI Offenders) already arriving at DOC? What is the Department's plan for these offenders? When they arrive, where will they be housed? Should they be in regular prisons? Should they go to prisons or wings of prisons that specialize in their problems? Will they be in minimum security prisons?

Answer:

a) **Have any offenders arrived in DOC?** Yes. Currently four offenders have been received by DOC.

b) **What are the plans for these offenders when they arrive?** Initially each offender will be assessed for treatment, educational, and vocational needs, and classified to determine appropriate custody rating. The offender's scored classification custody level will be based upon many factors, to include: severity of current and prior convictions, past history of

institutional violence, and escape. The scored classification custody level is used to determine appropriate facility placement.

- c) ***Where will they be housed?*** *Currently the offenders are being assigned to facilities based upon their individual needs and scored classification custody levels. As the population increases, the DOC's intention is to house offenders sentenced under this law together, to the extent possible, to allow similar treatment modalities.*
- d) ***Should they be in a regular prison?*** *To the extent possible, the DOC believes that individuals sentenced under this law should be housed and managed together. Three of the offenders that have been sentenced under this law have previously been incarcerated for a variety of crimes and past criminal behaviors.*
- e) ***Should they go to prisons or wings of prisons that specialize in their problems?*** *Yes, to the extent possible, the DOC believes that individuals sentenced under this law should be housed and managed together.*
- f) ***Will they be in minimum security prisons?*** *Not necessarily. Each of the individuals sentenced under this law will be classified and given a scored classification custody level based upon many factors, which include: severity of current and prior convictions, escape history, and past history of institutional violence. This scored classification custody level will then be used to determine appropriate facility placement. Initial estimates are that the majority of offenders will score minimum to minimum restrictive, if this is their only offense and first conviction.*

S.B. 15-195, Inmate Phone Rates, and Private Prisons

20. The DOC has reduced inmate phone rates to 12¢ per minute with no connect charges. Pages 39 and 40 of the JBC Staff briefing document list five states that have substantially lower phone rates than Colorado. Can Colorado's inmate rates be reduced further?

Answer: *The Colorado Inmate Phone System (CIPS) currently uses 10 staff to service 20,000 offenders at a cost of \$784,192 per year. One possible way of lowering the phone cost to offenders is to transfer the cost of operating CIPS to the General Fund. The primary job of the 10 staff is to enter the offender's requested phone numbers in the system to make sure there are no security breaches such as an offender making contact with the victim. The CIPS staff enter approximately 6,000 phone lists per month. Two of the assigned staff also make sure the cable antenna reception is working correctly at all prison facilities.*

The Department understands that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will allow the current contract that charges 12¢ per minute to remain in effect even though the FCC will impose an 11¢ per minute limit in 2016. The Department's current contract for the offender phone system expires in 2019.

The Department has contacted the five states mentioned in the JBC Staff briefing document and received responses from the New Mexico and Pennsylvania Departments of Correction about their offender phone systems. Based on the two responses received thus far, the Department has discovered several differences with Colorado's offender phone operations. First, the staff that support the offender phone system (enter phone lists) from both states are paid with General Fund

appropriations rather than Colorado's system of the cash funded program paying for staff salaries. Second, New Mexico limits offenders to 10 phone numbers when they first enter the system and does not allow changes to the numbers once entered. Pennsylvania also uses approved call lists but it is not known how many numbers are allowed or how changes are handled. In comparison, CIPS allows 15 phone numbers per offender and also allows number changes once a month.

Where have informative DOC budgets gone?

21. Is the Department willing to put more complete narratives back in budget requests? What impact would it have on the Department to add this information to budgets? Can OSPB arrange for other Departments to also do so?

***Answer from Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB):** OSPB and the Executive Branch strive to provide the Joint Budget Committee and its staff with useful information about the various departments, their budgets, and their operational performance. When the JBC and its staff have requested modifications to the form and content of our annual budget requests, we have endeavored to comply with those requests in a way that does not place an undue burden on department staff.*

It is noteworthy that executive branch departments continue to provide narrative descriptions of their operations as part of the annual Department Performance Plan documents, which are published on OSPB's Web site. In recent years, we have opted to exclude these descriptions from the budget submission simply to avoid redundancy.

Prior to the JBC staff briefing issue on this subject, OSPB had not received formal communication from the JBC staff indicating that the narrative components of the annual budget requests and performance plans failed to meet their needs. We would welcome additional conversation with JBC staff during the legislative interim in order to ensure that executive branch departments provide individual staff members with the information necessary for them to make informed recommendations to the Committee. In the meantime, as has always been the case, the Executive Branch will continue to respond thoroughly to specific requests for information from JBC staff members.

Other Questions:

22. Please update the Committee on the Parole Office's contract with TASC. Explain what TASC does. Have less funds been allocated? Why? Do the changes involve the Correctional Treatment Cash Fund? Do the changes reflect a changed focus at the Correctional Treatment Board?

Answer:

a) Please update the Committee on the Parole Office's contract with TASC. Explain what TASC does. *Created in 1972, Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) is a national model that bridges referral and service systems through screening, assessment, case management, treatment, and advocacy.*

Case management services for the TASC program are provided by a third party administrator (TPA). The TPA assesses and evaluates the parolee and then makes referrals to approved treatment providers for substance abuse treatment services. The TPA also provides regular case management services to track the progress of the offender through treatment. The offender may also be required to provide regular drug screening testing (UA testing) with the TPA to monitor compliance with supervision and treatment protocols.

Adult Parole presently has a contract with Peer Assistance for TASC services for substance abuse treatment. On February 15, 2016, Adult Parole will transition to a contract full case management services to include mental health assessment and referrals, sex offender program assessment and referrals, urinalysis testing, alcohol/substance abuse evaluation and referrals, as well as full case management services. The administrator for the program as of February 15, 2016 is First Alliance Treatment Services.

- b) Have less funds been allocated? Why?** *No, less funds have not been allocated.*
- c) Do the changes involve the Correctional Treatment Cash Fund?** *At this time, Adult Parole does not anticipate changes to the Correctional Treatment Cash Fund since more parolees will receive services. Additionally, the efforts of CPOs to work with parolees to use intermediate interventions treatment is an important supervision element.*

For any services provided that do not qualify under TASC services appropriated through the Correctional Treatment Cash Fund, Adult Parole will use contract funds appropriated by the General Assembly.

- d) Do the changes reflect a changed focus at the Correctional Treatment Board?** *No. This is an effort of Adult Parole to address the National Institute of Corrections recommendations provided in the Technical Assistance Study and to resolve gaps identified during an internal audit of the Approved Treatment Provider Program conducted in early 2015.*

ADDENDUM: OTHER QUESTIONS FOR WHICH SOLELY WRITTEN RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED

1. Provide a list of any legislation that the Department has: (a) not implemented or (b) partially implemented. Explain why the Department has not implemented or has only partially implemented the legislation on this list.

(a) Legislation not implemented

Answer: There is no legislation that meets this description.

(b) Legislation partially implemented

Answer: SB 13-210, Concerning Employment Conditions for Correctional Officers, was signed into law by Governor Hickenlooper on May 24, 2013. In summary, the legislation requires the Department to establish staffing levels at each correctional facility and private prison by security level; develop criteria when a correctional officer works two consecutive shifts and to pay overtime; and establish a new work period for staff subject to provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. The DOC is in compliance with these provisions of the Act.

Additionally, the Department is required to provide all DOC employees with a pay stub that clearly and accurately reflects all hours worked, among other requirements. The Department of Personnel and Administration (DPA) received funding for a new statewide Human Resources Information System (HRIS) and is currently seeking requests for proposals for the new system. This system will ultimately include the issuance of a pay stub that clearly and accurately reflects all hours worked, standard rate of pay, rate of overtime pay, accrual of paid leave and compensatory time, and remaining paid leave and compensatory time balances, as required by SB 13-210.

Finally, the Department is currently collaborating with the DPA and the Governor's Office of Information Technology to modernize the Department's personnel timekeeping system. To that end, the state has entered into an agreement with a vendor for the implementation of an electronic timekeeping system which includes a module that automates the scheduling of employees assigned to 24/7 posts. The timekeeping project has progressed from the requirements design phase and the proof of concept, to the start of the system testing phase. The timekeeping module is scheduled to "roll out" to the Department in April 2016 with the vendor's timekeeping module to be implemented in October 2016. The fielding of the new timekeeping system will produce a system that is transparent, accountable, and easily employed by department personnel, as required by SB 13-210.

2. Please provide a detailed description of all program hotlines administered by the Department, including:

a. The purpose of the hotline;

Answer: In addition to the DOC TIPSLINE, in order to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and federal standards, three reporting hotlines were developed for offenders to report sexual abuse, sexual assault, sexual harassment, misconduct or retaliation.

DOC TIPSLINE: Colorado Inmate Phone System (CIPS) 1-877-DOC-TIPS-0 or 1-877-DOC-TIPS (outside DOC)

The phone system is staffed Monday - Friday, excluding weekends and holidays by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). It is available to offenders through the DOC Colorado Inmate Phone System (CIPS) phone system. Offenders call the phone number and can be connected to the phone system to leave messages for the OIG. The phone system is used for offenders to report criminal activity and PREA related incidents. Callers can also receive messages from the OIG.

The calls are confidential and are recorded. The caller can be anonymous. Offenders in the community, DOC employees or the general public can leave messages on the DOC TIPSLINE outside DOC number.

PREA Reporting hotline: The calls go through a reporting agency which is outside of the DOC. It is an answering service who gathers required information and then relays the information to the appropriate OIG region or Colorado Web-based Integrated Support Environment (CWISE) for community corrections.

Offenders have to call 06 on the CIPS or offenders outside DOC can call 1-855-855-0611. This number is available to offenders in community corrections and parole. The hotline is available 24/7 and callers can remain anonymous. Calls are recorded by the answering service. This line was developed for DOC to be compliant with PREA standard 115.51.

PREA Rape Crisis hotline: The calls go through a rape crisis center. Calls are answered by a rape crisis advocate who is trained in rape crisis advocacy services. The calls are confidential. If an offender wants to make a report, the rape crisis center will forward the report to the PREA Administrator for follow up.

The offenders have to call 05 on the CIPS, or offenders outside DOC can call 1-800-809-2344. This number is also available to offenders in community corrections or parole. The hotline is available 24/7. Callers can remain anonymous. Calls are not recorded. This line was developed for DOC to be compliant with PREA standard 115.53.

***DOC staff reporting hotline:** The calls go to a voicemail and the messages are monitored by the PREA Administration and Compliance Unit. The calls are monitored Monday - Friday excluding weekends and holidays. The hotline is available for employees to make a report privately using the reporting line at 1-719-226-4621. This line is for DOC to be compliant with PREA standard 115.51 (d).*

b. Number of FTE allocated to the hotline;

Answer: There are no DOC FTE dedicated solely to the hotline. The DOC TIPSLINE and DOC staff reporting hotlines are assigned to current staff to monitor the hotlines, in addition to other assigned duties in their regular position.

c. The line item through which the hotline is funded;

Answer: Office of the Inspector General

d. All outcome data used to determine the effectiveness of the hotline.

Answer: The PREA related hotlines were established to prove compliance with the PREA standards. From 11-1-2012 through 10-31-2015 there were 157 reports from the following sources:

- DOC TIPSLINE = 49 reports*
- PREA Reporting Hotline = 72 reports*
- PREA Rape Crisis Hotline = 35 reported incidents*
- DOC PREA Webpage report = 1 report*

3. Describe the Department's experience with the implementation of the new CORE accounting system.

- a. How has the implementation improved business processes in the Department?
- b. What challenges has the Department experienced since implementation and how have they been resolved (i.e. training, processes, reports, payroll)?
- c. What impact have these challenges had on the Department's access to funding streams?
- d. How has the implementation of CORE affected staff workload?
- e. Do you anticipate that CORE implementation will result in the need for a permanent increase in staff? If so, indicate whether the Department is requesting additional funding for FY 2016-17 to address it.

Answer: The Department would like to share the successes and challenges in accordance with the November 30 letter from the Office of State Planning and Budgeting to the Joint Budget Committee.

The Department has found improvements in some processes, such as the Office of Information Technology (OIT) purchasing approval process being integrated into one system, rather than two. The web-based CORE program is an improvement over the previous system, which could not be accessed through stand-alone computers that did not have the program physically installed on the machine. Increased chart of accounts structure has improved the potential for more detailed financial reporting, such as expenditures for Results First program tracking.

Reporting functionality is improving and is assisting with critical financial analysis necessary for business decisions within the Department. The Department is developing internal training for end users who were not able to attend larger, more general, statewide training; focus is on Department-specific processes and identified efficiencies during the first year of implementation.

Many of the Department's challenges can be attributed to the unique mission of the Department, which can be very different from other state agencies:

- The Department's warehouse inventory module is critical to the Department, and would benefit from additional programming improvements that are currently not possible due to limited resources focused on statewide improvements.*
- The delay of payroll information in CORE presents a significant challenge for the Department, since there are many unfunded expenses that can vary from month to month, such as overtime payments, unemployment insurance payments, and leave payouts for retiring staff. This information is critical to decision-making regarding availability of appropriations for filling vacant positions and managing overtime vs. public safety concerns. Delays in payroll processing continue into this second fiscal year.*
- There were instances where staff processed a single transaction several times before it would post correctly into CORE. Some day-to-day transactions (such as payments to vendors) take more time than they did in COFRS. The prolonged year-end close increased workload significantly; many areas such as accounts payable, general accounting, and budget office had increased overtime related specifically to processing year-end transactions. It is anticipated that the FY 2015-16 year-end close will be more efficient due to learned processes during this first cycle.*

4. If the Department receives federal funds of any type, please provide a detailed description of any federal sanctions for state activities of which the Department is already aware. In addition, please provide a detailed description of any sanctions that MAY be issued against the Department by the federal government during FFY 2015-16.

Answer: To the Department's knowledge, there are no current or expected federal sanctions for state activities that would impact federal funds received by the Department.

5. Does the Department have any outstanding high priority recommendations as identified in the "Annual Report of Audit Recommendations Not Fully Implemented" that was published by the State Auditor's Office and dated October 2015 (link below)? What is the department doing to resolve the outstanding high priority recommendations?

[http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/4735187E6B48EDF087257ED0007FE8CA/\\$FILE/1542S%20Annual%20Report.%20Status%20of%20Outstanding%20Audit%20Recommendations,%20As%20of%20June%2030,%202015.%20Informational%20Report.%20October%202015.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/4735187E6B48EDF087257ED0007FE8CA/$FILE/1542S%20Annual%20Report.%20Status%20of%20Outstanding%20Audit%20Recommendations,%20As%20of%20June%2030,%202015.%20Informational%20Report.%20October%202015.pdf)

Answer: The Department has four audit recommendations (of an original seven) that are not fully implemented related to the Victim's Restitution Performance Audit with the Judicial Department and DOC.

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
PERFORMANCE AND IT AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS NOT FULLY IMPLEMENTED
AS OF JUNE 30, 2015**

AUDIT	REC. NO.	TOPIC AREA	IMPLEMENTATION STATUS ¹	ORIGINAL IMPLEMENTATION DATE	CURRENT IMPLEMENTATION DATE	DELAY (MONTHS)
Victim's Restitution, Performance Audit, Judicial Department and Department of Corrections, April 2014	1	Statutory Compliance	Not Implemented	7/31/2015	3/31/2016	8
	2	Statutory Compliance	Partially Implemented	7/31/2015	3/31/2016	8
	3	Statutory Compliance	Partially Implemented	7/31/2015	12/31/2015	5
	6	Information Systems	Not Implemented	7/31/2015	3/31/2016	8

SOURCE: Office of the State Auditor's audit recommendation database.

¹ Implementation status is self-reported by the Department and not audited by the OSA.

Audit Recommendation #1: The Department of Corrections (Department) should work with the Judicial Branch to ensure the Department has the data it needs to collect restitution from offenders on all criminal cases by establishing and implementing a method for the Department to obtain Judicial Branch data on all outstanding restitution orders and restitution owed for each offender under Department supervision. *Not implemented.*

Update: The Department has been responsive and cooperative in working with Judicial Branch representatives to implement this recommendation. DOC has been prepared to receive electronic offender restitution data from the Judicial Branch since January 2015 in order to conduct Department information system testing for implementation. Judicial Branch IT resources have been solely dedicated to the development and implementation of interest assessments on outstanding restitution orders. In mid-December 2015, a complete and matched offender data file was received from Judicial to begin conducting two full cycles of Department information system testing. The Department projects to remain on schedule with full implementation in March 2016.

Audit Recommendation #2: The Department of Corrections (Department) should ensure restitution is collected from offenders in a timely manner on all criminal cases, as required by statute, by establishing and implementing a policy and procedure for collecting restitution from all offenders under Department supervision for all criminal cases regardless of the sentence imposed. *Partially implemented.*

Update: The Department has already drafted policy and procedure adjustments in its respective Administrative Regulations for collecting restitution from all offenders under Department supervision for all criminal cases, regardless of the sentence imposed. In mid-December 2015, a complete and matched offender data file was received from Judicial to begin conducting two full cycles of Department information system testing. The Department projects to remain on schedule with full implementation in March 2016.

Audit Recommendation #3: The Department of Corrections should work with the Judicial Branch to ensure more effective collection of victim's restitution by providing the Judicial Branch the parolee information needed to collect court costs and restitution from offenders ending parole supervision and implementing policies and procedures as appropriate. *Partially implemented.*

Update: The Department and Judicial Branch representatives fully executed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in mid-November 2015, detailing the parolee information required for court costs and/or restitution collections from offenders ending parole supervision. Department OIT staff have been performing a business analysis to plan the development and modification of Department data reporting and exchange. The Department has already drafted policy and procedure adjustments in its respective Administrative Regulations to incorporate new memorandum of understanding requirements. The Department projects to remain on schedule with full implementation in March 2016.

Audit Recommendation #6: The Department of Corrections should improve the accuracy of restitution information in its system by developing an efficient method to routinely update the restitution and other court fee balances it tracks for all inmates. This should include making programming changes to its system that would automatically upload updated restitution information from CICJIS, or other applicable systems, and implementing risk-based processes to periodically review the accuracy of offenders' restitution balances. *Not implemented.*

Update: Current Department systems have been re-examined to promote efficient data exchange with the Judicial Branch. The Department's Office of Information Technology staff has been performing a business analysis to plan the development and modification of Department data reporting and exchange. Judicial Branch IT resources have been solely dedicated to the development and implementation of interest assessments on outstanding restitution orders. In mid-December 2015, a complete and matched offender data file was received from Judicial to begin conducting two full cycles of Department information system testing.

The Department's outstanding restitution balances should be complete and accurate based on the electronic transfer of data from the Judicial Branch on a monthly basis. The Department expects to remain on schedule with full implementation in March 2016.

6. Is the department spending money on public awareness campaigns related to marijuana? How is the department working with other state departments to coordinate the campaigns?
Answer: There were no funds spent on public awareness campaigns for marijuana by the Department.
7. Based on the Department's most recent available record, what is the FTE vacancy rate by department and by division? What is the date of the report?
Answer: The Department submitted a Schedule 3 and Schedule 14 with its budget request on November 3rd that details actual vs. appropriated FTE authority by subprogram for FY 2014-15.
8. For FY 2014-15, do any line items in your Department have reversions? If so, which line items, which programs within each line item, and for what amounts (by fund source)? What are the reasons for each reversion? Do you anticipate any reversions in FY 2015-16? If yes, in which programs and line items do you anticipate this reversions occurring? How much and in which fund sources do you anticipate the reversion being?
Answer: The Department of Corrections submitted a Schedule 3 with its budget request on November 3rd that details all reversions by line item and fund source for FY 2014-15. At this time, the Department does not anticipate any material reversions for FY 2015-16.
9. Are you expecting an increase in federal funding with the passage of the FFY 2015-16 federal budget? If yes, in which programs and what is the match requirement for each of the programs?

Answer: The Department receives a federal grant for the International Corrections Management Training Center, the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, the Sure and Swift program, the Second Chance Act's Changing Attitudes and Motivation in Parolees (CHAMPS), and several various pass-through grants from other state agencies. The Department does not anticipate any increased federal funding in these grants from the FFY2015-16 federal budget.

However, the Department will receive \$300,000 for the Security Operations Training Initiative (SOTI). The project's goal is to develop a SOTI curricula, classroom, and training site to address the increase in the frequency and sophistication of attacks and operations against facilities and transports, including major attacks against prisons in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Nigeria and multiple deadly attacks against prisoner convoys in Iraq and Mexico. This will be a collaborative effort with International Corrections Management Training Center, United States Department of State, Department of Defense, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

10. For FY 2014-15, did your department exercise a transfer between lines that is allowable under state statute? If yes, between which line items and programs did this transfer occur? What is the amount of each transfer by fund source between programs and/or line items? Do you anticipate transfers between line items and programs for FY 2015-16? If yes, between which line items/programs and for how much (by fund source)?

Answer: Yes, the Department exercised transfers in two subprograms between budget lines that is allowable through Long Bill footnotes, and was reported in the DOC FY 2016-17 Budget Request under the Request for Information reports.

Transfers in the External Capacity subprogram, per footnote 2 (5.0% allowable transfers), amounted to \$1.9 million, or 2.0% of the appropriated total, as detailed below:

Transferred Line Item

	<u>Amount</u>
Payments to Local Jails:	\$797,851
Payments to In-State Private Prisons:	\$1,111,347
Payments to Pre-Release Parole Revocation Facilities:	(\$1,523,245)
Community Corrections Programs:	<u>(\$385,953)</u>
Total amount transferred within the External Capacity Subprogram funding lines:	\$1,909,198
Total amount of the External Capacity Subprogram, Payments to House State Prisoners Appropriation	\$97,312,543
5.0% Transfer Authority:	\$4,865,627
Amount Transferred in FY 2014-15:	\$1,909,198
% of Amount Transferred to Appropriated Total:	2.0%

Transfers in the Medical Services subprogram, per footnote 4 (20% allowable transfers), amounted to \$2.32 million, or 10.6% of the appropriated total, as detailed below:

	<u>Amount</u>
Purchase of Medical Services from Other Medical Facilities:	(\$2,352,439)
Catastrophic Medical Expenses:	<u>\$2,352,439</u>
Total amount transferred within the Medical Services Subprogram funding lines:	\$2,352,439

Total amount of the Medical Services Subprogram, Purchase of Medical Services from Other Medical Facilities Appropriation	\$22,131,178
20.0% Transfer Authority:	\$4,426,236
Amount Transferred in FY 2014-15:	\$2,352,439
% of Amount Transferred to Appropriated Total:	10.6%

**STATE BOARD OF PAROLE
FY 2016-17 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Friday, January 8, 2016
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm**

12:00-12:20 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS

12:20-12:30 GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. For FY 2015-16, the JBC budgeted 230 community corrections beds for parolees. How does the Parole Board use these beds? Does a lack of community corrections beds ever affect parole board decisions? Does a lack of beds for paroled sex offenders ever affect parole decisions? Is there evidence that use of parole beds improves parole outcomes?

Answer: The Parole Board utilizes community corrections beds to maximize the successful transition into the community for offenders eligible to be placed in those beds. The availability of these beds does not affect the Parole Board's release decisions for offenders, including sex offenders. Unfortunately, there is currently no data that would show that the use of parole beds improved parole outcomes.

ADDENDUM: OTHER QUESTIONS FOR WHICH SOLELY WRITTEN RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED

2. For FY 2014-15, do any line items in your Department have reversions? If so, which line items, which programs within each line item, and for what amounts? What are the reasons for each reversion? Do you anticipate any reversions in FY 2015-16? If yes, in which programs and line items do you anticipate this reversion occurring? How much and in which fund sources do you anticipate the reversion being?

Answer: The Parole Board submitted a Schedule 3 with its budget request on November 3rd that details all reversions by line item and fund source for FY 2014-15. At this time, the Parole Board does not anticipate any material reversions for FY 2015-16.

Joe M. Morales, Chairperson

Rebecca Oakes, Vice-Chairperson
Denise Balazic
John O'Dell
Alfredo Pena
Alexandra J. Walker



Colorado Board of Parole

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MEMORANDUM

Date: January 8, 2016
To: Members of the Joint Budget Committee
From: Joe Morales, Colorado Board of Parole, Chairperson
Subj.: Colorado Board of Parole Annual Report to the Joint Budget Committee

I. Introduction:

This memorandum is presented to the Joint Budget Committee of the Colorado General Assembly. The memorandum is divided into three parts: (1) Parole Board Operations, (2) Parole Board 2016-17 Budget Request, and (3) 2015 Performance Measures.

II. Parole Board Operations

Parole Board. The Colorado Board of Parole ("Parole Board" or "Board") consists of seven members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Board members serve three-year terms at the will of the Governor. Board members may be re-appointed for more than one term.

Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson is the administrative head of the Parole Board. It is his or her responsibility to enforce the rules and regulations of the Board, and to assure that parole hearings are scheduled and conducted properly. The Vice-Chairperson assumes these responsibilities in the absence of the Chairperson. Joe Morales was designated Chairperson on September 10, 2015. Rebecca Oakes was designated Vice-Chairperson on the July 15, 2013.

Mission. The mission of the Parole Board is to increase public safety by critical evaluation, through the utilization of evidence-based practices of inmate potential for successful reintegration to society. The Board determines parole suitability through the process of setting conditions of parole and assists the parolee by helping to create an atmosphere for a successful reintegration and return to the community. (Colorado Board of Parole Strategic Plan, 2013-2015; created in accordance with the SMART Government Act, section 2-7-201, C.R.S. (2015))

Office. The Parole Board office is located at 1600 W. 24th Street, Building 54, Pueblo, Colorado. Remote offices are also provided for Board members at the Division of Adult Parole located at 940 Broadway Street, Denver, Colorado.

Staffing. The Parole Board is supported by ten (9) full-time employees (FTE). The Board support staff is structured as follows:

- Parole Board Administrator (1 FTE)
- Office Manager, Pueblo (1 FTE)
- Revocation Unit, Pueblo (3 FTE)
- Application Unit, Pueblo (2 FTE)
- Administrative Support Staff, Denver (2 FTE)

During FY 2015, the Board also utilized several contract employees, including: (a) two (2) Administrative Hearing Officers to conduct revocation hearings pursuant to 17-2-202.5, C.R.S. (2015); (b) a defense attorney to represent parolees who are not competent to represent themselves during revocation hearings; (c) a Release Hearing Officer to conduct application interviews pursuant to section 17-2-202.5, C.R.S. (2015); and (d) two (2) temp-workers in Pueblo to help scan files for the Board’s automation project.

Budget. The following illustrates appropriations made to the Board of Parole from FY 2010-11 through FY 2015-16.

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-2016
Personal Services	\$1,348,408 (17.5 FTE)	\$1,197,526 (12.5 FTE)	\$1,197,526 (13.5 FTE)	\$1,197,526 (13.5 FTE)	\$1,376,891 (16.2 FTE)	\$1,376,891 (16.2 FTE)
Operating Expenses	\$101,545	\$99,545	\$104,890	\$104,890	\$106,390	\$106,390
Contract Services	\$152,000	\$228,637	\$288,437	\$272,437	\$272,437	\$272,437
Start-Up Costs	0	0	0	0	\$14,109	0
Total	\$1,601,953	\$1,525,708	\$1,590,853	\$1,574,853	\$1,769,827	\$1,769,827

II. Parole Board Budget Request 2016-17

The Board of Parole was able to stay within its budget appropriations during FY 2014-15. With standard adjustments for inflation and cost-of-living increases, the Board anticipates being able to maintain its level of operations under the same appropriations it received during FY 2015-16.

III. Performance Measures

1. What types of hearings are conducted by the Parole Board?

Answer: The Parole Board conducts a wide variety of hearings: (1) parole application interviews, (2) full board reviews, (3) parole rescission hearings, (4) parole revocation hearings, (5) early release reviews, (6) special needs parole hearings, (7) interstate parole probable cause hearings, (8) sexually violent predator designation reviews, and (9) reduction of sex offender supervision level requests.

Statistics: During FY 2015, the Parole Board conducted:

- 16,697 Application interviews
- 1,875 Full Board reviews
- 670 Rescission hearings
- 7,428 Revocation hearings
- 556 Early Release reviews
- 40 Special Needs Parole hearings
- 30 Interstate Parole Probable Cause hearings
- 61 Sexually Violent Predator Designation hearings
- 38 Sex Offender Supervision Level Reduction requests

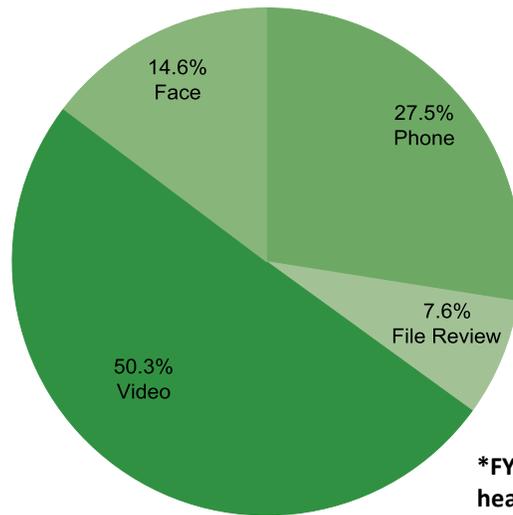
Total: 27,395 hearings

The Parole Board also:

- Issued 2,025 arrest warrants
- Granted 716 waivers
- Conducted 1,811 File Reviews in lieu of hearings

2. The Board conducts the majority of its hearings by video conferencing. It also conducts hearings by telephone and face-to-face. Most of the video conferencing occurs with the larger correctional institutions (i.e., Colorado State Penitentiary, Sterling Correctional Facility, Limon Correctional Facility, etc.). Telephone hearings are generally used to reach smaller facilities in rural parts of the state. Face-to-face hearings generally occur in and around the Denver metro area at parole offices and local jails.

Statistics: Percentage of hearings conducted by hearing method in FY 2015: video 50.3%, phone 27.5%, face 14.6%, and 7.6% by file review.*



*FY 2015 finalized hearings by hearing method.

3. Is there a different procedure for violent offenders versus non-violent offenders?

Answer: Yes. Individual Board members do not have the authority to parole offenders convicted of a violent crime. Instead, if a Board member believes an offender is a good candidate for parole, the member refers the offender to the entire Parole Board for consideration. The Board sits as a “Full Board” at least once a week and votes on parole applications for violent offenders. An offender needs at least two affirmative votes to be released on discretionary parole. In contrast, individual members retain the authority to make final discretionary release decisions for non-violent offenders.

Statistics: In FY 2015, the Board conducted 1,875 Full Board hearings. Forty-eight percent (48%) of those seen were released, and fifty-two percent (52%) were denied parole. The recidivism rate after the first year on parole for offenders considered and released by the Full Board is just over twelve percent (12.4%).

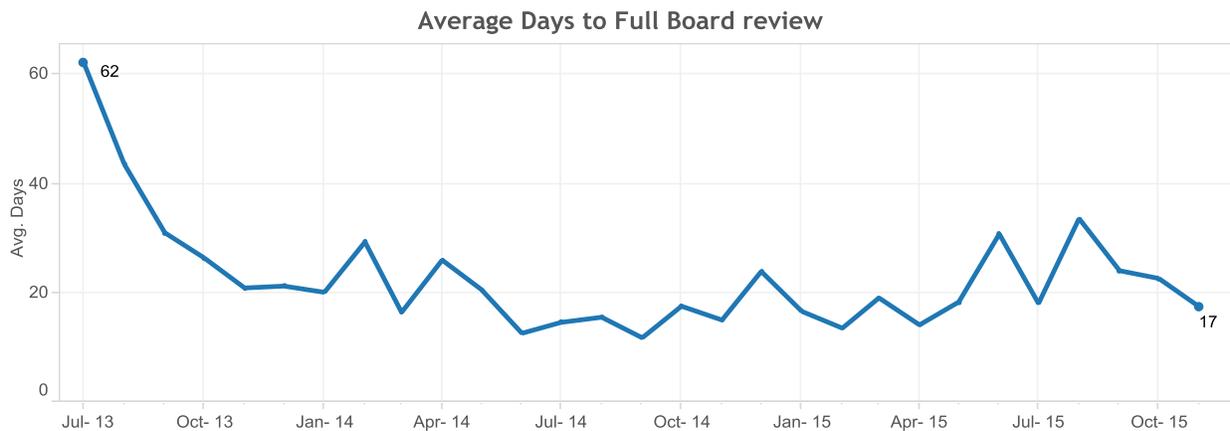
Full Board Release Decisions



4. How long does it take for the Full Board to consider offenders?

Answer: The Board has made a concerted effort to shorten the time from the initial application interview to the final Full Board review. Increased response times from the Board add certainty and predictability to the process. Currently, the response window for most reviews is approximately two weeks from the time an offender receives an application interview to the time he/she receives a response from the Full Board.

Statistics: The following graph compares the average review times from initial application interview to Full Board review from July 2013 to October 2015.



5. What is the Parole Board Release Guideline Instrument (“PBRGI”)?

Answer: As per 17-22.5-404(6)(a) and 17-22.5-107(1) C.R.S. (2015), the PBRGI was developed by the Division of Criminal Justice and the Board of Parole and offers an advisory release decision recommendation for parole applicants who are not sex offenders. “The goal of the parole release guideline is to provide a consistent framework for the Board to evaluate and weigh specific release decision factors and, based on a structured decision matrix, to offer an advisory release decision recommendation for parole applicants” (*Analysis of Colorado State Board of Parole Decisions: FY 2014 Report* published by DCJ, April 2015). The Board considers all the factors specified in section 17-22.5-404, C.R.S. (2015) in making parole decisions; however, it pays particular attention to the PBRGI, which incorporates the Colorado Actuarial Risk Assessment Scale.

Statistics: During FY 2015, the Parole Board was in concurrence with the PBRGI recommendation 66% of the time. When the PBRGI recommended RELEASE, the Board was in concurrence 43% of the time; when the PBRGI recommended DEFER, the Board was in concurrence 92% of the time.*

*Sample from FY 2015 hearing data with non-sex-offenders whose hearing was finalized. Deferrals due to non-appearance/absence and Mandatory Reparoles (MRPs) are excluded. Overall counts and percentages of Parole Board release and defer decisions by PBRGI release and defer recommendations.

6. How often do you revoke an offender’s parole?

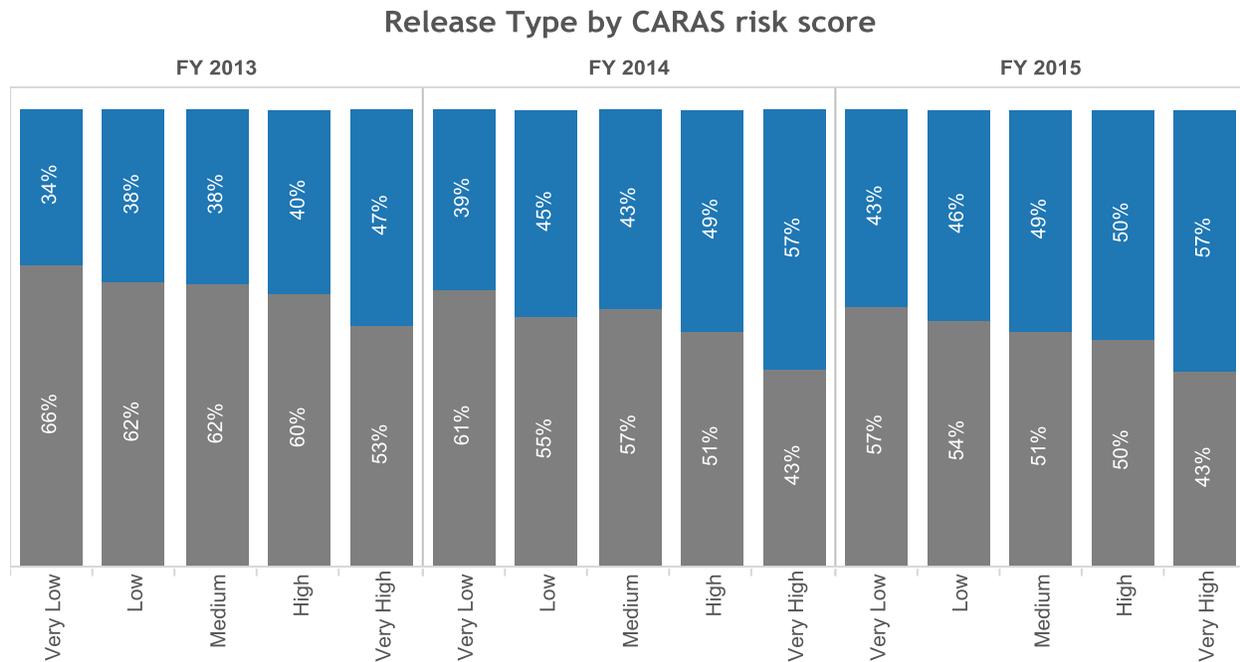
Answer: The Parole Revocation process is governed by section 17-2-103, C.R.S. (2015). Each hearing is an independent event. The Parole Board member conducting the hearing is an objective hearing officer and accepts testimony and evidence from the Parole Officer and Offender. After reviewing all pertinent information, the Board member determines if parole should be revoked. For “new law violations,” the Board member has the discretion to revoke an offender back to DOC for the remainder of his or her sentence. For most “technical violations,” the Board member has the discretion to continue an individual on parole with prescribed treatment or revoke back to DOC or a Community Return to Custody Facility (CRCF) for up to 180 days.

Statistics: During FY 2015 the total number of revocation hearings continued on parole was 477 (11.3%), and the total number revoked back to a DOC facility was 3,727 (88.7%). During the same period of time, 20% of parole returns were for a new felony conviction, and 80% were for a technical violation.

7. What is the difference in release rates between discretionary and mandatory paroles?

Answer: The Parole Board releases significantly fewer offenders on discretionary parole than on mandatory parole.

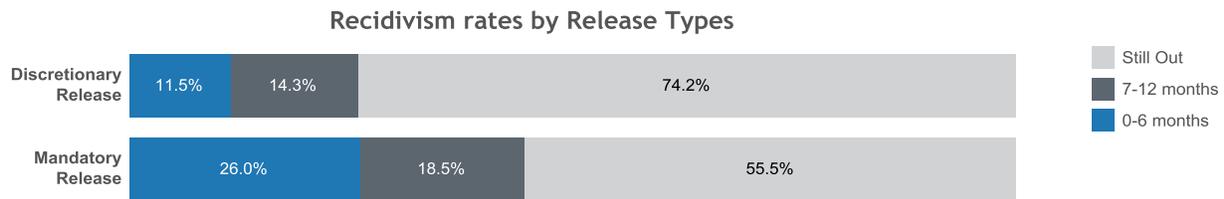
Statistics: In FY 2015, the Parole Board voted to release 2,831 (47%) offenders on discretionary parole and 3,146 (53%) on mandatory parole. The average risk assessment for offenders who were granted discretionary parole in FY 2015 was 34 (Medium Risk). The following graph breaks down mandatory/discretionary release percentages by risk assessment scores.*



*CARAS risk used is score taken most recently at the time of release to parole. MRPs are excluded. ■ Mandatory Release ■ Discretionary Release

8. What are the 6-month and 12-month recidivism rates for the Parole Board?

Answer: Although the Board releases fewer offenders on discretionary parole than mandatory parole, those selected for release on discretionary parole have lower recidivism rates than those released on mandatory parole. The 6-month recidivism rate for all offenders released on parole, both mandatory and discretionary, is 19%; the 12-month recidivism rate is 34%. The 6-month average recidivism rate for discretionary releases is approximately 11.5%; the average recidivism rate after 12 months is approximately 25.8%. Comparatively, the 6-month recidivism rate of mandatory releases is approximately 26%, and the 12-month rate is approximately 44.5%.



*2013 release cohort data not including MRPs. The 12-month rate is the combination of the 0-6 months and the 7-12 months recidivism rates.

Joint Budget Committee

January 8, 2016

Colorado Department of Corrections
Rick Raemisch, Executive Director



COLORADO
Department of Corrections

VISION STATEMENT:

Building a Safer Colorado for Today and Tomorrow.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To protect the citizens of Colorado by holding offenders accountable and engaging them in opportunities to make positive behavioral changes and become law-abiding productive citizens



Divisions and Major Functions of the Department

Prison Operations

- Manages, supervises and controls 20 state correctional facilities
- Monitors 4 privately operated prisons for contract compliance
- Incarcerates approximately 18,000 *prison* inmates

Adult Parole

- Responsible for the supervision of community-based inmates and parolees
- Supports parolees in their efforts to successfully reintegrate into the community
- Monitors nearly 8,000 domestic parolees

Finance & Administration

- Develops a systematic building infrastructure to provide for projected long-range needs of the facilities under the Department's control
- Operates Colorado Correctional Industries which consists of over 60 separate operating businesses
- Manages budget and business functions



Divisions and Major Functions of the Department

Clinical & Correctional Services

- Manages educational, vocational and proven cognitive behavior programs within state prisons
- Provides treatment, services and the necessary tools designed to improve successful reintegration of offenders into society
- Provides comprehensive health care to offenders including hospice care, mental health, dialysis, dental, and general wellness

Office of the Inspector General

- Performs criminal and professional standards investigations within the DOC

Office of Human Resources

- Manages talent search process, employee benefits, compensation and training as well as hires employees
- Encourages staff wellness



Colorado Prison Facilities

State:

20

Private:

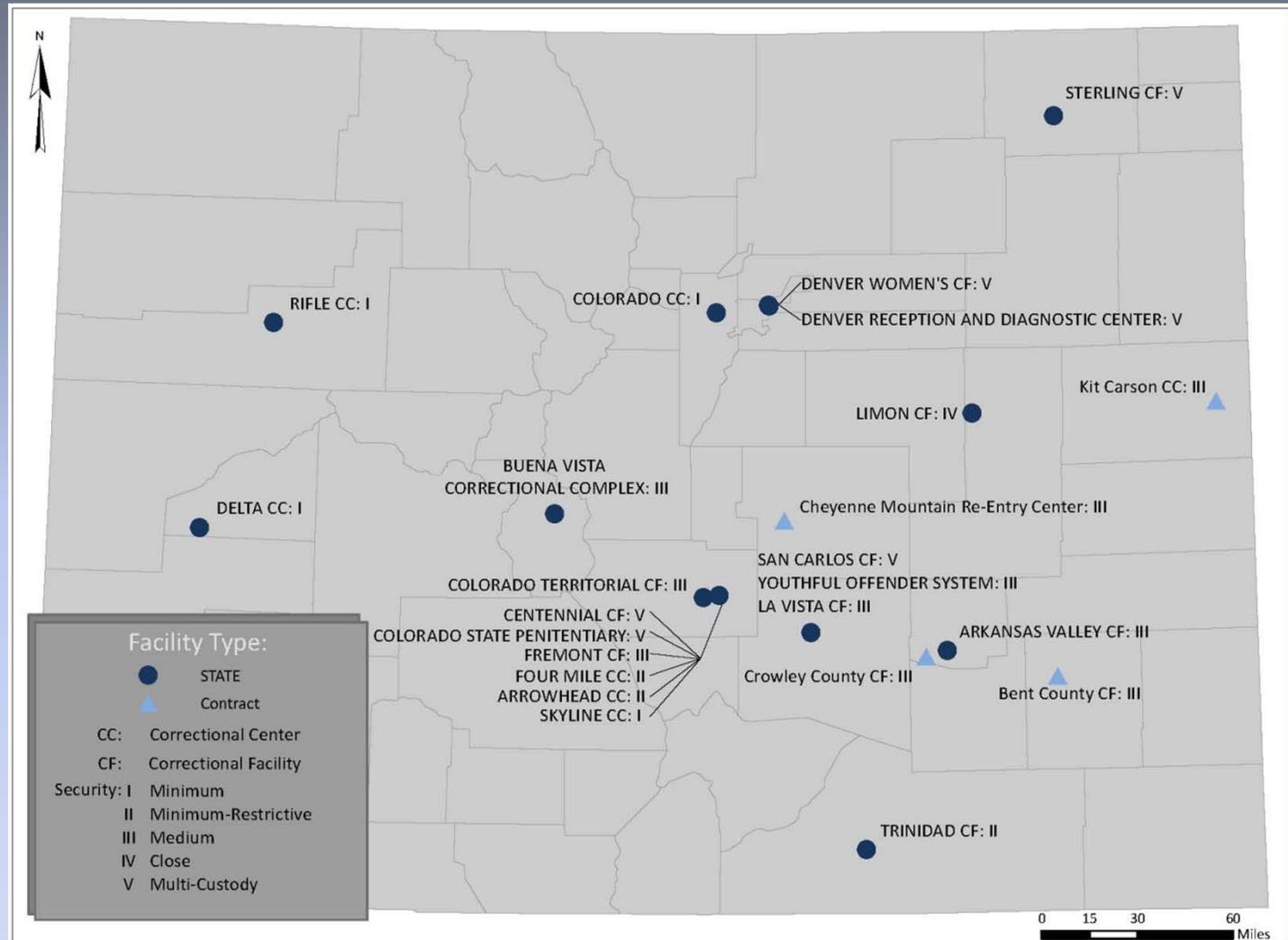
4

CDOC
Facility
Staff:

5,163*

Prison
Inmates:

18,063*



NOTE: Data as of 6/30/2015.



COLORADO
Department of Corrections

Colorado Parole Offices

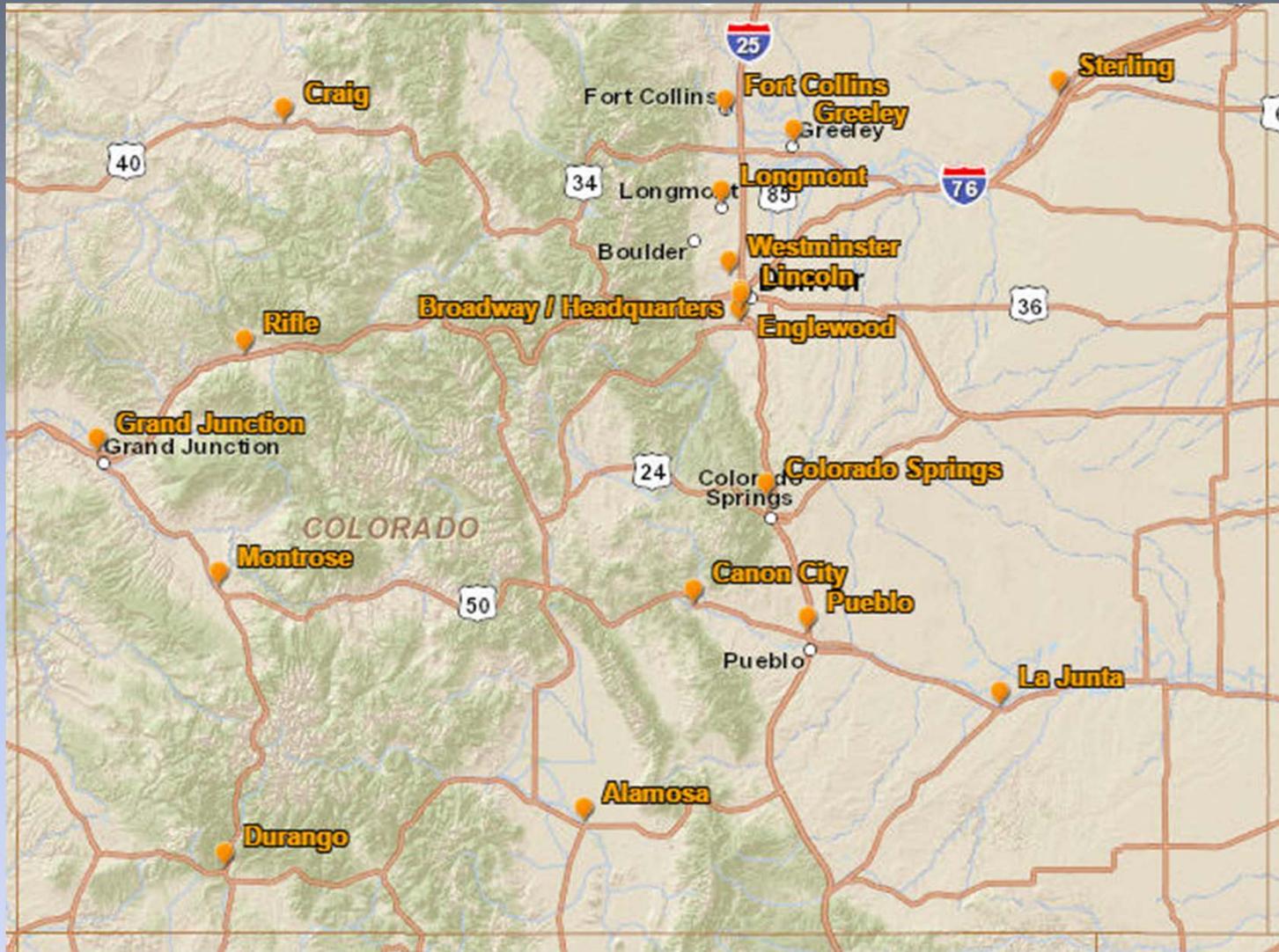
Offices: 18

CPO Staff:
255

In State
Parolees &
Absconders:
8,390

Community
Corrections,
Return to
Custody, ISP
Inmates &
YOS
Community
(Phase III):

2,284



NOTE: Data as of 6/30/2015.



COLORADO
Department of Corrections

Offender Data: As of June 30, 2015

	Male	Female	Total
➤ Prison Inmates	16,523	1,540	18,063
➤ Community Corrections Inmates	1,879	366	2,245
➤ Jail	71	16	87
➤ Community Corrections Walkaways	182	46	228
➤ Total	18,655	1,968	20,623
➤ In State Parolees	6,717	1,148	7,865
➤ In State Parolee Absconders	466	59	525
➤ Total	7,183	1,207	8,390

As of June 30, 2015; excludes: Youthful Offender System, out of state parolees and out of state parole absconders, Community Corrections Inmate excludes Phase 3-YOS



Offender Data: Mental Illness

	Male	Female	Total
Intellectual Disability	820 (5%)	67 (4%)	887 (5%)
Sex Offender	5,125 (31%)	111 (7%)	5,236 (29%)
Drug & Alcohol	11,753 (71%)	1,202 (78%)	12,955 (72%)
Mental Health	5,388 (33%)	1,158 (75%)	6,546 (36%)
Serious Mental Illness *	1,209 (7%)	552 (36%)	1,761 (10%)

*Serious Mental Illness is included in the Mental Health figures

Prison inmates as of June 30, 2015



A Reduction in Both New Crimes and Technical Violation Revocations with an overall decline of 2.7%

Return Type	Calendar Year 2013 (Release Cohort 2010)	Calendar Year 2014 (Release Cohort 2011)
New Crime	15.3%	13.9%
Technical Violation	33.5%	32.2%
Total	48.8%	46.1%



Road to Reform: Back to the Basics of Enhancing Public Safety

- Eliminating the use of long-term isolated confinement or “administrative segregation”
- The CDOC has released zero offenders directly to the community from Restrictive Housing- Maximum Security Status, since March 2014
- Addressing mental illness through the creation of Residential Treatment Programs (RTP’s) at three facilities
- There remains zero offenders with a Serious Mental Illness in Restrictive Housing



Road to Reform: Back to the Basics of Enhancing Public Safety

- Providing offenders with valid State issued ID cards
- Creating reentry pods in facilities
- Assigning Parole Officers to facilities to ensure continuity of services between prison and parole
- Skill Building Competencies for Staff including Motivational Interviewing and EPICS Training for Parole Officers
- Employment Navigators
- Community Based Organization Collaboration



Looking Ahead: Problems and Opportunities

- Affordable Housing
- Managing Gangs
- Mother-Infant Unit
- CSPII: Potential Future Uses



Thank you!

Visit our new website at:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdoc>

Colorado Department of Corrections
Rick Raemisch, Executive Director



COLORADO
Department of Corrections

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FY 2016-17 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Friday, January 8, 2016
10:00 am – 11:50 am**

10:00-10:20 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS

10:20-11:10 DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

1. Please provide an update on how S.B. 15-124 (Reduce Parole Revocations for Technical Violations) is working. Is it achieving its goals?
2. How do lengths of parole in Colorado compare with other states?
3. How much excess capacity is there in state prisons?
4. How much deferred maintenance do we have on the state prisons?
5. Referring to the chart on the bottom of page 18 of the JBC Staff briefing document, why are salaries lower now than they were in FY 2004-05?
6. Referring to the charts on bottom of pages 18 and 19 of the Staff briefing document, have any of these changes impacted safety? If so in what way?
7. Please provide an update on how DOC plans to use CSP II.
8. Has the DOC stopped testing parolees for alcohol and marijuana use or will it stop testing in the near future? If so, what is the reason for this policy change? Will alcohol and marijuana use be managed in the community? What does "manage in the community" mean?
9. Based on the JBC Staff analysis of factors driving the budget, what does the Department think we should be doing differently?

FY 2016-17 Requested Appropriation and Related Questions

R3 Medical Caseload

10. What was the rationale for breaking external medical costs into 2 separate line items (1. Purchases of Medical Services from Other Medical Facilities and 2. Catastrophic Medical

Expenses)? When was this first done? Would it be beneficial to combine them in a single line item?

11. Is there a statewide policy for the use of psychotropic drugs in HCPF, DHS, and DOC? Has the State ever tried to make a consistent formulary for all departments which also establishes how and when drugs are prescribed and administered? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of statewide uniformity?
12. At the DOC Smart Act Hearing, Dr. Charles Clark, a former psychiatrist at Denver Women's Correctional Facility described the facility's mental health treatment program.
 - a. He stated that those newly admitted are locked down 23 hours per day. DOC's regulations require offenders to be offered 20 out-of-cell hours per week. Why the difference? Are some offenders spending 23 hours daily in their cells? If offenders are declining out-of-cell time, can't DOC do more to make out-of-cell time appealing?
 - b. To echo a question asked by Dr Clark, must non-violent mentally ill offenders be placed in isolation?
 - c. The program is a progressive system with 5 levels. Dr. Clark spoke of severely mentally ill individuals who have been on level 1 for a year or more. Are offenders remaining on level 1 this long? Are some released directly from level 1 to the street?
 - d. Dr. Clark stated that some offenders cycle repeatedly between the treatment program and the general prison population. Is this so? Can't cycling be reduced?
13. Update the Committee on efforts to access Medicaid for inmates. Should the related budgeting involve appropriations to HCPF?
14. [Rep. Rankin] Please provide an overview of the Department's objectives and metrics.

11:10-11:50 ISSUES

R2 Utilities Inflation

15. Update the Committee on wastewater costs at Buena Vista, a decision item approved during the 2015 session that will result in FY 2017-18 wastewater expenses that are 469 percent higher than in FY 2013-14. What is the rationale for this large cost increase, which will result in wastewater costs for Buena Vista Correctional Center that are higher than wastewater costs

at any other DOC facility? Please ask the town of Buena Vista to also respond to this question.

16. When will the prison utilization study be available? Should high utility costs such as those at Buena Vista be a consideration when we decide to decommission facilities?
17. Can the State Architect, who is looking at deferred maintenance, examine water facilities at Buena Vista and prioritize this issue?

R5 Provider Rate Decrease

18. How will the one percent community provider rate decrease affect services provided by external capacity providers, i.e. jails, private prisons, the pre-release parole revocation facility, and community return to custody facilities? How will it affect the Department's other community providers?

Changing Appropriations in Criminal Sentencing Bills and Changes to the Statute Governing Those Bills

19. Are offenders who were convicted under H.B. 15-1043 (Felony Offense for Repeat DUI Offenders) already arriving at DOC? What is the Department's plan for these offenders. When they arrive, where will they be housed? Should they be in regular prisons? Should they go to prisons or wings of prisons that specialize in their problems? Will they be in minimum security prisons?

S.B. 15-195, Inmate Phone Rates, and Private Prisons

20. The DOC has reduced inmate phone rates to 12¢ per minute with no connect charges. Pages 39 and 40 of the JBC Staff briefing document list five states that have substantially lower phone rates than Colorado. Can Colorado's inmate rates be reduced further?

Where have informative DOC budgets gone?

21. Is the Department willing to put more complete narratives back in budget requests? What impact would it have on the Department to add this information to budgets? Can OSPB arrange for other Departments to also do so?

Other Questions:

22. Please update the Committee on the Parole Office's contract with TASC. Explain what TASC does. Have less funds been allocated? Why? Do the changes involve the Correctional

Treatment Cash Fund? Do the changes reflect a changed focus at the Correctional Treatment Board?

ADDENDUM: OTHER QUESTIONS FOR WHICH SOLELY WRITTEN RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED

1. Provide a list of any legislation that the Department has: (a) not implemented or (b) partially implemented. Explain why the Department has not implemented or has only partially implemented the legislation on this list.
2. Please provide a detailed description of all program hotlines administered by the Department, including:
 - a. The purpose of the hotline;
 - b. Number of FTE allocated to the hotline;
 - c. The line item through which the hotline is funded; and
 - d. All outcome data used to determine the effectiveness of the hotline.
3. Describe the Department's experience with the implementation of the new CORE accounting system.
 - a. How has the implementation improved business processes in the Department?
 - b. What challenges has the Department experienced since implementation and how have they been resolved (i.e. training, processes, reports, payroll)?
 - c. What impact have these challenges had on the Department's access to funding streams?
 - d. How has the implementation of CORE affected staff workload?
 - e. Do you anticipate that CORE implementation will result in the need for a permanent increase in staff? If so, indicate whether the Department is requesting additional funding for FY 2016-17 to address it.
4. If the Department receives federal funds of any type, please provide a detailed description of any federal sanctions for state activities of which the Department is already aware. In addition, please provide a detailed description of any sanctions that MAY be issued against the Department by the federal government during FFY 2015-16.
5. Does the Department have any outstanding high priority recommendations as identified in the "Annual Report of Audit Recommendations Not Fully Implemented" that was published by the State Auditor's Office and dated October 2015 (link below)? What is the department doing to resolve the outstanding high priority recommendations?

[http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/4735187E6B48EDF087257ED0007FE8CA/\\$FILE/1542S%20Annual%20Report.%20Status%20of%20Outstanding%20Audit%20Recommendations,%20As%20of%20June%2030,%202015.%20Informational%20Report.%20October%202015.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/OSA/coauditor1.nsf/All/4735187E6B48EDF087257ED0007FE8CA/$FILE/1542S%20Annual%20Report.%20Status%20of%20Outstanding%20Audit%20Recommendations,%20As%20of%20June%2030,%202015.%20Informational%20Report.%20October%202015.pdf)

6. Is the department spending money on public awareness campaigns related to marijuana? How is the department working with other state departments to coordinate the campaigns?

7. Based on the Department's most recent available record, what is the FTE vacancy rate by department and by division? What is the date of the report?
8. For FY 2014-15, do any line items in your Department have reversions? If so, which line items, which programs within each line item, and for what amounts (by fund source)? What are the reasons for each reversion? Do you anticipate any reversions in FY 2015-16? If yes, in which programs and line items do you anticipate this reversions occurring? How much and in which fund sources do you anticipate the reversion being?
9. Are you expecting an increase in federal funding with the passage of the FFY 2015-16 federal budget? If yes, in which programs and what is the match requirement for each of the programs?
10. For FY 2014-15, did your department exercise a transfer between lines that is allowable under state statute? If yes, between which line items and programs did this transfer occur? What is the amount of each transfer by fund source between programs and/or line items? Do you anticipate transfers between line items and programs for FY 2015-16? If yes, between which line items/programs and for how much (by fund source)?

**STATE BOARD OF PAROLE
FY 2016-17 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Friday, January 8, 2016
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm**

12:00-12:20 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS

12:20-12:30 GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. For FY 2015-16, the JBC budgeted 230 community corrections beds for parolees. How does the Parole Board use these beds? Does a lack of community corrections beds ever affect parole board decisions? Does a lack beds for paroled sex offenders ever affect parole decisions? Is there evidence that use of parole beds improves parole outcomes?

ADDENDUM: OTHER QUESTIONS FOR WHICH SOLELY WRITTEN RESPONSES ARE REQUESTED

2. For FY 2014-15, do any line items in your Department have reversions? If so, which line items, which programs within each line item, and for what amounts? What are the reasons for each reversion? Do you anticipate any reversions in FY 2015-16? If yes, in which programs and line items do you anticipate this reversion occurring? How much and in which fund sources do you anticipate the reversion being?