

DIVISION OF PAROLE

MISSION

The Division of Parole, which consists of the Board of Parole and Division staff, is primarily responsible for community supervision and reintegration of offenders released from prison by action of the Parole Board or by conditional release.

The Division promotes public safety and protection through the development and implementation of supervision and treatment plans for offenders returning to the community.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

The 19 members of the Board of Parole are appointed by the Governor, and confirmed by the Senate, for six-year terms. One member is designated by the Governor to serve as the Board's Chair and chief executive officer of the Division. The Board members review the cases of inmates eligible for parole and determine if and when the offender should be released to parole supervision. The Board members establish the conditions the parolee must abide by in the community, and revoke parole in cases where parolees fail to maintain the conditions of their release.

The Division's administrative staff are located in its central office in Albany. Parole operations staff are distributed across the state in 70 correctional facilities and approximately 38 community-based supervision offices.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

In 2003-04, approximately \$145 million in State tax dollars and \$1.5 million in Federal funds will enable the Division of Parole to promote public safety by preparing inmates for release, supervising offenders in the community, and arranging for treatment services for parolees.

The Budget recommendations also build on prior year initiatives designed to supervise offenders in the community by providing intensive parole officer supervision caseloads for violent felony offenders, sex offenders and for those parolees who complete the drug treatment program at the Willard Drug Treatment Campus.

Approximately \$37.5 million in State tax dollars is recommended to support the Aid to Localities portion of the budget. This funding finances vocational development and relapse prevention programs, and supports initiatives designed to positively impact the revocation process. In order to reduce the impact on localities and speed the return of non-compliant parolees to State prison, the Division has developed several procedural changes that have made the parole revocation process more efficient. These management efficiencies have reduced the amount of time parole violators spend in local jails.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In addition to closely monitoring offenders in the community, the Division helps prevent parolees from reverting to a life of crime by contracting for various rehabilitative services to support their return to society, such as substance abuse counseling, residential treatment, and employment training and programming. The Division has also begun the implementation of an information technology initiative that will enhance the provision of these services, as well as improve supervision of parolees in the community.

PAROLE OPERATIONS

The Parole Operations program, the core of the State parole system, comprises three major areas: preparing inmates for parole, assisting the Board in making parole release determinations, and supervising parolees upon release. An inmate must have housing and

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employment prospects before being released from a State prison. Parole officers attempt to obtain housing, employment and other services before an inmate appears before the Board. At the same time, parole staff assigned to prisons assess an inmate's readiness for release by reviewing his or her case history. The staff also summarizes an inmate's rehabilitation progress, family background, and housing and employment prospects for the Board's consideration.

As a result of changes to the Penal Law by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1995 and Jenna's Law, violent felony offenders are subject to determinate sentences and not eligible for early parole release. Those offenders are, however, subject to fixed periods of post-release supervision upon their release from prison. When offenders are released from prison, they are assigned to a Parole Officer for the balance of their sentence. The supervising parole officer monitors the behavior of parolees in the community, investigates alleged violations, revokes parole when warranted and arranges for services to help parolees remain productive and law-abiding members of the community.

Under proposed legislation, merit termination of sentence will be granted to certain nonviolent felons on parole who do not present a risk to the community.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2002-03	Appropriations Recommended 2003-04	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2003-04
State Operations	154,353,000	147,519,000	(6,834,000)	961,000
Aid To Localities	43,934,000	42,727,000	(1,207,000)	6,955,000
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	198,287,000	190,246,000	(8,041,000)	7,916,000

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2002-03 Estimated FTEs 03/31/03	2003-04 Estimated FTEs 03/31/04	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	113	107	(6)
Parole Operations			
General Fund	2,122	2,065	(57)
Total	2,235	2,172	(63)

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2002-03	Recommended 2003-04	Change
General Fund	152,067,000	145,234,000	(6,833,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,461,000	1,460,000	(1,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	400,000	400,000	0
Fiduciary Funds	425,000	425,000	0
Total	154,353,000	147,519,000	(6,834,000)

**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available 2002-03	Recommended 2003-04	Change
Administration			
General Fund	8,548,000	7,931,000	(617,000)
Parole Operations			
General Fund	143,519,000	137,303,000	(6,216,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	1,461,000	1,460,000	(1,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Other	400,000	400,000	0
Fiduciary Funds	425,000	425,000	0
Total	<u>154,353,000</u>	<u>147,519,000</u>	<u>(6,834,000)</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2003-04 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	6,458,000	(641,000)	6,326,000	(642,000)
Parole Operations	111,313,000	(5,948,000)	107,542,000	(5,859,000)
Total	<u>117,771,000</u>	<u>(6,589,000)</u>	<u>113,868,000</u>	<u>(6,501,000)</u>

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	0	0	132,000	1,000
Parole Operations	80,000	0	3,691,000	(89,000)
Total	<u>80,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,823,000</u>	<u>(88,000)</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2003-04 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	1,473,000	24,000	20,000	(17,000)
Parole Operations	25,990,000	(268,000)	1,037,000	0
Total	<u>27,463,000</u>	<u>(244,000)</u>	<u>1,057,000</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	238,000	0	1,201,000	41,000
Parole Operations	3,105,000	(400,000)	20,566,000	632,000
Total	<u>3,343,000</u>	<u>(400,000)</u>	<u>21,767,000</u>	<u>673,000</u>

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	14,000	0
Parole Operations	1,282,000	(500,000)
Total	<u>1,296,000</u>	<u>(500,000)</u>

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2003-04 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Parole Operations	425,000	0	425,000	0
Total	<u>425,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>425,000</u>	<u>0</u>

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**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available 2002-03	Recommended 2003-04	Change
General Fund	35,972,000	37,477,000	1,505,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,712,000	0	(2,712,000)
Internal Service Funds	5,250,000	5,250,000	0
Total	<u>43,934,000</u>	<u>42,727,000</u>	<u>(1,207,000)</u>

**AID TO LOCALITIES
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available 2002-03	Recommended 2003-04	Change
Parole Operations			
General Fund	35,972,000	37,477,000	1,505,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	2,712,000	0	(2,712,000)
Internal Service Funds	5,250,000	5,250,000	0
Total	<u>43,934,000</u>	<u>42,727,000</u>	<u>(1,207,000)</u>