

DIVISION OF PAROLE

MISSION

The Division of Parole, which consists of the Board of Parole and Division staff, is responsible for community supervision and reintegration of offenders released from prison by action of the Parole Board, a presumptive release decision by the Department of Correctional Services, by conditional release or when inmates with determinate sentences reach their maximum expiration date.

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. These conditions outline a parolee's responsibilities while under community supervision and, when these conditions are violated, serve as justification for parole revocation.

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. The Division will have a workforce of 2,022 in 2005-06.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

In 2005-06, approximately \$148 million in State tax dollars 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, offenders with severe mental health conditions, sex offenders and for those parolees who graduate from the shock incarceration program or who complete the drug treatment program at the Willard Drug Treatment Campus.

Approximately \$35 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 provides payments to localities for housing parole violators awaiting a hearing to determine whether the individual will return to State prison. 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 will also continue 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

PAROLE OPERATIONS

The Parole Operations program, the core of the State parole system, comprises three major areas: preparing inmates for reentry into the community, assisting the Board in making parole release determinations, and supervising parolees upon release from prison. Institutional Parole staff, assigned to correctional facilities, assist the board by assessing an inmate's readiness for release by reviewing his or her case history. The staff summarizes an inmate's rehabilitation progress, family background, and housing and employment prospects for the Board's consideration. Parole officers attempt to obtain housing, employment and other services before an inmate appears before the Board.

When offenders are released from prison, the Board imposes conditions of release and they are assigned to a parole officer. Community Parole staff supervise parolees by monitoring behavior, reviewing employment and treatment progress, administering drug tests and arranging for services to help parolees remain productive and law-abiding members of the community. Parole officers also investigate alleged violations and revoke parole when warranted.

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. Additionally, changes to sentences for drug crimes, enacted in December 2004, will result in newly sentenced offenders receiving a determinate sentence. All offenders with determinate sentences are subject to fixed periods of post-release supervision upon their release from prison.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2004-05	Appropriations Recommended 2005-06	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2005-06
State Operations	149,694,000	149,626,000	(68,000)	1,921,000
Aid To Localities	43,059,000	44,439,000	1,380,000	2,712,000
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	192,753,000	194,065,000	1,312,000	4,633,000

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

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2004-05 Estimated FTEs 03/31/05	2005-06 Estimated FTEs 03/31/06	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	107	107	0
Parole Operations			
General Fund	1,982	1,915	(67)
Total	2,089	2,022	(67)

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

Fund Type	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change
General Fund	148,369,000	148,301,000	(68,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	825,000	825,000	0
Total	149,694,000	149,626,000	(68,000)

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From Special Pay Bill General Fund	(4,752,000)
Appropriated 2004-05	144,942,000

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

Program	Available 2004-05	Recommended 2005-06	Change
Administration General Fund	8,400,000	8,042,000	(358,000)
Parole Operations General Fund	139,969,000	140,259,000	290,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	825,000	825,000	0
Total	149,694,000	149,626,000	(68,000)

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2005-06 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	6,476,000	(361,000)	6,343,000	(361,000)
Parole Operations	111,931,000	(1,086,000)	107,701,000	(1,384,000)
Total	118,407,000	(1,447,000)	114,044,000	(1,745,000)

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	0	0	133,000	0
Parole Operations	84,000	4,000	4,146,000	294,000
Total	84,000	4,000	4,279,000	294,000

PAROLE

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2005-06 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	1,566,000	3,000	21,000	1,000
Parole Operations	28,328,000	1,376,000	1,068,000	31,000
Total	29,894,000	1,379,000	1,089,000	32,000

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	240,000	2,000	1,291,000	0
Parole Operations	2,853,000	(76,000)	22,740,000	1,036,000
Total	3,093,000	(74,000)	24,031,000	1,036,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	14,000	0
Parole Operations	1,667,000	385,000
Total	1,681,000	385,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2005-06 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Parole Operations	1,325,000	0	1,325,000	0
Total	1,325,000	0	1,325,000	0

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

Fund Type	Available	Recommended	Change
	2004-05	2005-06	
General Fund	35,809,000	35,189,000	(620,000)
Internal Service Funds	7,250,000	9,250,000	2,000,000
Total	43,059,000	44,439,000	1,380,000

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From	
Probation and Correctional Alternatives,	
Division of	
General Fund	(461,000)
Appropriated 2004-05	42,598,000

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

Program	Available	Recommended	Change
	2004-05	2005-06	
Parole Operations			
General Fund	35,809,000	35,189,000	(620,000)
Internal Service Funds	7,250,000	9,250,000	2,000,000
Total	43,059,000	44,439,000	1,380,000