

DIVISION OF PAROLE

MISSION

The Division of Parole, which consists of the Board of Parole and Division staff, is responsible for preparing eligible offenders to be released from prison, allowing for their release and setting the conditions of release, supervising those offenders in the community, and providing parolees with assistance to help them successfully reintegrate into society.

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. Board members review the cases of offenders eligible for parole release and determine if and under what conditions the offender should be released to parole supervision.

Parole Operations staff are located across the state in 38 community-based field supervision offices and 70 correctional institutions. The Division's administrative staff and executive team are located at its central office in Albany.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Executive Budget recommends **\$226.3 million All Funds (\$215.7 million General Fund, \$9.3 million Internal Services Funds, \$1.3 M Other Funds)** for the Division of Parole. This is a \$2 million increase over the prior year which primarily reflects increases for implementation of the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act of 2007 and an expansion of re-entry services, offset in part by lower payments to local governments to board parole violators in local jails due to reform initiatives begun last year.

The Executive Budget recommends a staffing level of **2,273 FTEs** for the Division of Parole, an increase of 119 from the 2007-08 budget. This primarily reflects new staff for supervising parolees in the community, with a particular emphasis on sex offenders, and the expansion of re-entry services.

Major budget actions include:

- **Creating a More Effective Process for Parole Violators:** Through a cooperative effort with the Department of Correctional Services, the Edgecombe Correctional Facility, located in Manhattan, will be used as a dedicated facility for parole violators. Next year, Edgecombe will hold — for up to 30 days — an estimated 1,100 parolees who have committed low level technical violations. This approach will give Parole Officers an additional tool to deal with parolees who are exhibiting negative behaviors that would have otherwise resulted in a violation of their conditions of parole, and a return to prison for an additional sentence. This new approach builds on changes to the parole violator process instituted last year, at a savings of more than \$9 million. The Division will continue to work with counties to make the process more efficient and reduce the average number of days parole violators are housed in local jails.
- **Safer Communities Through Effective Supervision of Sex Offenders:** Parole's budget contains additional support of \$7 million to implement the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act. Significant resources are provided for field Parole Officers to utilize strict and intensive supervision of the most at-risk sex

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offenders, as determined by the Courts and the Division. Furthermore, Parole's budget includes nearly \$6 million in funding to provide temporary housing for sex offenders released from prison. As increasing numbers of local ordinances restrict housing options for sex offenders, it has become a growing challenge for Parole to find residences which have not been deemed off limits by local ordinances.

- **Increased Focus on Re-entry Services:** In the coming year, the Division of Parole will concentrate on the successful reintegration of parolees back into the community. This will be accomplished through the investment of 19 new staff who will focus exclusively on linking parolees to appropriate services. Additional staff are also provided for the Re-entry Unit at the Orleans Correctional Facility and three additional Units that will be opened during 2008-09.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The state parole system involves three major activities: preparing inmates for re-entry into the community; assisting the Board in making release determinations and setting conditions; and supervising parolees released from prison while supporting their successful reintegration into the community.

Institutional Parole staff, assigned to correctional facilities, assist the Board by preparing an assessment of an inmate's readiness for release based on his or her case history. Facility Parole Officers assess an inmate's rehabilitation progress, family background and community connections, as well as housing and employment prospects for the Board's consideration. Working in cooperation with Field Parole Officers, Facility Parole Officers attempt to obtain housing, employment and other services for inmates that are to be released into the community.

Immediately upon being released from prison, parolees are assigned to a Field Parole Officer. Field Parole Officers supervise parolees by monitoring behavior, reviewing employment, evaluating treatment progress and administering drug tests. In addition to closely monitoring offenders in the community, the Division helps parolees avoid reverting to a life of crime by contracting for various services to support their return to society, such as substance abuse counseling and treatment, supportive housing and employment training.

Intensive supervision is provided for sex offenders, violent felony offenders, offenders with severe mental health conditions, and for those parolees who graduate from the Shock Incarceration program or complete the drug treatment program at the Willard Drug Treatment Campus. The Division continues its efforts to ensure that sex offenders under parole supervision are strictly monitored and kept away from the most vulnerable members of the community. In addition to an intensive level of parole officer supervision, electronic monitoring and polygraphs are used to track these offenders and deter their predatory behavior.

As part of the effort to reduce recidivism through a focus on community re-entry, the Division of Parole will continue its cooperative efforts with Department of Correctional Services to expand re-entry programs. The goal is to create a more seamless system for assessing the needs of offenders, ensuring access to services, maintaining accurate records of offender information, and addressing other factors essential to successful community re-entry.

**ALL FUNDS
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Category	Available 2007-08	Appropriations Recommended 2008-09	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2008-09
State Operations	168,696,000	175,241,000	6,545,000	0
Aid To Localities	55,596,000	51,100,000	(4,496,000)	8,375,000
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	224,292,000	226,341,000	2,049,000	8,375,000

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

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2007-08 Estimated FTEs 03/31/08	2008-09 Estimated FTEs 03/31/09	FTE Change
Administration			
General Fund	112	112	0
Parole Operations			
General Fund	2,042	2,161	119
Total	2,154	2,273	119

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

Fund Type	Available 2007-08	Recommended 2008-09	Change
General Fund	167,371,000	173,916,000	6,545,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	825,000	825,000	0
Total	168,696,000	175,241,000	6,545,000

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From	
Special Pay Bill	
General Fund	(340,000)
Appropriated 2007-08	<u>168,356,000</u>

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

Program	Available 2007-08	Recommended 2008-09	Change
Administration			
General Fund	8,954,000	9,033,000	79,000
Parole Operations			
General Fund	158,417,000	164,883,000	6,466,000
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	500,000	500,000	0
Special Revenue Funds - Other	825,000	825,000	0
Total	168,696,000	175,241,000	6,545,000

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**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2008-09 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	7,278,000	48,000	7,254,000	51,000
Parole Operations	123,569,000	3,831,000	118,975,000	3,750,000
Total	130,847,000	3,879,000	126,229,000	3,801,000

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)		Holiday/Overtime Pay (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	4,000	4,000	20,000	(7,000)
Parole Operations	98,000	6,000	4,496,000	75,000
Total	102,000	10,000	4,516,000	68,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2008-09 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	1,755,000	31,000	48,000	0
Parole Operations	41,314,000	2,635,000	1,319,000	66,000
Total	43,069,000	2,666,000	1,367,000	66,000

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Administration	363,000	13,000	1,305,000	17,000
Parole Operations	4,542,000	168,000	32,061,000	1,963,000
Total	4,905,000	181,000	33,366,000	1,980,000

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Administration	39,000	1,000
Parole Operations	3,392,000	438,000
Total	3,431,000	439,000

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2008-09 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Parole Operations	1,325,000	0	825,000	0
Total	1,325,000	0	825,000	0

Program	Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change
Parole Operations	500,000	0
Total	500,000	0

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

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Available 2007-08</u>	<u>Recommended 2008-09</u>	<u>Change</u>
General Fund	46,346,000	41,850,000	(4,496,000)
Internal Service Funds	9,250,000	9,250,000	0
Total	55,596,000	51,100,000	(4,496,000)

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) To

 Criminal Justice Services, Division of

 General Fund

Appropriated 2007-08

2,000,000

57,596,000

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

<u>Program</u>	<u>Available 2007-08</u>	<u>Recommended 2008-09</u>	<u>Change</u>
Parole Operations			
General Fund	46,346,000	41,850,000	(4,496,000)
Internal Service Funds	9,250,000	9,250,000	0
Total	55,596,000	51,100,000	(4,496,000)