

PROPOSED REGULATORY TEXT

Proposed additions are indicated by underline and deletions are indicated by ~~striketrough~~.

BARCLAYS OFFICIAL CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
TITLE 15. CRIME PREVENTION AND CORRECTIONS
DIVISION 2. BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS

Chapter 2.5. ADVANCING PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING DATES is *added* to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2.5. ADVANCING PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING DATES

Article 1. Petition to Advance the Date of an Inmate's Next Parole Consideration Hearing is *added* to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. PETITION TO ADVANCE THE DATE OF AN INMATE'S NEXT PAROLE
CONSIDERATION HEARING

§ 2150. General.

(a) Following a parole consideration hearing resulting in a denial of parole under paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Penal Code section 3041.5 or a stipulation of unsuitability under subsection 2253(c) of article 3 of Chapter 3 of this title, the inmate or the inmate's attorney of record may file a written petition requesting that the board advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing. The inmate or the inmate's attorney of record may file a subsequent written petition once every three years from the date of the board's previous review on the merits issued under section 2156 of article 3 of this chapter.

(b) To file a written petition to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing, the inmate or inmate's attorney of record shall send to the board a completed BPH Form 1045-A or a letter that includes the following:

- (1) A change in circumstances or new information since the date of the inmate's most recent hearing resulting in a denial or stipulation of unsuitability; and
- (2) How the change in circumstances or new information establishes a reasonable likelihood that consideration of the public safety does not require that the inmate remain incarcerated until the date of his or her next parole consideration hearing.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3) and 3041.5(d), Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.

§ 2151. Preliminary Review.

(a) Within 10 business days of receiving a petition under section 2150, board staff shall review the petition to determine whether the board has jurisdiction under this section to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing.

(b) The board has jurisdiction to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing if all of the following are true:

(1) The inmate's last parole consideration hearing resulted in a denial of parole under paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Penal Code section 3041.5 or a stipulation of unsuitability under subsection 2253(c) of article 3 of chapter 3; and

(2) The inmate has not submitted a petition to advance a parole consideration hearing date that was reviewed on the merits within the past three years under section 2156 of article 4 of this chapter.

(c) If board staff determines the board has jurisdiction under subsection (b) of this section to review the petition, the board shall proceed with the notification process outlined in section 2155 of article 3 of this chapter.

(d) If board staff determines the board does not have jurisdiction under subsection (b) of this section to review the petition, staff shall issue a written decision, a copy of which shall be served on the inmate and placed in the inmate's central file within 15 business days of being issued. The date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing shall not be advanced.

(e) Inmates may seek review of decisions issued under this section by writing the board in accordance with section 2156 of article 4 of this chapter within 30 calendar days of being served with the decision. Decisions issued under this section are not subject to the department's inmate appeal process under article 8 of chapter 1 of division 3 of this title.

(f) Nothing in this section precludes the board from conducting an ad hoc administrative review to determine whether to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing under section 2152 of article 2 of this chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3) and 3041.5(d), Penal Code.

Article 2. Administrative Review to Advance the Date of an Inmate's Next Parole Consideration Hearing is *added* to read as follows:

ARTICLE 2. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW TO ADVANCE THE DATE OF AN INMATE'S NEXT PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING

§ 2152. Ad Hoc Administrative Review.

The board may, at any time, initiate an administrative review of any inmate to determine whether to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing under paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Penal Code section 3041.5. Once an administrative review is initiated under this section, the board shall proceed with the notification process outlined in section 2155 of article 3 of this chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3) and 3041.5(b)(4), Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.

§ 2153. Administrative Review of Three-Year Denials.

The board shall, 11 months after a parole consideration hearing results in a denial period of three years, initiate an administrative review to determine whether to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing under paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Penal Code section 3041.5. This section shall not apply to determinately-sentenced inmates who are within 24 months of being released as a result of their Earliest Parole Release Date.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3) and 3041.5(b)(4), Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.

§ 2154. Preliminary Screening.

(a) Within 10 business days of an administrative review being initiated under section 2153 of this article, board staff shall conduct a preliminary screening to determine whether the inmate will be excluded from a review on the merits under section 2156 of article 3 of this chapter.

(b) An inmate will be excluded from a review on the merits under section 2156 of article 3 of this chapter if any of the following circumstances apply:

(1) The inmate stipulated to unsuitability under subsection (c) of section 2253 of this title at his or her last parole consideration hearing;

(2) The inmate's last parole consideration hearing resulted in a denial period of more than three years under paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Penal Code section 3041.5;

(3) The inmate's overall risk rating on his or her most recent comprehensive risk assessment is high;

(4) The inmate or the inmate's attorney of record has, since the inmate's last hearing, submitted a petition under section 2150 of article 1 of this chapter that was reviewed on the merits under section 2156 of article 3 of this chapter;

(5) The inmate has been found guilty of a Division A-1, A-2, B, C, D, or E rule violation as specified in section 3323 of division 3 of this title since the inmate's last parole consideration hearing;

(6) The inmate has been convicted of a new crime since the inmate's last parole consideration hearing; or

(7) The inmate's next hearing date has already been advanced since his or her last parole consideration hearing.

(c) If board staff determines that none of the circumstances in subsection (b) apply, the board shall proceed with the notification process outlined in section 2155 of article 3 of this chapter and a review on the merits under section 2156 of article 3 of this chapter.

(d) If board staff determines that at least one of the circumstances in subsection (b) of this section applies, the inmate's next parole consideration hearing shall not be advanced under section 2153 of this article.

(e) Nothing in this section precludes the board from conducting an ad hoc administrative review to determine whether to advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing under section 2152 of this article.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3) and 3041.5(b)(4), Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.

Article 3. Review on the Merits is *added* to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. REVIEW ON THE MERITS

§ 2155. Victim Notification.

(a) Within five business days of board staff determining the board has jurisdiction under section 2151 of article 1 or determining none of the circumstances in subsection (b) of section 2154 of article 2 apply, or within five business days of the board initiating an ad hoc administrative review under section 2152 of article 2, the board shall notify registered victims of the board's pending review on the merits under section 2156 and provide an opportunity to submit a written statement.

(b) Responses to the board under this section must be in writing and postmarked or electronically stamped no later than 30 calendar days after the board issued the notification.

(c) A registered victim is any person who is registered as a victim with the department's Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services on the date board staff determined the board has jurisdiction under section 2151 of article 1, the date board staff determined none of the circumstances in subsection (b) of section 2154 of article 2, or on the date the board initiated an ad hoc administrative review under section 2152 of article 2.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(4), 3041.5(d), and 3043, Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.

§ 2156. Review on the Merits.

(a) Within 15 business days of the conclusion of the notification process described under section 2155, a commissioner or deputy commissioner acting in accordance with Penal Code section 5076.1, shall, as hearing officer conduct a review on the merits and determine whether the date of the inmate's next parole consideration should be advanced under paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) or under subdivision (d) of Penal Code section 3041.5.

(b) The hearing officer shall review and consider all relevant and reliable information about the inmate, including, but not limited to:

(1) Information contained in the inmate's central file;

(2) Any petition filed by the inmate under section 2150 of article 1; and

(3) Written statements submitted by registered victims who received notice under section 2155.

(c) If the inmate committed his or her controlling offense, as defined in subdivision (a) of Penal Code section 3051, when he or she was 25 years of age or younger, the hearing officer shall consider the diminished culpability of youth as compared to adults, the hallmark features of youth, and any subsequent growth and increased maturity of the inmate.

(d) If the inmate is 60 years of age or older and has served a minimum of 25 years of continuous incarceration on his or her current sentence, the hearing officer shall consider the inmate's age, time served, and diminished physical condition, if any.

(e) After reviewing and considering all relevant and reliable information and the factors in subsections (c) and (d) the hearing officer shall determine whether the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing should be advanced. If the hearing officer determines there has been a change in circumstances or new information that establishes a reasonable likelihood that consideration of the public and the victim's safety does not require that the inmate remain incarcerated until the date of his or her next parole consideration hearing, the hearing officer shall advance the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing. In the absence of such a determination, the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing shall not be advanced.

(f) The hearing officer shall issue a written decision that includes a statement of reasons supporting the decision. A copy of the decision shall be served on the inmate and placed in the inmate's central file within 15 business days of being issued. The board shall, within five business days of issuing a decision, send notice of the decision to any registered victim who received notice under section 2155 of this article.

(g) Parole consideration hearing dates advanced under subsection (e) of this section shall be advanced by the hearing officer either to the next available calendar or by decreasing the length of the inmate's previous parole denial to a shorter allowable period under paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Penal Code section 3041.5, whichever the hearing officer determines is appropriate based on the information reviewed and considered.

(h) Inmates may seek review of decisions issued under this section by writing the board in accordance with section 2157 of article 4 within 30 calendar days of being served the decision. Decisions issued under this section are not subject to the department's inmate appeal process under article 8 of chapter 1 of division 3 of this title.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3), 3041.5(b)(4), 3041.5(d), 3051(g), 3055(d), 4801(c), 5076.1 Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.

Article 4. Decision Review is *added* to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3. DECISION REVIEW

§ 2157. Decision Review.

(a) An inmate may request review of a decision issued under section 2151 of article 1, or a review on the merits decision issued under section 2156 of article 3 by submitting a written request to the board within 30 calendar days of the inmate being served the decision. The inmate's written request shall include a description of why the inmate believes the previous decision was not correct and may include additional information not available to the board at the time the previous decision was issued.

(b) The Chief Hearing Officer or an associate chief deputy commissioner may also initiate a review under this section at any time prior to the date of the inmate's next parole consideration hearing if the previous decision contained an error of law, an error of fact, or if the board receives new information that would have materially impacted the previous decision had it been known at the time the decision was issued.

(c) A hearing officer, associate chief deputy commissioner, or the Chief Hearing Officer, who was not involved in the original decision, shall complete a review of the decision within 15 business days of the board receiving the request.

(d) The hearing officer, associate chief deputy commissioner, or the Chief Hearing Officer reviewing the previous decision shall consider all relevant and reliable information and issue a decision either concurring with the previous decision or overturning the previous decision with a statement of reasons supporting the new decision.

(e) A copy of the decision shall be served on the inmate and placed in the inmate's central file within 15 business days of being issued.

(f) Within five business days of issuing a decision under this section that overturns a previous decision that determined the board had jurisdiction under section 2151 of article 1 of this chapter, or a review on the merits decision issued under section 2156 of article 3, the board shall send notice of the decision to any victim who received notice under section 2155 of article 3.

(g) If a decision under this section overturns a previous decision that determined the board did not have jurisdiction to conduct a review under section 2151 of article 1 of this chapter or that determined one or more of the circumstances in subsection (b) of section 2154 of article 2 of this chapter applied, the board shall proceed with the notification process outlined in section 2155 of article 3. The board shall also, within 30 business days, conduct a review on the merits under section 2156 of article 3.

(h) Decisions under this section are not subject to the department's inmate appeal process under article 8 of chapter 1 of division 3 of this title.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 12838.4, Government Code and Sections 3052 and 5076.2, Penal Code. Reference: Sections 3041.5(b)(3), 3041.5(b)(4), and 3041.5(d), Penal Code and *In re Vicks* (2013) 56 Cal.4th 274.