

**BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**November 20 and 21, 2023**

**November 20, 2023**

**Meeting called to order at 09:00 a.m.**

Board commissioners participated virtually. Interested parties and members of the public participated virtually or by telephone.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Cassady, Dobbs, Infante, Kozel, Long, Minor, Muñiz, Ndudim, Nwajei, O'Meara, Purcell, Schneider, Sharrieff, Taira, Thornton and Weiss present.

Commissioner WEISS stated that a majority of currently-appointed commissioners were present.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. Approval of Motions for Hearings with Procedural Errors

**THAMES, JEROME (D90070)** was referred with a motion to vacate the decision, in order to comply with the recording requirement in Penal Code section 3042, subdivision (b).

THAMES's family and a friend supported him.

Commissioner MUÑIZ moved to approve the consent calendar. Commissioner DOBBS seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**REPORTS**

**Report from Executive Officer, Jennifer Shaffer**

Executive Officer, JENNIFER SHAFFER, congratulated Chief Deputy, Offender Investigations and Screening Division, BRIAN KELLEY, on his retirement. She stated that she and Chief Counsel, JESSICA BLONIEN, gave a presentation to the Woodland Rotary Club. SHAFFER participated in the Assembly Public Safety Committee's policy academy with the Division of Adult Institutions and the Office Legislative Affairs. Board staff participated in a steering committee related to content for tablets distributed to incarcerated people with other California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation executives. SHAFFER provided an update on the introduction of the California Incarcerated Records Information System.

**Report from Chief Counsel, Jessica Blonien,**

Chief Counsel, JESSICA BLONIEN, gave a litigation update on *In re Hicks* (2023 WL 7983721), *People v. Hardin* and *Armstrong v. Newsom*. BLONIEN stated that, on November 6, 2023, she attended a MEND and GRIP event at Mule Creek State Prison.

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**Report from Chief Deputy of Program Operations, Tara Doetsch**

Chief Deputy of Program Operations, TARA DOETSCH, stated that the Board is working on a response to the Legislative Analysis Office's report on renumeration panel attorneys. The Board's contract with Parole Justice Works has been extended to June 30, 2024. DOETSCH invited applications for vacancies on Panels 1, 2, 4 and 8 of the panel attorney program.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Presentation by Senior Staff Counsel Mina Choi**

Senior Staff Counsel, MINA CHOI, stated that, on November 17, 2023, the Board filed a notice of proposed rule-making action with the Office of Administrative Law, to comply with recent changes to Penal Code section 3043. She summarized the provisions of the proposed regulations, which will be published on the Board's website shortly.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance (LSA), thanked the commissioners who have participated in LSA's RISE course at the California Medical Facility.

JOHN CROSS, San Diego County District Attorney's Office, expressed concern about rescheduling hearings on short notice.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Dobbs, Infante, Kozel, Muñiz, Ndudim, Nwajei, O'Meara, Purcell, Sharrieff, Taira, Thornton and Weiss present.

Commissioner WEISS stated that a majority of currently-appointed commissioners were present.

**EN BANC REFERRALS**

Referral by the Chief Counsel to consider referral for a rescission hearing under California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2450 et seq.

**12. TUBBS, MICHAEL (J42679)**

TUBBS's family supported the parole grant.

Referral by the Chief Counsel under Penal Code section 3041, subdivision (b) and California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2042 to assure complete, accurate, consistent, and uniform decisions, and continued public safety.

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**13. GALLIEN, MITCHELL (G62820)**

A representative of the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rehearing.

**14. GOMEZ, WENDY (WF0774)**

No speakers.

**15. KARPAN, STEVE (J81527)**

The victim's family recommended ordering a rehearing.

**16. LARA, JESSE (E75226)**

LARA's family and attorney, CLAY STOCKTON, supported the parole grant.

**17. RUSSELL, ERIC (J37753)**

No speakers.

Referral by the Governor pursuant to Penal Code section 3041.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2044, subdivision (b), to request review of a parole decision by a majority of appointed commissioners.

**18. BISHOP, DEKLYN (AN2651)**

No speakers.

**19. CEJA, ANTONIO (G27147)**

CEJA's family supported the parole grant.

**20. DEMERY, PATRICK (J38293)**

DEMERY's family, friends and attorney, KATHY RICHARDS, supported the parole grant.

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A representative of the San Diego County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**21. CYPERT, GERALD (P15294)**

CYPERT's family and friends supported the parole grant.

A representative of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**22. HULSEMAN, DELBERT (AX4258)**

No speakers.

**23. JOHNSTON, SALLY (D36067)**

JOHNSTON's friends and attorney, JARED RUDOLPH, supported the parole grant.

The victim's family and a representative of the San Francisco County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**24. MITCHELL, DIONDRE (J31384)**

MITCHELL's friends and attorney, ESI BEYARKU, supported the parole grant.

**25. ROBERTI, MICHAEL (D30337)**

No speakers.

**26. ROCHA, ELDA (WF4051)**

No speakers.

**27. SMITH, CHESTER (K76469)**

No speakers.

**28. STANDER, DAVID (K15395)**

STANDER's friends supported the parole grant.

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**29. TREADWAY, BILL (K17840)**

A representative of the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**30. UCH, KANA (F00800)**

UCH's friend supported the parole grant.

**Open session recessed at 11:59 p.m.**

**BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS  
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**November 21, 2023**

**Open session reconvened at 09:00 a.m.**

Board commissioners participated virtually. Interested parties and members of the public participated virtually or by telephone.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Cassady, Chappell, Infante, Kozel, Long, Minor, Nwajei, Purcell, Schneider, Sharrieff, Taira and Thornton present.

Commissioner MINOR stated that a majority of currently-appointed commissioners were present.

**EN BANC REFERRALS**

Referral by the Chief Counsel under Penal Code section 3041, subdivision (b) and California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2042 to assure complete, accurate, consistent, and uniform decisions, and continued public safety.

**32. CONSTANCIO, OSCAR (F97269)**

A representative of the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rehearing.

**33. ELPUZ, BENJAMIN (AS6425)**

ELPUZ's family supported the parole grant.

**34. MARIS, ANTHONY (P86226)**

MARIS's family, friends and attorney, JOSEPH MAGAZZENNI, supported the parole grant.

**35. ODELL, ERIC (F03425)**

ODELL's friend supported the parole grant.

Referral by the Governor under Penal Code section 3041.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2044, subdivision (b), to request review of a parole decision by a majority of appointed commissioners.

**36. ARMIJO, CARLOS (BE9414)**

No speakers.

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**37. BROBST, HAROLD (E20882)**

No speakers.

**38. CASTANEDA, GEORGE (G22996)**

CASTANEDA's family supported the parole grant.

**39. DIAZ, CALIXTO (K55491)**

No speakers.

**40. GARZON, WILLIAM (AL5780)**

GARZON's family and friends supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**41. KENNEDY, PHILLIP (F47457)**

KENNEDY's family, friends and attorney, ANANDA HART, supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**42. KNAPP, ERIC (J10618)**

KNAPP's friends and attorney, JOSEPH MAGAZZENI, supported the parole grant.

A representative of the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**43. MCFARLAND, CARLEY (J71617)**

MCFARLAND's family friends and attorney, ANANDA HART, supported the parole grant.

A representative of the San Diego County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**44. MOODIE, JASON (BC9194)**

No speakers.

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**45. O'KEEFE, TIMOTHY (T18599)**

A representative of the San Diego County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**46. ROSS, TERRILL (H09552)**

ROSS's family supported the parole grant.

**47. VIEHMEYER, ROBBIE (V22154)**

VIEHMEYER's family supported the parole grant.

The victim's family and a representative of the Orange County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**48. WALKER, MILTON (AK6517)**

A representative of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**49. WIELAND, PETE (P91963)**

WIELAND's attorney, JOHN STRINGER, supported the parole grant.

A representative of the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, stated that the organization will be hosting its first family webinar on December 2, 2023, and she invited interested Board staff to participate.

**Open session recessed 11:25 a.m.**

**Open session reconvened at 01:57 p.m.**

**Meeting adjourned at 01:58 p.m.**



## Board of Parole Hearings Scheduled and Backlog Hearings Report Penal Code Section 3041(d) December, 2023

