

**BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**November 25 and 26, 2024**

**November 25, 2024**

**Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m.**

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

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Barton, Cassady, Chappell, Dobbs, Kozel, Nwajei, O’Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Sheffield, Taira, and Weiss were present in person.

Commissioners Infante, Long, Muniz, Ndudim, Sharrieff, and Thornton were online via TEAMS, with their cameras turned on.

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the October 14-17, 2024 Board of Parole Hearings Executive Board Meeting.
3. Approval of the Parole Consideration Hearings and Backlog Report for October 2024.
4. Approval of Motion for Hearing with Procedural Error.

**BLACK, RICKY (T00303)**

**Motion:** Vacate the panel’s September 19, 2024 decision and schedule a new hearing in order to comply with the recording requirement in Penal Code section 3042, subdivision (b).

BLACK’s friends and attorney, JOSEPH MAGAZENNI, supported the parole grant.

Commissioner DOBBS moved to approve the motion regarding BLACK, RICKY (T00303). Commissioner CHAPPELL seconded the motion, which carried, with Commissioner Barton abstaining.

Barton	Abstain
Cassady	Nay
Chappell	Aye
Dobbs	Aye
Infante	Aye

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Kozel	Aye
Long	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
Nwajei	Aye
O'Meara	Aye
Purcell	Aye
Ruff	Aye
Sharrieff	Aye
Sheffield	Aye
Taira	Aye
Thornton	Aye
Weiss	Aye

There were no additional public comments on the consent calendar.

Commissioner CASSADY moved to approve the consent calendar. Commissioner PURCELL seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Barton	Aye
Cassady	Aye
Chappell	Aye
Dobbs	Aye
Infante	Aye
Kozel	Aye
Long	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
Nwajei	Aye
O'Meara	Aye
Purcell	Aye
Ruff	Aye
Sharrieff	Aye
Sheffield	Aye
Taira	Aye
Thornton	Aye
Weiss	Aye

**REPORTS**

**Report from Jennifer Shaffer, Executive Officer**

Executive Officer JENNIFER SHAFFER stated that, on October 10, 2024, she attended an event at the University of California, San Francisco Law School. On October 29, 2024,

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SHAFFER and Board staff met virtually with members of the Kansas Parole Board. On November 12, 2024, she attended an event at Stanford Law School. SHAFFER announced she is retiring at the end of 2024 and that the Governor has appointed SCOTT WYCKOFF as the next Executive Officer for the Board.

**Report from Jessica Blonien, Chief Counsel**

On behalf of Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN, Assistant Chief Counsel TIFFANY SHULTZ stated that Senior Staff Counsel MICHAEL SANTIAGO has accepted a position with another state agency.

**Report from the Dr. Jasmine Tehrani, Chief Psychologist, Forensic Assessment Division (FAD)**

Chief Psychologist Dr. JASMINE TEHRANI stated that, on October 13, 2024, FAD psychologists received training on assessing risk for persons conviction of sexual crimes. Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN and FAD psychologists attended a training event at the R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility. Psychologists also attended an event at Stanford University.

**Report from Katie James, Chief of the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services (OVSRS)**

On behalf of Chief KATIE JAMES, Assistant Chief MIKE YOUNG gave an update on the impact of Assembly Bill 1186 and Senate Bill 379 on the work of OVSRS.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

CYNTHIA BREWER, Riverside County District Attorney's Office, stated that incarcerated persons lying at hearings and plagiarizing submissions to the board are evidence of continuing criminal thinking. Incarcerated persons should present their own work, demonstrate honest insight, not just copy other's work. Hearing panels should set the standard of expecting incarcerated persons to tell the truth, and panels should expect nothing less.

CONNIE LASKY, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, congratulated SHAFFER on her pending retirement. LASKY expressed concerns about the notices that are sent to victims and their families regarding petitions to advance their next hearing date and the administrative review process for advancing hearing dates. LASKY stated that the notices contain language indicating that any submissions made to the board will not be deemed confidential. This language has a chilling effect and discourages family members or fearful victims from making submissions. LASKY suggested that the notices

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be amended to conclude with the phrase “unless you request that the statement remain confidential.”

CHEYENNE KNOX thanked the board for his parole grant, and thanked VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE for Life Support Alliance’s (LSA) RISE program. KNOX described his experiences since being released on parole and expressed gratitude to the commissioners.

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, LSA, congratulated SHAFFER on her retirement and thanked her for her public service. She looks forward to talking to and working with SCOTT WYCKOFF.

**EN BANC REFERRALS**

Roll Call: Commissioners Barton, Cassady, Chappell, Dobbs, Kozel, Nwajei, O’Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Sheffield, Taira, and Weiss were present in person.

Referral by the Chief Counsel under Penal Code section 3041(b) and California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2042 to assure complete, accurate, consistent, and uniform decisions and continued public safety, and referral by the Governor under Penal Code section 3041.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2044, subdivision (b).

**12. HAGGARD, DARRYL (AN1590)**

HAGGARD’s family supported the parole grant.

A representative of the San Bernardino County District Attorney’s Office recommended ordering a rehearing.

**13. WRIGHT, LAMONT (P57977)**

No speakers.

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

**14. WELCH, WILLIAM (K02486)**

No speakers.

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

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**15. WEISENBERG, KAYLEE (WE4203)**

WEISENBERG's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

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.

**16. AMBRIZ, SAUL (AY7821)**

No speakers.

**17. BAYLIS, PATRICK (V31394)**

BAYLIS's family and friends supported the parole grant.

**18. BERNABEI, LOUIS (BF2931)**

BERNABEI's family supported the parole grant.

**19. CELIS, ISABEL (X10370)**

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

**20. HERNANDEZ, SALVADOR (P27777)**

HERNANDEZ's family supported the parole grant.

The victim recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**21. JACKSON, JR., MICHAEL (V25477)**

JACKSON's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

**Meeting recessed at 12:52 p.m.**

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**Meeting reconvened at 1:23 p.m.**

**22. LEE, JAMES (AT6989)**

LEE's family and attorney, AARON BREEDEN, supported the parole grant.

**23. LAFON, SHANNON (WG0249)**

No speakers.

**24. LUNSFORD, MARCELLA (X19815)**

LUNSFORD's family, friends and certified law students, NICHOLAS CONSIDINE and CAITLIN CUMMINGS, supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**25. MARTINEZ, EDGAR (BE1028)**

MARTINEZ's family and friends supported the parole grant and read a support letter from MARTINEZ.

**26. MARTINEZ, PAUL (AF6010)**

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

**27. MUNOZ, OTTONIEL (F72998)**

MUNOZ's attorney, AARON BREEDEN, supported the parole grant.

**28. ROLDAN, MARLON (AD1376)**

No speakers.

**29. VILLASENOR, ISMAEL (P48365)**

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

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**30. WADE, MAX (AS4536)**

WADE's friend supported the parole grant.

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

**Open session recessed at 2:23 p.m.**

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**November 26, 2024**

**Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.**

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

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Cassady, Chappell, Dobbs, Infante, Long, Minor, Muniz, Ndudim, O'Meara, Sharrieff, Sheffield, and Thornton were present in person.

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

**EN BANC REFERRALS**

Referral under Penal Code section 3041 when there is a tie vote. Public comment is prohibited pursuant to Penal Code section 3041, subdivision (e).

**32. CHAVARRIA, MARCUS (H86066)**

No public comment permitted.

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

**33. ASKEW, DAVID (K32217)**

No speakers.

**34. JONES, MASON (T44395)**

JONES's family supported the parole grant.

**35. MAYWEATHERS, KARLUK (D32829)**

A representative of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office opposed ordering a rehearing.

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

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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. WATERBURY, THOMAS (C38792)**

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

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.

**37. ALVAREZ, ISMAEL (AI8414)**

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

**38. BEALL, MERLIN (F37543)**

BEALL's family, friends, and attorney, CHARLES CARBONE, supported the parole grant.

**39. BERMUDEZ, TEODOLO (K14863)**

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

**40. GRAVLEE, JUNE (W36328)**

GRAVLEE's friends supported the parole grant.

**41. HELMS, JEREMIAH (F59802)**

HELMS's family, friends, and attorney, HEIDI RUMMEL, supported the parole grant.

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

**42. JOHNSON, MARCUS (P64997)**

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

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**43. LESLIE, SEAN (F19229)**

LESLIE's family and attorney, MAYA EMIG, supported the parole grant.

**44. LOPEZ, ERNESTO (G20950)**

LOPEZ's friend supported the parole grant.

**45. MCCOY, MATTHEW (K78529)**

MCCOY's attorney, LEVI UKU, supported the parole grant.

**Meeting recessed at 10:55 a.m.**

**Meeting reconvened at 11:10 a.m.**

**46. MENDEZ, ANTONIO (BK8010)**

MENDEZ's family supported the parole grant.

**47. MEZA, MARIO (K51448)**

MEZA's family supported the parole grant.

**48. OLIVER, SULE (G28459)**

OLIVER's family and attorney, LEVI UKU, supported the parole grant.

**49. QUINTANILLA, NERY (F97772)**

No speakers.

**50. RAWLS, SYLVESTER (AL1000)**

RAWLS's family and friends supported the parole grant.

**51. RAY, KENNETH (H39778)**

No speakers.

**52. RENDON-ESPINOZA, VICTOR (BD2464)**

No speakers.

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**53. SALDANA, PACO (H48305)**

SALDANA's friends supported the parole grant.

**54. UCKELE, ANTHONY (G14060)**

No speakers.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, expressed concern that panels place excessive reliance on incarcerated persons' involvement in restitution payment avoidance as evidence of continuing criminal thinking.

MERVIN BROOKINS described his experiences after being granted parole and discussed his program, Brother to Brother Mentoring.

Executive Officer JENNIFER SHAFFER stated that commissioners would not be considering agenda item 35 because incarcerated person KARLUK MAYWEATHERS (D32829) passed away since the agenda was posted.

**Open session recessed at 12:07 p.m.**

**Meeting reconvened at 2:27 p.m.**

Commissioner INFANTE stated that during the closed session, the Board made decisions on the cases noticed on the agenda.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.**



## Board of Parole Hearings Scheduled and Backlog Hearings Report Penal Code Section 3041(d) December, 2024

