

BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS
Executive Board Meeting
April 21 to 24, 2025

April 21, 2025

Meeting called to order at 10:02 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, Chappell, Dobbs, Kozel, Long, Nwajei, O'Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Schneider, Sharrieff, and Sheffield were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioners Cassady, Garland, Infante, Minor, Muniz, Ndudim, Taira, and Thornton were online via TEAMS, with their cameras turned on.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the March 18 and 19, 2025 Board of Parole Hearings Executive Board Meeting.
3. Approval of the Parole Consideration Hearings and Backlog Report for April 2025.
4. Public Comment on Consent Calendar. There were no comments.

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

Barton	Aye
Cassady	Aye
Chappell	Aye
Dobbs	Aye
Garland	Aye
Infante	Aye
Kozel	Aye
Long	Aye
Minor	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
Nwajei	Aye
O'Meara	Aye
Purcell	Aye
Ruff	Aye
Schneider	Aye

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Sharrieff	Aye
Sheffield	Aye
Taira	Aye
Thornton	Aye

REPORTS

Report from Scott Wyckoff, Executive Officer

Executive Officer SCOTT WYCKOFF congratulated Commissioners Long, Minor, Sharrieff, and Taira on their confirmation by the State Senate. WYCKOFF stated that, on April 7, 2025, he attended an event organized by Life Support Alliance in conjunction with Project L.A. Bay Area at San Quentin Rehabilitation Center. He also attended the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's National Crime Victims' Rights Week ceremony.

Report from Jessica Blonien, Chief Counsel

Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN gave an update on litigation impacting the Board. BLONIEN stated that the court in, *In re Batten*, issued a published opinion affirming Batten's remand to the custody of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the custody of the Board following a parole revocation. Also, the Third District Court of Appeal has set oral argument in the *CJLF v. CDCR, et al.* case for May 20, 2025, at 9:30 am.

BLONIEN stated that RILEY HELGREN has been appointed as Staff Attorney I with the Board's Legal Division.

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

Chief Psychologist, Dr. JASMINE TEHRANI, gave an overview of the FAD 2024 Comprehensive Risk Assessment data analysis.

Report from the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services (OVSRS)

On behalf of OVSRS Chief MARIAM EL-MENSHAWI, Assistant Chief, MIKE YOUNG, described recent outreach programs, including a data transfer program, being piloted with Yolo County. YOUNG stated that the accountability letter bank is operational.

Commissioner SHARRIEFF stated that, due to technical difficulties, Commissioner GARLAND switched off her computer camera on TEAMS.

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PRESENTATIONS

2024 Report of Significant Events, presented by Scott Wyckoff, Executive Officer

WYCKOFF gave an overview of the 2024 Report of Significant Events and stated that the full report would be published by the following week.

OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance (LSA), thanked WYCKOFF for participating the LSA Question and Answer event at San Quentin. NELSON-SLOANE welcomed commissioners to attend future events.

ANTONIO CALLES requested that the Division of Adult Parole Operations try to accommodate parolees' plans to be placed in a particular location.

SARAH STAUDT, Prison Policy Initiative, BERNICE SINGH-ROGERS, Prisoners with Children, SUSAN CHAMPION, Three Strikes Project, MILENA BLAKE, Three Strikes Project, YOEL HAILE, American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, ALISON HARDY, Prison Law Office, IGNACIO HERNANDEZ, California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, ALESHA MONTEIRO, Just Advocate, and RASHINI BIRKA-WHITE, San Francisco County Public Defender's Office, expressed concern regarding the Board's use of presumptive drug tests when denying parole. They stated that the tests are unreliable and subject to false positives and expressed concern this would deter incarcerated persons from participating in drug treatment programs. They urged the Board to stop using medical treatment records when determining parole and to review and vacate parole denials based on these drug tests.

GEMA QUETZAL, UnCommon Law, expressed concern that the Board's forms pursuant to Assembly Bill 2310 are only available online and incarcerated persons are unable to access them in institution law libraries or on tablets.

ALESHA MONTEIRO, Just Advocate, stated that restitution avoidance is not an indication that an incarcerated person is an unreasonable risk of violence.

CONNIE LASKY, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, stated that more advanced notice is needed for pardon and commutation cases on the agenda for Executive Board meetings to allow district attorney offices to subpoena the person's central file. LASKY stated that the issue of false positives for drug tests is a concern. However, substance abuse during incarceration is a significant risk factor for parole suitability and success on parole and is a common reason for parole violation. Therefore, substance use must be considered during parole suitability hearings. LASKY

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stated that requiring confirmatory tests for positive results would be a better solution and would provide the necessary information for parole suitability.

KEITH WATTLEY, UnCommon Law, expressed concern regarding the decline in the parole grant rate and the use of medical treatment records as a reason for denying parole. WATTLEY recommended that the Board reconsider comprehensive risk assessments, petitions to advance, and administrative review of parole denials where potentially false positive tests were considered.

Roll Call: Commissioners Barton, Chappell, Dobbs, Kozel, Long, Nwajei, O'Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Schneider, Sharrieff, and Sheffield were present in person.

EN BANC REFERRALS

Referral by the Governor under Penal Code section 4802 to review a pardon application.

12. BAKER, LEWIS (K97342, T30350)

A representative of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office opposed the application.

13. CHAMBERS, BEN (E69432)

CHAMBERS supported the application.

Referral by the Governor under Penal Code section 4802 to review a commutation application.

14. LINDLEY, CLEVELAND (E43370)

LINDLEY's friends supported the application.

A representative of the San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office opposed the application.

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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15. CASEY, PASCAL (BH6957)

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

16. HARRIS, WILLIAM (P17060)

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

17. HOLMES, TIMOTHY (T88939)

HOLMES's family, friends, and attorney, ANANDA HART, recommended ordering a rehearing.

A representative of the Fresno County District Attorney's Office supported the parole denial.

Open session recessed at 11:50 a.m.

Open session reconvened at 12:01 p.m.

18. KESHMIRI, KOUROSH (BC3028)

KESHMIRI's family supported the parole grant.

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

19. LAVEA, SIMI (P78034)

A representative of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office supported the parole denial.

20. WENKE, LAURA (WF0493)

WENKE's family, friends, and attorney, EMMA TOLMAN, recommended ordering a rehearing

The victim's family supported the parole denial.

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

21. HEATH, DANIEL (G41694)

HEATH's family, friends, and attorney, JOSEPH MAGAZENNI, supported the parole grant.

The victim's family and a representative of the Riverside 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.

22. ACOSTA, ALFREDO (B07643)

ACOSTA's attorney, EMMA TOLMAN, supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

23. BUMANGLAG, RALITO (H58525)

BUMANGLAG's friend supported the parole grant.

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

24. CARSON, DAVID (T30386)

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

Open session recessed at 1:27 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 1:40 p.m.

25. ENGERT, ALLEN (D14826)

No speakers.

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26. JAMES, JOHN (AT6575)

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

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

27. LABORE, KIMBERLY (W90223)

LABORE's friends supported the parole grant.

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

28. LAWS, THEORAN (E81183)

LAWS's friend supported the parole grant.

29. MORALES, PABLO (B33187)

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

30. MUNOZ, JERRY (BE2260)

MUNOZ's family supported the parole grant.

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

31. RY, DAVID (AG8747)

RY's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

32. SPILLER, JIMMY (B99437)

SPILLER's friends supported the parole grant.

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

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33. STANFORD, LEWIS (P67016)

STANFORD's family supported the parole grant.

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

Open session recessed at 3:09 p.m.

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April 22, 2025

Open session reconvened at 9:00 a.m.

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

Roll Call: Commissioners Cassady, Garland, Infante, Kozel, Long, Minor, Muniz, Ndudim, Ruff, Sharrieff, Taira, and Thornton were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

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).

35. BROWN, EDWARD (C97905)

No public comment permitted.

Referral by the Governor under Penal Code section 4802 to review a pardon application.

36. DANIELS, REGINOLD (H20210)

No speakers.

37. FOY, JEFFREY (P38219)

FOY supported the application.

38. JOHNSON, SANDRA (X15889)

JOHNSON and JOHNSON's friends supported the application.

Referral by the Governor under Penal Code section 4802 to review a commutation application.

39. MAGALLON, MARIO (P76344)

MAGALLON's family and friends supported the application.

A representative of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office opposed the application.

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40. SCHRUBB, KEVIN (V55932)

SCHRUBB's friend supported the application.

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.

41. DANNELLEY, ROBERT (T57295)

A representative of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office did not oppose ordering a rehearing.

42. FRANKLIN, DEMETRIUS (K55108)

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

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

43. GUTIERREZ, HEVERD (E08457)

GUTIERREZ's family supported the parole grant.

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

44. JOHNSON, DEMETRIUS (V28920)

JOHNSON's family supported the parole grant.

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

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

45. DE RUTTE, SEAN (D46082)

DE RUTTE's friend supported the parole grant.

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

46. OCEGUEDA, HENRY (F24126)

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

Open session recessed at 10:25 a.m.

Open session reconvened at 10:36 a.m.

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.

47. BROWN, ALLIE (AY2227)

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

48. CALDWELL, JAMES (V90842)

CALDWELL's family and friend supported the parole grant.

49. CAMPOS, ALBERT (AS0580)

No speakers.

50. CANFIELD, CHARLES (BD0348)

No speakers.

51. CEBALLOS, ANDREW (AZ9569)

CEBALLOS's attorney, NICHOLAS AGBO, supported the parole grant.

52. CONTRERAS, RICHARD (AC6537)

CONTRERAS's friend supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

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53. FARLEY, AUSTIN (AS2905)

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

54. JACKSON, JOHN (K85411)

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

55. JONES, SCOTT (H79223)

No speakers.

56. OSAKO, KENNETH (AZ8536)

OSAKO's family, friends and attorney, MARC WASACZ, supported the parole grant.

57. OSBORNE, DWAYNE (H02854)

OSBORNE's family, friends, and attorney, KEITH WATTLEY, supported the parole grant.

A representative of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office did not oppose the parole.

58. SWANSON, CHAD (G04298)

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

59. WILLITS, CHARLES (P20434)

No speakers.

OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, stated that there seems to be a lack of uniformity in the Board's decisions regarding incarcerated persons' restitution avoidance, and requested guidance from the Board on this issue.

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CLAUDIA CESENA, Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, stated that the Board should not consider the results of drug tests taken in treatment programs and that the Board's use of these tests in determining parole discourages incarcerated persons from seeking treatment.

CYNTHIA BREWER, Riverside County District Attorney's Office, expressed concern regarding the Board's claims of attorney-client privilege when denying requests for more information about items on the agenda.

Open session recessed at 11:52 p.m.

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April 23, 2025

Open session reconvened 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 Barton, Cassady, Chappell, Infante, Minor, Ndudim, Ruff, Schneider, Sharrieff, Sheffield, and Taira were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioners Dobbs, Garland, Kozel, Long, Muniz, Nwajei, O'Meara, Purcell, and Thornton were online via TEAMS, with their cameras turned on.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Casey Gwinn, Esq. President, and Gael Strack, CEO & Co-Founder of Alliance for HOPE International & the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention, presented: **Adverse Childhood Experiences, Trauma, Strangulation, and the Science of HOPE**

Break from 10:15 a.m. to 10:24 a.m. Casey Gwinn and Gael Strack continued with their presentation.

Open session recessed at 11:27 a.m.

Open session reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

Dr. Craig Lareau, Senior Psychologist, Forensic Assessment Division, Board of Parole Hearings presented: **Understanding Severe Mental Disabilities in the Context of the Parole Board**

Open session recessed at 1:58 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 2:16 p.m.

Brian Mendoza, Parole Administrator, Community Reentry Unit, Division of Adult Parole Operations presented: **Parole and Community Team (PACT) Meetings for Supervised Persons**

Vanessa Nelson-Sloane, Director and Cofounder, and David Sloane, Life Support Alliance, presented: **Life Support Alliance; Hope Help Home**

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OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an agenda item for a future board meeting.

Public Comment

ANTONIO CALLES thanked the Board for its work.

CONNIE LASKY, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, welcomed the presentations given today.

Open session recessed at 3:56 p.m.

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April 24, 2025

Open session reconvened 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 Barton, Chappell, Dobbs, Kozel, Minor, Ndudim, O'Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Schneider, and Sheffield were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioners Cassady, Garland, Infante, Long, Muniz, Nwajei, Sharrieff, Taira, and Thornton were online via TEAMS, with their cameras turned on.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Mariam El-Menshawi, Chief, Office of Victim and Survivor Rights & Services (OVSRs), California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation presented: **Victim Involvement in Post-Conviction Processes**

Open session recessed at 10:00 a.m.

Open session reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

Tiffany Shultz, Assistant Chief Counsel, Martin Figueroa, Parole Agent III, Aspen Marshall, Parole Agent II, and Marquis Porter, Parole Agent II, BPH; Bianca Lopez, Parole Agent III, Freddie Yancy, Parole Agent II, and Eddie Yee, Parole Agent, DAPO; Dr. Michele Ditomas, Assistant Deputy Medical Executive, and Brian Beltran, Nurse Consultant, California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS); and James Magee and Katherine Bellflower presented: **Parole Planning for People Incarcerated for a Long Term**

OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

ANTONIO CALLES expressed the view that restorative justice programs should focus more on the crime victims.

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YKI VALLERY described their experiences on parole.

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance (LSA), stated that LSA's letter bank is operating. NELSON-SLOANE expressed concern that the CDCR Form 1707 is being used improperly to find placements for parolees.

CYNTHIA BREWER, Riverside County District Attorney's Office, welcomed the OVSRS presentation. LASKY described the operations of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office's Victims Unit.

JULIANNE WALKER, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, requested that hearing panels be mindful of victims' sensitivities.

Open session recessed at 12:05 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

Heidi Rummel, President and Founder, and Renee Lizarraga, Executive Director, Parole Justice Works presented: **Parole Justice Works *With You*: PJW Inside Education**

Open session recessed at 2:04 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 2:10 p.m.

Dr. Nancy Kaser-Boyd, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles presented: **Interviewing Incarcerated Persons with Invisible Disabilities**

The executive board meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.



Board of Parole Hearings Scheduled and Backlog Hearings Report Penal Code Section 3041(d)

May, 2025

