

BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS
Executive Board Meeting
July 22 and 23, 2025

July 22, 2025

Meeting called to order at 10:03 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: Barton, Chappell, Dobbs, Garland, Kozel, Minor, Nwajei, O’Meara, Schneider, Sheffield, Taira, and Weiss were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

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

Commissioner O’MEARA stated that a majority of currently-appointed commissioners were present.

During Commissioner O’MEARA’s remarks, members of the public online played violent, racist audio on loop and displayed pornographic materials. During a short break disruptive members of the public were removed from the online meeting

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the June 17 and 18, 2025 Board of Parole Hearings’ Executive Board Meeting.
3. Approval of the Parole Consideration Hearings and Backlog Report for July 2025.
4. Public Comment on the Consent Calendar. There were no comments.

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

Barton	Aye
Cassady	Aye
Chappell	Aye
Dobbs	Aye
Garland	Aye
Infante	Aye
Kozel	Aye
Minor	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
Nwajei	Aye
O’Meara	Aye

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Schneider	Aye
Sheffield	Aye
Taira	Aye
Weiss	Aye

REPORTS

Report from Scott Wyckoff, Executive Officer

During Executive Officer SCOTT WYCKOFF's report, members of the public online played violent, racist audio on loop and displayed pornographic materials. Disruptive members of the public were removed from the online meeting.

Open session recessed at 10:14 a.m.

Open session reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

WYCKOFF stated that, on July 3, 2025, he attended an outreach event at Folsom State Prison event with Judge STEVE WHITE of the Sacramento County Superior Court. He also attended an event with the Anti-Recidivism Coalition.

Report from Jessica Blonien, Chief Counsel

Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN stated that she and Commissioner TAIRA visited Valley State Prison on June 20, 2025, to learn more about the Medically Assisted Treatment program.

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

Chief Psychologist Dr. JASMINE TEHRANI stated that she attended the Life Support Alliance picnic on June 21, 2025. On July 8, 2025, she attended and presented at the National Student Leadership Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles.

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

Chief MARIAM EL-MENSHAWI stated that she will be attending the California District Attorneys Association Conference. EL-MENSHAWI provided an update on OVSRS's restitution unit and described OVSRS's continuing outreach efforts to register more victims.

OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

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Public Comment

ROBERT KNOX, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, recommended that the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) take measures to reduce restitution fraud by incarcerated persons, such as reporting fraud to credit agencies and restricting the incarcerated person's access to credit during their term of imprisonment.

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, expressed concern that some hearing panels allow individuals to speak at hearings who are not permitted by California Code of Regulations, title 15, section 2902(e). NELSON-SLOANE recommended that panels request hearing attendees to identify their roles in the hearings.

EMMANUEL BRACEY, Life Support Alliance and KARLOS WILSON, Life Support Alliance described their experiences on parole.

HECTOR VERDAV, C. ANDREAS, JESSE CECENA, ESTHER NARANJO, JOHN SOLORZANO, MICHAEL BALDWIN, and RODNEY DURANT WASHINGTON, Legacy Alliance Outreach, described the work of the organization and their experiences on parole.

KEITH CHANDLER, submitted that it would be unlawful for CDCR to take any measures restricting incarcerated persons' access to credit during their incarceration.

PAU CORTES, UnCommon Law, requested an update on the Board's implementation of the *People v. Briscoe* decision.

Roll Call: Commissioners Barton, Chappell, Dobbs, Garland, Kozel, Nwajei, Minor, O'Meara, Schneider, Sheffield, Taira, and Weiss were present in person.

Commissioner O'MEARA stated that a majority of currently-appointed commissioners were present in person.

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.

11. ALVAREZ, LUIS (H99941)

A representative of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office recommended vacating the decision.

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12. SIMON, MARCUS (AP5095)

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

A representative of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office recommended vacating the decision.

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.

13. SMITH, JAMES (F38116)

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.

14. ARAUZA, RAUL (G27732)

ARAUZA's family supported the parole grant.

15. BARROSO, DENNIS (P54108)

BARROSO's friends supported the parole grant.

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

Open session recessed at 12:10 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 12:43 p.m.

16. BERRY-VIERWINDEN, RYAN (AI2722)

BERRY-VIERWINDEN's family and friend supported the parole grant.

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

17. CASULLA, ANTONIO (AG9420)

No speakers.

18. DAILY, JOSEPH (K06244)

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

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

19. DIAZ, GERARDO (F17846)

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

20. FINNEY, MICHAEL (E79342)

FINNEY's family, friends, and attorney, KATEY GILBERT, supported the parole grant.

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

21. JONES, STEVE (C49045)

JONES's friends and attorney, EMMA TOLMAN, supported the parole grant.

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

22. MANRIQUEZ, JOSE (P85096)

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

23. MENDOZA, GILDARDO (AR2419)

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No speakers.

24. MONSIVAIS, TINA (WE9381)

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

25. NELSON, GORDON (G06794)

NELSON's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

26. PINEDA, OTILIA (WF6361)

PINEDA's friends supported the parole grant.

27. WHEELER, TJ (T20765)

WHEELER's friends and attorney, KRISTINA FOX, supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

28. WHITE, EDWARD (V03418)

WHITE's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

29. WRIGHT, ANGELO (AR4296)

WRIGHT's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

Open session recessed at 4:11 p.m.

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Meeting called to order at 9:05 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, Dobbs, Infante, Muniz, Ndudim, Purcell, Ruff, Schneider, Sharrieff, Sheffield, Taira, and Weiss were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioner MUNIZ stated that a majority of currently-appointed commissioners were present in person.

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).

31. YOST, AARON (D72781)

No public comment permitted.

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. CORELLA, PEDRO (E60740)

A representative of the Riverside County District Attorney's Office recommended vacating the decision.

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.

33. DIXON, LARRY (P48492)

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

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34. HALL, JAMES (P02313)

No speakers.

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.

35. BEACHAM, DONNIE (C94494)

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

36. BLACK, RICKY (T00303)

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

The victim's friend recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

37. CAMPOS, MATTHEW (BG0015)

CAMPOS's friend supported the parole grant.

38. CARLSON, SUZANNE (WA6421)

CARLSON's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

39. CASEY, ROYCE (K78120)

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

Representatives of the San Luis Obispo District Attorney's Office and Riverside District Attorney's Office recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

40. CASTANEDA, ELIAS (V38341)

CASTANEDA's friend supported the parole grant.

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

Open session recessed at 10:55 a.m.

Open session reconvened at 11:09 a.m.

41. CHAVEZ, STEVEN (AZ6377)

CHAVEZ's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

42. FELIZ, RICHARD (V11696)

No speakers.

43. GUTIERREZ, ARTURO (V29878)

GUTIERREZ's friends supported the parole grant.

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

44. HOFFMEISTER, TRAVIS (AL6650)

HOFFMEISTER's family and friends supported the parole grant.

45. MENCHACA, DANIEL (AK0295)

MENCHACA's family supported the parole grant.

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

46. PAZ, ANTHONY (BC2784)

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

47. RIKARD, KEVIN (V44696)

RIKARD's friend supported the parole grant.

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The victim's family, friends, and the Butte County District Attorney, recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

48. RODRIGUEZ, CHARLES (AA3006)

No speakers.

49. RUIZ, OSCAR (T65888)

No speakers.

50. SEECHAN, CHAVA (F53307)

SEECHAN's attorney, MONY CHIM, supported the parole grant.

OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, questioned whether the findings of investigations into incarcerated persons' restitution avoidance are necessarily relevant regarding the issue of their current dangerousness. NELSON-SLOANE requested that the Board consider all the circumstances before determining that restitution avoidance is a parole unsuitability factor.

Open session recessed at 12:35 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 3:21 p.m.

Commissioner MUNIZ stated that during the closed session, the Board made decisions on the cases noticed on the agenda and thanked everyone who participated.

The meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.



Board of Parole Hearings Scheduled and Backlog Hearings Report Penal Code Section 3041(d) August, 2025

