

**BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS  
Executive Board Meeting  
August 19 and 20, 2025**

**August 19, 2025**

**Meeting called to order at 9:01 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, Cassady, Chappell, Garland, Infante, Kozel, Nwajei, O’Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Thornton, and Weiss were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioners Dobbs, Long, Minor, Muniz, Ndudim, Schneider, Sharrieff, and Sheffield were online via TEAMS, with their cameras turned on.

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. Approval of the Draft Minutes from the July 22 and 23, 2025 Board of Parole Hearings Executive Board Meeting.
3. Approval of the Parole Consideration Hearings and Backlog Report for August 2025.
4. Approval of Motions for Hearings with Procedural Errors

**A. TORRES, DANNY, JR. (P02328)**

**Motion:** Vacate the panel’s June 25, 2025 decision and schedule a new hearing in order to comply with the recording requirement in Penal Code section 3041.5, subdivision (a)(4).

A representative of the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office recommended rescinding Torres’ grant.

5. Public Comment on the Consent Calendar. There were no public comments.

Commissioner NWAJEL moved to approve the consent calendar. Commissioner WEISS seconded the motion, which carried, with Commissioners RUFF and THORNTON abstaining.

Barton	Aye
Cassady	Aye
Chappell	Aye

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Dobbs	Aye
Garland	Aye
Infante	Aye
Kozel	Aye
Long	Aye
Minor	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
Nwajei	Aye
O'Meara	Aye
Ruff	Abstain
Purcell	Aye
Schneider	Aye
Sharrieff	Aye
Sheffield	Aye
Thornton	Abstain
Weiss	Aye

**REPORTS**

**Report from Scott Wyckoff, Executive Officer**

Executive Officer, SCOTT WYCKOFF, stated that he and Chief Counsel, JESSICA BLONIEN, attended the California District Attorneys Association conference in Palm Desert. WYCKOFF stated that he attended the Anti-Recidivism Coalition's graduation ceremony at Valley State Prison, the Arms Down graduation ceremony at San Quentin Rehabilitation Center, a peer reentry navigation network meeting in the Bay Area, and the Young Men with Choices graduation at California State Prison, Solano.

**Report from Jessica Blonien, Chief Counsel**

Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN stated that the Board reviewed 461 parole denials between April 1, 2024, and April 17, 2025, involving Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) participants and found 99 cases where the incarcerated person tested positive for opiates. The Board reviewed those 99 cases to determine whether the positive opiate test was a reason for the denial, whether the individual had other recent positive tests or other misconduct, and whether the person admitted to using illicit substances during their hearing. As a result of these reviews, the Board advanced the hearings of 17 incarcerated persons. Two of those incarcerated persons who the Board would have advanced their hearings already had hearings scheduled.

BLONIEN stated that, on July 28, 2025, the California Court of Appeal, Third District, in the *CJLF v. CDCR* litigation held that CDCR does not have the authority to use credits earned under Proposition 57 to reduce an incarcerated person's minimum eligible parole

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date. CDCR and the Board's Legal Division is evaluating the decision to determine next steps.

Commissioner WEISS thanked the Board's legal staff. Commissioner BARTON clarified that the whole transcript was reviewed for hearings advanced.

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

Chief Psychologist Dr. JASMINE TEHRANI's report was postponed to the September 2025 Executive Board Meeting.

**Report from Mariam El-Menshawi, Chief of the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services (OVSRS)**

Chief MARIAM EL-MENSHAWI stated that she attended the California District Attorneys Association conference. EL-MENSHAWI stated that her staff is working to increase victim registration to allow victims to meaningfully participate in the process. Her staff also goes over the hearing process with victims and offers to do a test run of the Microsoft Teams technology with the victims to avoid issues during the hearing. EL-MENSHAWI also described the work of the OVSRS Restorative Justice Team.

Commissioner BARTON thanked

**PRESENTATION**

Executive Officer Scott WYCKOFF and Chief Counsel BLONIEN presented: Regulations Regarding the Board's Commutation and Recall of Sentence Recommendation Assessment Process and Consultations.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, welcomed the publication of the Board's Commutation and Recall of Sentence Recommendation Assessment Process and Consultations regulations. NELSON-SLOANE stated she recently met with Chief of OVSRS, EL MENSRAWI, regarding several proposals and looks forward to working together.

ERIC KNAPP, JAIME GONZALEZ, CHRISTOPHER BREWSTER, and MR. BELL described their experiences on parole.

CONNIE LASKY, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office, thanked Chief Counsel BLONIEN and Executive Officer WYCKOFF for their presentation on the Board's

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Commutation and Recall of Sentence Recommendation Assessment Process and Consultations regulations.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Barton, Cassady, Chappell, Garland, Infante, Kozel, Nwajei, O'Meara, Purcell, Ruff, Thornton, and Weiss were present in person.

Commissioner BARTON 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.

**13. ALMIEIRO, ADAM (G16189)**

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

**14. COOK, RANDY (C22251)**

COOK's family and friend recommended vacating the decision.

A representative of the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's Office supported the parole denial.

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

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

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.

**16. FOSSINGER, DANNY (E77997)**

FOSSINGER's friend supported the parole grant.

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The victim's family and a representative of the Los Angeles 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.

**17. CROWE, CHARLES (AW4221)**

CROWE's family, friends, and attorney, REBECCA RABKIN, supported the parole grant.

**18. GRUNAU, MARK (K13433)**

No speakers.

**19. HERRERA, JOSUE (AD5832)**

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**Open session recessed at 10:35 a.m.**

**Open session reconvened at 10:47 a.m.**

**20. KILGORE, PHENOID (B65224)**

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

**21. SMITH, BRYANT (H68592)**

SMITH's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

**22. THOMAS, RONALD (T44298)**

THOMAS's friends supported the parole grant.

**Open session recessed at 11:19 a.m.**

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**Meeting called to order 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 Dobbs, Long, Minor, Muniz, Ndudim, Purcell, Ruff, Schneider, Sharrieff, Sheffield, Taira, and Thornton were present in person at 1515 K Street.

Commissioner NDUDIM 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).

**24. MACKEY, DEMARIE (K59070)**

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.

**25. GARCIA, JESSE (H30832)**

GARCIA's family supported the parole grant.

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

**26. NAMPULA, JOSE (AK7958)**

NAMPULA's friend supported the parole grant.

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

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**27. PARRILLA, CHRISTIAN (AP1336)**

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

**28. VILLELA, DARIO (V45688)**

VILLELLA's friend 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.

**29. GOODALL, HARRY (P42773)**

GOODALL's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

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.

**30. 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.

**31. BILLIE, KURT (AP7719)**

BILLIE's attorney, ALFRED WISEMAN, supported the parole grant.

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**32. COTA, LEE (AI3158)**

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

**33. HARVEY, JAMES (C48884)**

HARVEY's friends and attorney, ALFRED WISEMAN, supported the parole grant.

Representatives of the Sacramento and San Diego County District Attorney's Offices recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

**34. JIMENEZ, DENNIS (V97627)**

JIMENEZ's family and friends supported the parole grant.

**35. LEBERT, THOMAS (K14704)**

LEBERT's family supported the parole grant.

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

**36. MONDRAGON, JERONIMO (AK6872)**

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

**37. OSBORN, NATHAN (W16344)**

OSBORN's friends and attorney, LILLI PARATORE, supported the parole grant.

**OPEN COMMENTS**

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance, expressed concern at the decline in the parole grant rate in 2025. NELSON-SLOANE questioned whether restitution avoidance is an important issue demonstrating criminal thinking.

JAIME GONZALEZ described his experiences on parole.

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ANTONIO CALLES expressed concern that deputy district attorneys use outdated information that is not relevant to current dangerousness in their submissions to the Board. CALLES suggested that deputy district attorneys recommending against release also recommend a rehabilitative program for the incarcerated person.

**Open session recessed at 10:54 a.m.**

**Open session reconvened at 1:00 p.m.**

Commissioner NDUDIM 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 1:00 p.m.**



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

