

BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS
Executive Board Meeting
May 19 and 20, 2026

May 19, 2026

Meeting called to order at 10:01 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: Commissioners Barton, Cassady, Infante, Kozel, Long, Minor, Muniz, Ruff, Sargent-Burns, Schneider, Thornton, and Weiss were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioners Dobbs, Garland, Ndudim, O’Meara, Sharrieff, and Taira 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 April 20-22, 2026 Board of Parole Hearings Executive Board Meeting
3. Approval of the Parole Consideration Hearings and Backlog Report for May 2026
4. Public Comment on the Consent Calendar. There were no public comments.

Commissioner WEISS moved to approve the consent calendar. Commissioner MUÑIZ seconded the motion, which carried, with Commissioner THORNTON abstaining.

Barton	Aye
Cassady	Aye
Dobbs	Aye
Garland	Aye
Infante	Aye
Kozel	Aye
Long	Aye
Minor	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
O’Meara	Aye
Ruff	Aye
Sargent-Burns	Aye
Schneider	Aye
Sharrieff	Aye
Taira	Aye

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Thornton
Weiss

Abstain
Aye

REPORTS

Report from Scott Wyckoff, Executive Officer

Executive Officer SCOTT WYCKOFF stated that he and Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN attended the 2026 Association of Paroling Authorities International (APAI) Training Conference in May with representatives from other states, Canada, and the United Kingdom. WYCKOFF summarized presentations given at APAI and shared information on other states and countries' parole processes. WYCKOFF stated he was proud to represent California. Commissioner Barton asked if there is availability to see presentations from the conference.

Report from Jessica Blonien, Chief Counsel

Chief Counsel JESSICA BLONIEN provided a litigation update on *Jessica M. et al. v. CDCR* and stated that the court determined that youth offender laws were properly passed. BLONIEN also provided a legislative update on Assembly Bill 2727, Senate Bill 356, and Senate Bill 1446.

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

Chief Psychologist Dr. JASMINE TEHRANI provided an outreach and training update. DR. TEHRANI thanked the Department of State Hospitals for including the Forensic Assessment Division (FAD) in their annual sex offender training series. TEHRANI stated that she presented to graduate students at Nova Southeastern University on the science behind risk assessments and the importance of FAD. TEHRANI discussed her observations of a full day of hearings in Idaho, which included cases involving sex offenses.

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

Chief MARIAM EL-MENSHAWI thanked those who attended National Crime Victims' Rights Week events last month. EL-MENSHAWI also thanked the Board's legal division for providing victims training to staff. EL-MENSHAWI reminded that until OVSRS's phone system and portal are operational, the public should leave a message on the hotline or reach out via chat or email. EL MENSHAWI stated that OVSRS participated in multiple outreach events throughout the state.

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DISCUSSION ITEM

Scott Wyckoff, Executive Officer, and Jessica Blonien, Chief Counsel, presented: **Consultations; Commutation and Recall of Sentence Recommendation Assessment Proposed Regulations (BPH RN 25-01).**

Public Comments

SUSAN BUSTAMENTE stated that she had been incarcerated and sentenced to life without the possibility of parole. She served over 25 years, and is in favor of the proposed regulations.

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, Life Support Alliance (LSA), expressed support for the proposed regulations. NELSON-SLOANE offered LSA's assistance to educate the public about the regulations process.

No Board member had questions or comments.

Motion and Votes

Commissioner MINOR moved to adopt the proposed regulations in rulemaking action BPH RN 25-01, as an appropriate implementation of the Board's discretion under Penal Code sections 4801 and 1172.1. The Board directs staff to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking process and authorizes the executive officer to make any necessary non-substantive changes to the proposed regulations. Commissioner GARLAND seconded the motion, which carried.

Barton	Aye
Cassady	Aye
Dobbs	Aye
Garland	Aye
Infante	Aye
Kozel	Aye
Long	Aye
Minor	Aye
Muniz	Aye
Ndudim	Aye
O'Meara	Aye
Ruff	Aye
Sargent-Burns	Aye
Schneider	Aye
Sharrieff	Aye
Taira	Nay
Thornton	Aye
Weiss	Aye

OPEN COMMENTS

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No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment

VANESSA NELSON-SLOANE, LSA, stated that LSA has made several advancements in self-help groups and are currently running six programs in five institutions. NELSON-SLOANE presented a photo of 99 graduates for a program from Pleasant Valley State Prison and invited Board members to attend any classes.

CONNIE LASKY, San Bernardino District Attorney's Office, stated that she was present at the APAI conference where she asked the other states and countries in attendance if they offer sex offender treatment and programs and whether incarcerated persons are required to participate in them. LASKY stated that the majority of those she spoke to confirmed that they require sex offenders to complete the programs before receiving a hearing. LASKY recommended that the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation also offer sex offender treatment and programs.

LILLI PARATORE, UnCommon Law, stated that she is concerned that there is no consistency across the Board in implementing elderly parole and that hearing panels are substituting their own opinions over professional expertise.

MERVIN BROOKINS stated that he was paroled in 2009 and tries to appear at Board meetings every year to show his success on parole. BROOKINS discussed the organization he runs.

RODNEY BUCKLEY, LSA, stated that he appreciates the Commissioners and that the Board's work matters in giving incarcerated person's a second chance. BUCKLEY stated that he appears at the Capitol to advocate for change in his community. BUCKLEY thanked Commissioner Barton for denying him parole at his first hearing because it allowed him to reflect on what he needed to change.

Roll Call: Commissioners Barton, Cassady, Infante, Kozel, Long, Minor, Muniz, Ruff, Sargent-Burns, Schneider, Thornton, and Weiss present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioner BARTON 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).

12. WRIGHT, JEFFREY (F91691)

No public comment permitted.

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

13. HILL, ANTHONY (V09119)

HILL's family and friends supported the commutation application.

14. LEE, KENNY (P78435)

LEE's friends supported the commutation application.

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

15. NGUYEN, LY (J54675)

A representative of the Orange County District Attorney's Office opposed the commutation application.

16. SMITH, KENNETH (AK1589)

SMITH and SMITH's family and friends supported the commutation application.

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

17. TORRES, DANNY, JR. (P02328)

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

18. ROBINSON, TAMARA (X19148)

ROBINSON'S friends and attorney, LILLI PARATORE, recommended vacating the parole denial and ordering a new hearing.

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

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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.

19. SORELL, KELLY (WF1134)

SORELL's friend supported the parole grant.

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

Open session recessed at 12:07 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 12:46 p.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.

20. CRUZ, DANIEL (AL2965)

No speakers.

21. KELLY, JAMES (V61966)

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

22. KIC, JANESEA (WG3965)

KIC's friend supported the parole grant.

23. NAVARRETE, MICHAEL (BV6312)

No speakers.

24. PAPPAS, JASON (F97623)

PAPPAS's attorney, DALE OGDEN, supported the parole grant.

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

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25. PREASMYER, AMY (X29459)

PREASMYER's family, friends, and attorney, CHRIS HAWTHORNE, supported the parole grant.

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

26. SINGH, HARDEEP (F77205)

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

27. STRAWN, JAMES (AV2472)

No speakers.

Open session recessed at 2:00 p.m.

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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: Commissioners Barton, Infante, Long, Minor, Ndudim, O’Meara, Purcell, Sharrieff, Sheffield, and Taira were present in person at 1515 K Street, Sacramento, CA.

Commissioners Dobbs and Garland were online via TEAMS, with their cameras turned on.

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

EN BANC REFERRALS

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

29. ELLIS, GERALD (F59733)

ELLIS’s family supported the commutation application.

A representative of the Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office opposed the commutation application.

30. MCVAY, NELSON (G63618)

MCCVAY’s family and friend supported the commutation application.

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

31. PERRY, ROBERT (AW1313)

PERRY’s family supported the commutation application.

A representative of the Riverside County District Attorney’s Office opposed the commutation application.

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32. SANCHEZ, DAVID (AA3709)

SANCHEZ's family supported the commutation application.

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

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. ANGUIANO, FEDERICO (AU9749)

ANGUIANO's family supported the parole grant.

The victim's family recommended ordering a rescission hearing.

34. CORONA, ADRIAN (V63910)

CORONA's friends and attorney, NICHOLAS AGBO, supported the parole grant.

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

35. COX, RICHARD (F77876)

COX's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

36. DETRINIDAD, ROBERTO (BC1859)

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

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

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37. GONZALEZ, ANGEL (K30337)

GONZALEZ's family and attorney, LYSA DARDEN, supported the parole grant.

38. GREER, LADARIS (D96210)

GREER's family, a representative from the San Francisco Public Defender's Office, and attorney, Rashmi Birka-White, 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.

39. HERNANDEZ, MICHAEL (T03487)

No speakers.

40. INGALA-WHITING, ADAM (BG7635)

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

41. JACKSON, CURTIS (P88138)

JACKSON's family and attorney, LYSA DARDEN, supported the parole grant.

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

42. JOHNSTON, JASON (T08466)

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

43. RAMIREZ, ISRAEL (AA8948)

RAMIREZ's family and friends supported the parole grant.

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

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44. RUSHING, MATUA (J72158)

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

45. SIMMONS, LEYLANI (WF0328)

SIMMONS's family and friends supported the parole grant.

46. ZAVALA, EDGAR (V71303)

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

OPEN COMMENTS

No Board member requested an item for future meetings.

Public Comment. There were no public comments.

Open session recessed at 12:33 p.m.

Open session reconvened at 3:36 p.m.

Commissioner TAIRA 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 3:37 p.m.



Board of Parole Hearings Scheduled and Backlog Hearings Report Penal Code Section 3041(d) June, 2026

