

# ***DIVISION OF PAROLE***

## ***MISSION***

The Division of Parole, which consists of the Board of Parole and Division staff, is responsible for preparing inmates for release from prison and the community supervision and successful reintegration of those offenders back into society. Offenders are released from prison and placed under Parole supervision by action of the Parole Board, a presumptive release decision by the Department of Correctional Services, by conditional release, or when inmates with determinate sentences reach their maximum expiration date.

## ***ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING***

The 19 members of the Board of Parole are appointed by the Governor, and confirmed by the Senate, for six-year terms. One member is designated by the Governor to serve as the Board's Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Division. Board members review the cases of inmates eligible for parole release and determine if and when the offender should be released to parole supervision. Board members establish conditions the parolee must abide by in the community if released. Board members also establish the conditions of release for inmates released through mechanisms other than a Parole Board determination. Conditions outline a parolee's responsibilities while under community supervision and, if these conditions are violated, serve as justification for parole revocation.

The Division's administrative staff are located in its central office in Albany. Parole operations staff are located across the state in 70 correctional facilities and 38 community-based field supervision offices. The Division will have a workforce of 2,029 in 2006-07.

## ***FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS***

In 2006-07, approximately \$157 million in State tax dollars will enable the Division of Parole to promote public safety by preparing inmates for release, supervising offenders in the community, and arranging for treatment services for parolees.

The Budget provides for the supervision of offenders in the community through intensive parole officer supervision caseloads for violent felony offenders, offenders with severe mental health conditions, sex offenders and for those parolees who graduate from the shock incarceration program or who complete the drug treatment program at the Willard Drug Treatment Campus.

In order to maintain the highest levels of public safety throughout the State, the Division is expanding its efforts to ensure that sex offenders under parole supervision are strictly monitored and kept away from the most vulnerable members of the community. The Budget includes funds for increased levels of community supervision and provides for the use of polygraphs as a pre-emptive monitoring tool to deter the predatory behavior of these offenders.

Approximately \$40 million in State tax dollars is recommended to support the Aid to Localities portion of the budget. Approximately \$16 million of this funding supports vocational development, residential stabilization, and relapse prevention programs. Included in those funds is \$3 million of a \$6 million joint Division of Parole and Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services initiative on offender re-entry. Under this initiative, a consortium of not-for-profit providers will secure early access to substance abuse, employment and housing services for parolees, thereby enhancing the prospects of their successful re-integration into the community.

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There is also Aid to Localities funding for county jails that house parole violators awaiting a parole revocation hearing that will determine whether the individual will return to State prison or be returned to the community. This Budget supports an increase in the reimbursement rate paid to local jails. The Division continues to develop procedural changes that make the parole revocation process more efficient which reduces the amount of time parole violators spend in local jails.

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

As a result of changes to the Penal Law by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1995 and Jenna's Law, violent felony offenders are subject to determinate sentences and not eligible for early parole release. Additionally, the 2004 drug law reforms provide for determinate sentences. All offenders with determinate sentences are subject to fixed periods of post-release supervision by Parole Officers upon their release from prison.

In addition to closely monitoring offenders in the community, the Division helps prevent parolees from reverting to a life of crime by contracting for various rehabilitative services to support their return to society, such as substance abuse counseling, residential treatment and employment training and programming.

### **PAROLE OPERATIONS**

The Parole Operations program, the core of the State parole system, consists of three major areas: preparing inmates for reentry into the community; assisting the Board in making release determinations as well as providing the Board with information needed for setting conditions of release; and supervising parolees released from prison while supporting their successful reintegration into the community.

Institutional Parole staff, assigned to correctional facilities, assist the Board by preparing an assessment of an inmate's readiness for release based on his or her case history. The staff summarizes an inmate's rehabilitation progress, family background and community connections, as well as housing and employment prospects for the Board's consideration. Parole Officers attempt to obtain housing, employment and other services for inmates that are to be released into the community.

When offenders are to be released from prison, the Board imposes conditions of release and they are assigned to a Parole Officer. Field Parole staff supervise parolees by monitoring behavior, reviewing employment and treatment progress, administering drug tests and arranging for services to help parolees remain productive and law-abiding members of the community. Parole Officers also investigate alleged violations and revoke parole when necessary.

#### **ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)**

| <b>Category</b>   | <b>Available<br/>2005-06</b> | <b>Appropriations<br/>Recommended<br/>2006-07</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Reappropriations<br/>Recommended<br/>2006-07</b> |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---|---------------|---|
| State Operations  | 151,926,000                  | 158,348,000                                       | 6,422,000     | 1,921,000   |
| Aid To Localities | 44,439,000                   | 53,146,000  | 8,707,000     | 0   |
| Capital Projects  | 0                            | 0   | 0             | 0   |
| Total             | 196,365,000                  | 211,494,000                                       | 15,129,000    | 1,921,000   |

**ALL FUND TYPES  
PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM  
FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

| Program           | Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE) |                            |             |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
|                   | 2005-06                              | 2006-07                    | FTE Change  |
|                   | Estimated FTEs<br>03/31/06           | Estimated FTEs<br>03/31/07 |             |
| Administration    |                                      |                            |             |
| General Fund      | 107                                  | 107                        | 0           |
| Parole Operations |                                      |                            |             |
| General Fund      | 1,962                                | 1,922                      | (40)        |
| Total             | <u>2,069</u>                         | <u>2,029</u>               | <u>(40)</u> |

**STATE OPERATIONS  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

| Fund Type                       | Available<br>2005-06 | Recommended<br>2006-07 | Change           |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| General Fund                    | 150,601,000          | 157,023,000            | 6,422,000        |
| Special Revenue Funds - Federal | 500,000              | 500,000                | 0                |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other   | 825,000              | 825,000                | 0                |
| Total                           | <u>151,926,000</u>   | <u>158,348,000</u>     | <u>6,422,000</u> |

**STATE OPERATIONS  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

| Program                         | Available<br>2005-06 | Recommended<br>2006-07 | Change           |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Administration                  |                      |                        |                  |
| General Fund                    | 8,042,000            | 8,727,000              | 685,000          |
| Parole Operations               |                      |                        |                  |
| General Fund                    | 142,559,000          | 148,296,000            | 5,737,000        |
| Special Revenue Funds - Federal | 500,000              | 500,000                | 0                |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other   | 825,000              | 825,000                | 0                |
| Total                           | <u>151,926,000</u>   | <u>158,348,000</u>     | <u>6,422,000</u> |

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2006-07 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

| Program           | Total              |                | Personal Service Regular<br>(Annual Salaried) |                |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|---|----------------|
|                   | Amount             | Change         | Amount  | Change         |
| Administration    | 7,102,000          | 626,000        | 7,064,000                                     | 721,000        |
| Parole Operations | 114,281,000        | 250,000        | 109,715,000                                   | (86,000)       |
| Total             | <u>121,383,000</u> | <u>876,000</u> | <u>116,779,000</u>                            | <u>635,000</u> |

  

| Program           | Temporary Service<br>(Nonannual Salaried) |          | Holiday/Overtime Pay<br>(Annual Salaried) |                |
|-------------------|---|----------|---|----------------|
|                   | Amount                                    | Change   | Amount                                    | Change         |
| Administration    | 0   | 0        | 38,000                                    | (95,000)       |
| Parole Operations | 84,000                                    | 0        | 4,482,000                                 | 336,000        |
| Total             | <u>84,000</u>                             | <u>0</u> | <u>4,520,000</u>                          | <u>241,000</u> |

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**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED  
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2006-07 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

| <b>Program</b>    | <b>Total</b>  |               | <b>Supplies and Materials</b> |               |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
|                   | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Amount</b>                 | <b>Change</b> |
| Administration    | 1,625,000     | 59,000        | 22,000                        | 1,000         |
| Parole Operations | 34,015,000    | 5,487,000     | 1,139,000                     | 71,000        |
| Total             | 35,640,000    | 5,546,000     | 1,161,000                     | 72,000        |

| <b>Program</b>    | <b>Travel</b> |               | <b>Contractual Services</b> |               |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
|                   | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Amount</b>               | <b>Change</b> |
| Administration    | 288,000       | 48,000        | 1,300,000                   | 9,000         |
| Parole Operations | 3,994,000     | 941,000       | 27,157,000                  | 4,417,000     |
| Total             | 4,282,000     | 989,000       | 28,457,000                  | 4,426,000     |

| <b>Program</b>    | <b>Equipment</b> |               |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
|                   | <b>Amount</b>    | <b>Change</b> |
| Administration    | 15,000           | 1,000         |
| Parole Operations | 1,725,000        | 58,000        |
| Total             | 1,740,000        | 59,000        |

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2006-07 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

| <b>Program</b>    | <b>Total</b>  |               | <b>Maintenance Undistributed</b> |               |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
|                   | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Change</b> | <b>Amount</b>                    | <b>Change</b> |
| Parole Operations | 1,325,000     | 0             | 1,325,000                        | 0             |
| Total             | 1,325,000     | 0             | 1,325,000                        | 0             |

**AID TO LOCALITIES  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

| <b>Fund Type</b>       | <b>Available</b> | <b>Recommended</b> | <b>Change</b> |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                        | <b>2005-06</b>   | <b>2006-07</b>     |               |
| General Fund           | 35,189,000       | 43,896,000         | 8,707,000     |
| Internal Service Funds | 9,250,000        | 9,250,000          | 0             |
| Total                  | 44,439,000       | 53,146,000         | 8,707,000     |

**AID TO LOCALITIES  
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM  
APPROPRIATIONS  
(dollars)**

| <b>Program</b>         | <b>Available</b> | <b>Recommended</b> | <b>Change</b> |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                        | <b>2005-06</b>   | <b>2006-07</b>     |               |
| Parole Operations      |                  |                    |               |
| General Fund           | 35,189,000       | 43,896,000         | 8,707,000     |
| Internal Service Funds | 9,250,000        | 9,250,000          | 0             |
| Total                  | 44,439,000       | 53,146,000         | 8,707,000     |