

**Board of Pardons and Paroles – Frequently Asked Questions Form**

**Why have I not received a parole hearing?** If you are a parole eligible inmate, your parole eligibility date is the earliest date you can be released on parole. In order to conduct a hearing, the Board is required to have information such as sentencing transcripts, police reports for current and past offenses, presentence investigations and other case-specific information. Once all pertinent information has been received, a determination will be made as to whether or when you will receive a parole hearing. If the BOPP makes the determination that you will not receive a hearing, you will be notified in writing as to the reason(s) why.

**When will my interview or parole hearing date be?** Once your case is assigned to an Institutional Parole Officer, that officer will determine when they will see you for an interview and when you will be scheduled for a hearing. The assigned officer will notify you when it is time for your interview and when you will be scheduled for a hearing. All hearing dates are tentative. Having your family contact the assigned officer or the Parole Supervisor will not cause this to occur more quickly.

**I am currently serving time on a Violation of Probation (Underlying Case 85% Eligibility):** The Board will notify you if a Violation of Probation (VOP) Designation Review will be conducted in your case. This administrative review is held to determine whether your parole eligibility designation will be at 50% or 85% - based upon your serving a sentence for a VOP with an underlying charge that would otherwise be designated 85%. When all required documents are received the review will be scheduled and conducted. The Board will notify you in writing about its outcome (i.e. if you will be processed at 50% eligibility or 85% eligibility). Please note, if you are serving a separate concurrent or consecutive sentence for an 85% offense, you will be designated 85%.

**Why wasn't I interviewed? Why didn't I "sign my papers?"** You will be interviewed for your parole application and be scheduled for a tentative parole hearing date once all required materials are received from the agencies involved in your case. A discretionary parole hearing will not proceed unless all required documents are received regardless of one's parole eligibility date.

**Is there anything that my family can do to help speed up the process?** No, there is not. Board staff will request all materials that are required by the Board to complete your application.

**Can I apply for Medical or Compassionate Parole?** You must meet the statutory eligibility criteria. Inmates cannot be serving a sentence for Capital Felony Murder 53a-54b. Compassionate Parole is for individuals that are so physically or mentally debilitated, incapacitated or infirm as to be physically incapable of presenting a danger to society. Additionally, for Compassionate Parole, one must have served 50% of their sentence to be eligible. Medical Parole is for individuals with terminal illnesses who are debilitated or incapacitated by such condition, disease or syndrome as to be physically incapable of presenting a danger to society. If you believe you qualify send a letter/request to: Board of Pardons and Paroles, Re: Medical/Compassionate Parole at 55 West Main Street, Waterbury, CT 06702.

**Am I eligible for a Halfway House?** Halfway House consideration by the Department of Correction is independent of parole consideration. Institutional Parole Officers do not process cases for Transitional Supervision or DOC Community Release eligibility. Contact your DOC Unit Counselor regarding HWH eligibility.

**What happens if I do not have a sponsor for Parole and I need a halfway house bed?** If you do not have a sponsor, inform the Institutional Parole Officer at the time of your parole interview so that the IPO can supply that information to the panel. You can parole to a HWH if you do not have a sponsor. If you are voted to parole and have provided a sponsor, but are no longer able to stay with them, contact the Unit Counselor so that they can notify the district office you are assigned to.

**I am being released to parole and wish to change my HWH region or sponsor. What do I do?** Contact the DOC Community Release Liaison officer at your facility or the DOC, Parole & Community Services Division.

**I am not happy with the Parole Panel decision. Can I get an earlier voted to parole date or earlier re-hearing date?** The decision of the Parole Board is final. Parole decisions are not subject to appeal.

**I was paroled to a residential program; how do I get placed?** If you are paroled and stipulated to a residential program your placement will be coordinated between the facility and the Department of Correction, Parole and Community Services Division. The Institutional Parole Officer does not play a role in this.

**I was voted to parole and I am past my date, why am I still here?** When will my PO go see my sponsor? A Parole Officer in the Department of Correction, Parole and Community Services Division will assist you in your transition to the community. You can write to the Parole Supervisor of the district office where you have proposed residency. If you need to change your sponsor in the community, notify the DOC Unit Counselor in writing.

**RREC and Institutional Transfers:** The Board has no authority in the application of RREC or in institutional placement.

**I want to waive Discretionary Parole consideration:** You may waive discretionary parole consideration if you wish. If you have Special Parole to follow, you will be seen for an interview prior to discharge and be scheduled for Special Parole conditions to be set by a panel of the Board. You may waive consideration up to 12 (twelve) months prior to your parole eligibility date.

**I want to transfer my parole and/or Special Parole to another state. How do I do that?** When you are called for your interview with the BOPP Parole Officer, please provide the PO with the name and full contact information (to include address and phone numbers) of the proposed sponsor/residence plan in the state you wish to transfer to. If you are granted parole at your hearing, the BOPP Interstate Unit will review your proposed out of state plan. If deemed suitable, an application will be processed and sent to the state that you wish to transfer to. That state will either grant or deny your application. This process usually takes approximately (90) days.

**SPECIAL PAROLE VIOLATORS WITH NEW PAROLE ELIGIBLE SENTENCE:** If you were on Special Parole, violated the conditions of that parole and received a sentence greater than two (2) years, your Special Parole has been "auto-revoked." Since you are serving a new parole eligible sentence, the Board will see you approximately six months prior to your new eligibility date to determine if you will be granted or denied discretionary parole release on your new sentence. In addition, you will also be reviewed at this time for Special Parole conditions to be set if your Special Parole term exceeds your new sentence; both your discretionary parole and Special Parole will be addressed at the same hearing.

**Questions regarding Special Parole and discretionary parole are to be directed to Board of Pardons and Paroles staff and not to Department of Correction staff.**