



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD

PSYCHIATRIC SECURITY REVIEW BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 1987-1988

The Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB), a five member board, has jurisdiction over all persons acquitted of a crime by reason of mental disease or mental defect and committed by the Superior Court to the Board or grandfathered into its jurisdiction by statute. In 1987-1988, the members of the Board were Robert Berger, Esq., Chair, Julia Ramos Grenier, Ph.D., John T. Ryan, Jay Katz, M.D. (resigned January, 1988), Ezra Griffith, M.D. (appointed May, 1988), and Harry Kunze. The Board is within the Department of Mental Health for administrative purposes only.

The Board through an administrative hearing process orders the level of supervision and treatment for an acquittee deemed necessary to protect society. The Board based on its legal findings on the danger that an acquittee poses due to his mental condition orders confinement in a maximum security facility, confinement at a hospital for the mentally ill, approval of temporary leave for a confined acquittee, placement in the custody of the Commissioner of Mental Retardation, grants conditional release or makes a recommendation on the issue of discharge or continued confinement to the Superior Court.

During 1987-1988, 149 persons were under the Board's jurisdiction, 19 persons were initial commitments to the Board by the court. Seven persons have been removed from the Board's jurisdiction, 2 due to death, 4 due to expiration of commitment, 1 due to court order for discharge. One acquittee's commitment term was continued by order of the Superior Court.

In 1987-1988, the Board held 186 hearings and issued 178 orders. As of June 30, 1988, 149 persons were under the Board's jurisdiction. The status of these persons as of June 30, 1988 is as follows: 20% confined in maximum security, 64.4% confined at state hospitals for the mentally ill, 15% on conditional release, .6% in custody of the Commissioner of Mental Retardation. During the course of the year the conditional release of 12 persons was terminated.

The Board in cooperation with the Department of Mental Health has provided training for Department of Mental Health staff, Office of Adult Probation and community agencies. The Board promulgated amended regulations to comply with PA 87-486 which were adopted. The Board is assisted by the Department of Mental Health in meeting the Affirmative Action requirements of the statute and follows such regulations of the Department of Mental Health.

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