

---

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD**



# 43rd Annual Report

January 1 to December 31, 2019

**Governor:** JB PRITZKER  
**Chairman:** Craig Findley





# LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR

## **PRISONER REVIEW BOARD**

Craig Findley, Chairman

The Honorable JB Pritzker  
Office of the Governor  
207 Statehouse  
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Pritzker:

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board is pleased to submit its forty-third annual report, summarizing the Board's operations throughout calendar year 2019.

As a law enforcement agency of the State of Illinois, the Board serves four primary missions: (1) bipartisan, independent review, adjudication, and enforcement of behavioral rules for offenders; (2) parole consideration reviews and decisions for all adult offenders with "indeterminate" sentences; (3) hearings and confidential reports and recommendations to the Governor regarding all requests for executive clemency; (4) protection and consideration of the rights and concerns of victims when making decisions or recommendations regarding parole, executive clemency, conditions of release, or revocation of parole or release.

As projected in 2018, the Board, along with our sister agencies, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice, continued to implement the terms of the *M.H. v. Monreal* Consent Decree and the *Morales v. Findley* Settlement Agreement, with the agencies ultimately concluding those processes and exiting from external oversight in 2019. The Board can also report the favorable passage and enactment of both the Youthful Offender Parole Act, which reversed a 40-year moratorium on discretionary parole in Illinois, as well as HB3584, a unanimously-supported initiative of the Board, which served to clarify, strengthen, and protect the rights of victims in the State of Illinois. In addition, the Board worked with our partners at the Illinois State Police to identify records and complete the clemency reviews of over 11,000 Minor Cannabis Offense convictions, following the passage of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, with Governor Pritzker granting Pardons Authorizing Expungement for those convictions on December 31, 2019. The Board looks forward to continuing those restorative efforts in the coming years.

As always, the Board remains steadfast in its dedication to the law enforcement goals of the State, and we will continue to seek to further refine and improve the release supervision system in Illinois.

Sincerely,

Craig Findley  
Chairman



WEBSITE: [www.Illinois.gov/prb](http://www.Illinois.gov/prb)

# PRISONER REVIEW BOARD STAFF

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Jason Sweat         | Chief Legal Counsel   |
| Tracy Buckley-Jones | Chief of Operations   |
| Nichole Damhoff     | Chief Administrative Officer/<br>Clemency & Victim Notification |

## STAFF

|                         |                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Kevin Byrne             | Supervisor Hearing Officer |
| Steven Krueger          | Supervisor Hearing Officer |
| Shunique Joiner         | King Hearing Officer       |
| Kelly Knappmeyer-Marker | Executive Clemency Liaison |
| Lindsey Conder          | Human Resource Specialist  |
| Kim Morrison            | Victim Services Liaison    |
| Angie Asbrock           | Institutional Liaison      |
| Regina Bosie            | Institutional Liaison      |
| Dana Heckrodt           | Institutional Liaison      |
| Kassandra Keiser        | Institutional Liaison      |
| Veronica Sherman        | Institutional Liaison      |
| Janet Crane             | Office Coordinator         |
| Melissa Pfeiffer        | Office Coordinator         |
| Charles Clinton         | Account Tech I             |
| Fredrick Howard         | Storekeeper I              |
| Tara Burris             | Office Associate           |
| Joshua Davis            | Office Associate           |
| Chuck Eguez             | Office Assistant           |
| Valorie Ford            | Office Assistant           |
| Parker Freiburg         | Office Assistant           |
| Constance Slightom      | Office Assistant           |
| Andrea Hegland          | Office Clerk               |



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| INTRODUCTION.....   | 4-6   |
| SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITIES – ADULT.....                  | 7     |
| ADULT RELEASE REVIEWS.....                                | 7     |
| ADULT FINAL DISCHARGES.....                               | 8     |
| ADULT PAROLE REVIEWS.....                                 | 8     |
| ADULT PAROLE CASES BY CORRECTIONAL CENTER.....            | 9     |
| ADULT PAROLE CASES .....                                  | 10    |
| KING HEARINGS .....                                       | 10    |
| ATTORNEY SCREENS .....                                    | 11    |
| ADULT GOOD CONDUCT CREDITS.....                           | 12    |
| SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITIES – JUVENILE.....               | 13    |
| EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY HEARINGS BY DOCKET .....               | 14    |
| CERTIFICATE OF SEALING AND EXPUNGEMENT FOR MILITARY ..... | 15    |
| VICTIM NOTIFICATION STATISTICS.....                       | 16    |
| BOARD MEMBER PROFILES.....                                | 17-22 |



## INTRODUCTION

Prior to February 1, 1978, the Illinois Prisoner Review Board (“the Board”) was a division of the Illinois Department of Corrections (“IDOC”) known as the Parole and Pardon Board. Today the Board is a quasi-judicial entity that makes decisions concerning adult and juvenile prison inmate matters. By statute it is currently composed of 15 Members who are appointed by the Governor, with the approval of the State Senate.

While the number of classic parole cases has decreased in recent years, today the greater part of the Board’s time is employed in holding parole revocation hearings, consisting of technical and new sentence revocations. The dockets are approximately 7,200 cases a year. These hearings are held at the various penal institutions around the state. The hearings can be complex fact-finding affairs involving attorneys on both sides of the questions, witness testimony, cross-examinations, and volumes of documentary evidence.

This kind of hearing and reviewing activity at both juvenile and adult institutions is at the heart of the Board’s duties. Board Members and staff travel to each institution of the Illinois Department of Corrections and to the Cook

County Jail at least once each month. On any given month, the Board will visit all institutions, sometimes twice a month, to conduct its hearings.

### **Executive Clemency**

Perhaps the most visible work the Board does involves executive clemency proceedings, which occur four

times a year. Twice in Chicago and twice in Springfield the Board convenes to hear petitions from individuals seeking Clemency in the form of a Pardon, an Expungement, a Commutation or some other form of relief from the Governor. Confidential Recommendations are made to the Governor after these hearings are held and they are sent to his office for a final determination. Most petitioners request public hearings, but the Board also reviews petitions without a public hearing if the petitioner so chooses.

### **Victim Notification**

One of the Board’s other historically significant mandates has been to provide victim notification services. The Board has an award-winning, specialized Victim Notification Unit (“VNU”) that documents the names and addresses of persons who request to be included in its registry. The VNU is devoted to alerting victims and their families of the impending release of an inmate from IDOC.

By allowing the victims to be involved in the process, it is the Board’s intention to assist them in experiencing less frustration with the criminal justice system. Victims and their loved ones call, write or very often meet with Board members to register their opposition to parole or to request special conditions of parole. This is all coordinated by a small, dedicated staff that compose the VNU and the Operations Unit. Board members and staff work closely with victim advocates and state’s attorneys throughout Illinois to coordinate efforts to protect the rights of crime victims.

The VNU has always facilitated victims' desires to inform the Board of their opinions about the individuals who victimized them.

By allowing the victims to be involved in the process, it is the Board's intention to assist them in experiencing less frustration with the criminal justice system. Victims and their loved ones call, write or meet with Board members to register their opposition to parole or to request special conditions of parole. Board Members and staff work closely with victim advocates and state's attorneys throughout Illinois to coordinate efforts to protect the rights of crime victims.

The Board also convenes at least twice a month to deliberate and prepare orders which enumerate the conditions that an inmate shall abide by while on parole/mandatory supervised release. In an average month, the Board will issue approximately 1,600 orders for inmates who are due to be placed on mandatory supervised release pursuant to law.

### **C-Number Hearings**

Before 1978, one of the Board's primary mandates was to hold parole eligibility hearings for prison inmates whose sentences were of indeterminate durations. After that date, when determinate (flat) sentences were legislated in Illinois, the number of classic parole hearings for what have become known as C-number inmates, was fixed at a group of approximately 16,500 inmates, a number that has been whittled down to approximately 86 in the course of the years. These hearings continue to be held across the

State and constitute the Board's most contested and deliberated hearings. The Board monthly at its Springfield headquarters to thoroughly discuss and vote on these special cases.

### **Other Hearings**

The Board also reviews IDOC's recommendations for revocation of inmate good conduct credits when there has been an alleged violation of institutional rules. The Board provides a hearing to permit an inmate to make a defense against the allegation, before deciding whether to revoke these credits. The Board is further authorized to review IDOC recommendations for restoration of lost credits in cases in which an inmate's good behavior appears to merit such a reward. More than 2,800 such hearings are conducted each year.

### **Juvenile Hearings**

Finally, the Board carries out specialized juvenile parole hearings at eight juvenile institutions each month under provisions of the Juvenile Court Act. These hearings mirror the adult hearings described above, but are conducted pursuant to different laws than those observed in the adult hearings.





## **Recidivism**

With the State confronting a recidivism rate of approximately 41.6%, the reintegration of individuals back into society from incarceration is challenging. Presently, there is an emerging belief that the larger price is being borne by society, since the practical barriers facing people with criminal records make it more likely that they will slip back into a life of crime if not effectively addressed.

One of the overwhelming requests to the Board on clemency issues is that persons with convictions cannot get jobs. Many employers refuse to give jobs to convicted persons because they don't trust convicted persons, are afraid of lawsuits on negligent hiring, insurance companies, and, in some cases, are prohibited by law from hiring convicted persons. However, the lack of jobs is compounding the problem. Persons who have been convicted, after they have finished their time, are returning back to community only to find they can no longer find employment. This inability to earn a living too often results in a reliance upon Public Aid or a return to a life of crime in order to survive.

In order to break the cycle of recidivism, we must aid convicted persons in becoming law-abiding citizens. By introducing rehabilitation programs which specifically aid those who have served their debt to society, this goal can be attained.

The Board continues to hear clemency requests and makes confidential Recommendations to the Governor. The Governor has made final decisions on approximately 969 clemency cases this year.



**ILLINOIS PRISONER REVIEW BOARD  
SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITY- ADULT**

| <b>TYPE OF HEARING</b>                         | <b>NUMBER OF CASES</b> |
|--|------------------------|
| Parole Reviews/C-Numbers                       | 51                     |
| Good Conduct Requests                          | 1,965                  |
| Release Reviews                                | 16,921                 |
| Parole/Release Revocations                     | 6,965                  |
| Final Discharges                               | 1,721                  |
| Executive Clemency                             | 454                    |
| Cases Revised/Amended                          | 791                    |
| Cases Continued                                | 1,065                  |
| Cases Revised by Parole Agent Requests         | 1,941                  |
| Rehearing Request and Reconsideration Requests | 787                    |
| 90 Day EGCC                                    | 8                      |
| <b>Total Adult Considerations</b>              | <b>32,669</b>          |

**ADULT RELEASE REVIEWS**

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Mandatory Supervised Release Reviews | 16,921 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|



## ADULT FINAL DISCHARGES

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Total Cases Considered                       | 1,721        |
| Total Cases Granted                          | 1,705        |
| <b>Discharge Consideration Approval Rate</b> | <b>99.1%</b> |

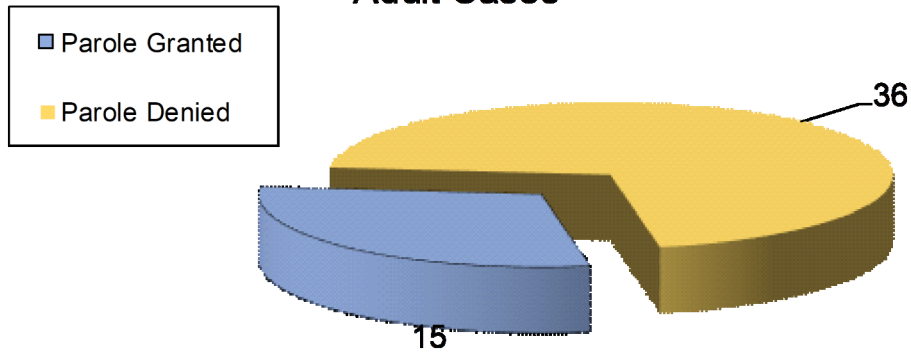
### Adult Final Discharges



## ADULT PAROLE REVIEWS/C-NUMBERS

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Total Cases Considered                    | 51            |
| Total Cases Granted                       | 15            |
| <b>Parole Consideration Approval Rate</b> | <b>29.41%</b> |

### Parole Hearing Reviews Adult Cases



## ADULT PAROLE CASES/C-NUMBERS BY CORRECTIONAL CENTER

| Center          | Cases Decided | Parole Granted | Parole Denied | Parole Rate   |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Big Muddy River | 1             | 1              | 0             | 100%          |
| Centralia       | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Danville        | 7             | 0              | 7             | 0.00%         |
| Decatur         | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Dixon           | 16            | 2              | 14            | 12.5%         |
| East Moline     | 1             | 1              | 0             | 100%          |
| Graham          | 3             | 0              | 3             | 0.00%         |
| Hill            | 4             | 2              | 2             | 50.0%         |
| Illinois River  | 2             | 0              | 2             | 0.00%         |
| Jacksonville    | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| JTC             | 1             | 0              | 1             | 0.00%         |
| Kewanee         | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Lawrence        | 3             | 1              | 2             | 33.3%         |
| Lincoln         | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Logan           | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Menard          | 5             | 4              | 1             | 80.0%         |
| Murphysboro     | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| NRC             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Pinckneyville   | 2             | 2              | 0             | 100%          |
| Pontiac         | 1             | 0              | 1             | 0.00%         |
| Robinson        | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Shawnee         | 1             | 0              | 1             | 0.00%         |
| Sheridan        | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Southwestern    | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Stateville      | 2             | 1              | 1             | 50.0%         |
| Taylorville     | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Vandalia        | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Vienna          | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0.00%         |
| Western         | 2             | 1              | 1             | 50.0%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>51</b>     | <b>15</b>      | <b>36</b>     | <b>29.41%</b> |

\*The numbers reflected within this chart pertain to those inmates who remain incarcerated under pre-1978 sentencing laws.



## ADULT PAROLE CASES / C-NUMBERS

| <b>Adult Parole Cases</b> | <b>Custody</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Currently Incarcerated    | 86             |
| Currently Paroled         | 36             |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>122</b>     |

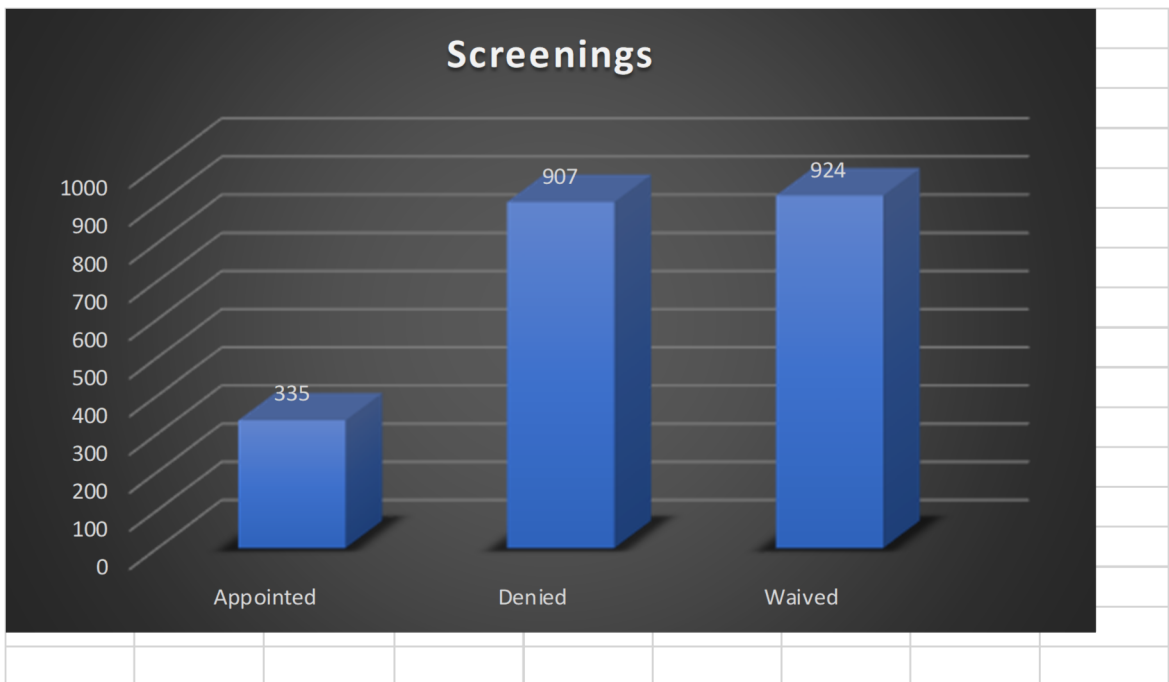
## MORALES / KING PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Morales / King Hearings Conducted                 | 2,837        |
| Morales / King Hearings with Probable Cause Found | 1,145        |
| <b>Rate</b>                                       | <b>40.4%</b> |



## ATTORNEY SCREENINGS

| Screenings   | Number of Cases |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Appointed    | 335             |
| Denied       | 907             |
| Waived       | 924             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2,166</b>    |

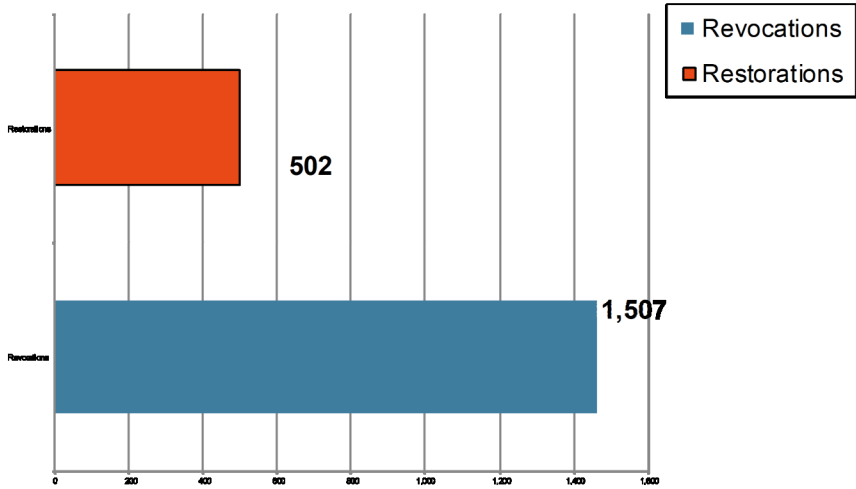


# ADULT GOOD CONDUCT CREDITS

| Revocations | Number of Cases |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Reviewed    | 1,463           |
| Revoked     | 757             |
| Lowered     | 516             |
| Disapproved | 190             |

| Restorations | Number of Cases |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Reviewed     | 502             |
| Restored     | 441             |
| Lowered      | 20              |
| Disapproved  | 41              |

**Adult Good Conduct Credit Reviews**

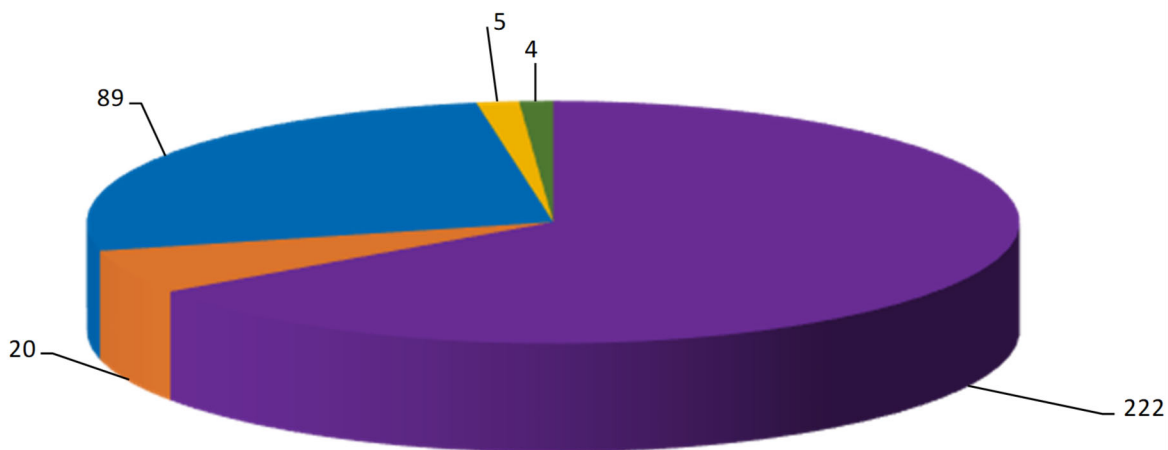


## SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITY - JUVENILE

| JUVENILE HEARINGS             | NUMBER OF CASES |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Hearing Reviews               | 222             |
| Good Conduct Reviews          | 20              |
| Revocation Reviews            | 89              |
| Cases Revised/Amended         | 5               |
| Cases Continued               | 4               |
| <b>TOTAL JUVENILE REVIEWS</b> | <b>340</b>      |

### Juvenile Hearings (By Hearing)

■ Hearing Reviews 
 ■ Good Conduct Reviews 
 ■ Revocation Reviews 
 ■ Cases Revised/Amended 
 ■ Cases Continued





**EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY PETITIONS  
REVIEWED BY THE PRISONER REVIEW BOARD**

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| January               | 112        |
| April                 | 94         |
| July                  | 129        |
| October               | 119        |
| <b>Total Hearings</b> | <b>454</b> |

**EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY PETITIONS  
ACTED UPON BY THE GOVERNOR**

|                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Granted Pardons/<br>Expungements  | 24        |
| Denied                            | 2         |
| Commutation of Sentence           | 3         |
| <b>Total Petitions Acted Upon</b> | <b>29</b> |



## CERTIFICATE OF SEALING

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| No. of Petitions Received | 2     |
| No. of Petitions Granted  | 1     |
| <b>Rate</b>               | 50.0% |

On January 1, 2014, the Legislature changed the law to allow for sealing of Class 3 and Class 4 convictions for the following felony offenses: Deceptive Practice, Theft, Forgery, Possession of Burglary Tools, Possession of Cannabis, Possession of a Controlled Substance and a Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance (Class 3 Felony). For a full list of qualifying offenses, reference the agency's website at [www.Illinois.gov/prb](http://www.Illinois.gov/prb), under the Certificates of Sealing section.

A Certificate of Sealing may be issued by a panel of three Members with a unanimous vote to recommend that the court order the sealing of all official records of the arresting authority, the circuit court clerk, and the Department of State Police concerning the arrest and conviction for the Class 3 or 4 felony.

## CERTIFICATE OF EXPUNGEMENT FOR MILITARY

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| No. of Petitions Received | 0     |
| No. of Petitions Granted  | 0     |
| <b>Rate</b>               | 0.00% |

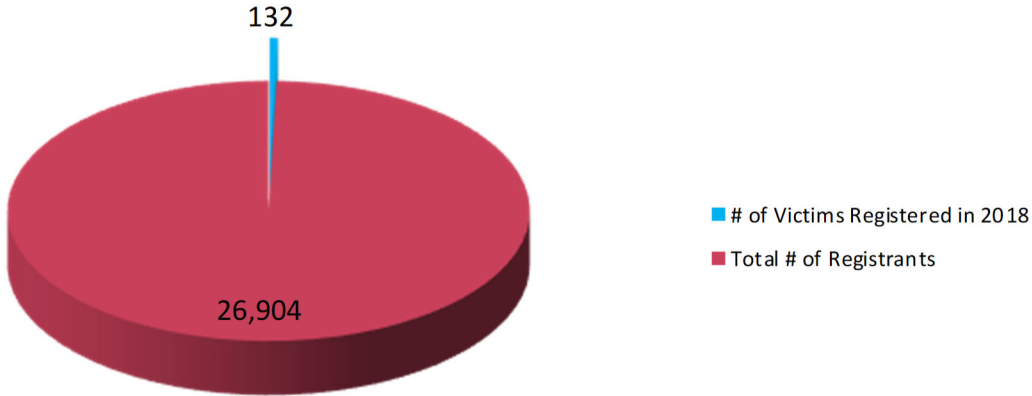
On January 1, 2014, the Legislature changed the law to allow Expungements for a persons who, after having been convicted of a Class 3 or Class 4 felony, thereafter served in the United States Armed Forces of National Guard or any State and received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed Forces or National Guard, or who, at the time of filing the petition, are enlisted in the United States Armed Forces or National Guard of any State and served one tour of duty and who meet the requirements of the Board.

For a list of offenses that qualify, reference the agency's website at [www.Illinois.gov/prb](http://www.Illinois.gov/prb), under the Certificate of Expungement for Military section.



**VICTIM NOTIFICATION UNIT  
(ACTIVITY)**

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Victim Notification Registrants           | 132           |
| Adult Release Notifications               | 341           |
| <b>Total Number of Victim Registrants</b> | <b>26,904</b> |



## BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

**CRAIG FINDLEY, CHAIRMAN**, appointed in February 2001. Mr. Findley was Chairman of the Board from January 2003 to May 2004 and appointed as Chairman in March 2015. A writer and businessman, Mr. Findley owned and published three Illinois weekly newspapers and served as President of Craig Findley Associates, a consulting firm. He served as Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Transportation, as an elected member of the Illinois House of Representatives and was a senior aide to Congressman Bob Michel. He has long been active in organizations that advocate adoption and promote the best interests of children. Mr. Findley is a member and twice Chairman of the Lincoln Land Community College Board of Trustees, a member of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra, Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board and He has served as President of the Jacksonville Public Library and as Chairman of the Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce. He is a graduate of Knox College.

**DANIEL BRINK, MEMBER**, appointed in April 2019. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois-Springfield with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Justice Professions. Mr. Brink started his career at the Adams County Youth Home (Detention Center) as a counselor and then moved to the Adams County Probation Department as a Probation Officer with a combined total of nearly 10 years. As a Probation Officer he completed pre-sentence investigation reports for the court and supervised both juveniles and adults on

probation. He also has experience in human resource management and owned his own business handling debt collections. For the past 10 years, Mr. Brink has been an Assistant Vice President at a local retail banking corporation as a Facility Manager/Collection Officer. He is also responsible for handling the Bank Security Program for 10 locations. Mr. Brink has been married to his wife, Laurie, for 33 years and they have two grown children. He also served the City of Quincy as an Alderman for the sixth ward from 2009 to 2017 and is a member in various community organizations.

**EDITH CRIGLER, MEMBER**, appointed October 2011, has been employed in a variety of human service positions in Chicago for over 40 years. She holds a B.A. in Political Science and a Para Legal Certificate from Roosevelt University and an M.A. Degree in Administration and Social Policy from the University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration. She is a nationally certified Balance and Restorative Justice Trainer, and was an Adjunct Professor in the Criminal Justice Department at Chicago State University.

She is also a social work field instructor at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration and Chicago State University Social Work Department.

Ms. Crigler was one of the first advocates in Chicago's Domestic Violence court and has a long history of working on behalf of victims of domestic violence and other individuals who have been marginalized.



Her special interest is and has been in the area of rights and protection of women and children. She has designed and conducted workshops for human service and law enforcement professionals focused on the myriad of issues germane to poverty.

She has served as a paralegal and policy specialist for Metropolitan Family Services where she reviewed systemic problems of poverty both in metropolitan Chicago and the rest of the State of Illinois. She has a strong expertise in translating bureaucratic language into user-friendly language for advocates.

Ms. Crigler was the first and only Director of the African American Caucus for the Family Resource Coalition of America (FRCA). At FRCA, she coordinated, supervised and directed all projects focused on African American family issues, which included publications, policy analysis, consulting, and training.

She was appointed in 2010 by the Governor to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission and served as a Commissioner .

**LISA DANIELS, MEMBER**, appointed in July 2018. Ms. Daniels holds both a BA in Sociology from Chicago State University and Bachelor of Biblical Studies from Dominion College of Theology and has been employed, through various positions, in the areas of both human and civil service for approximately 15 years. Additionally, as a result of the loss of her youngest son to street violence, Ms. Daniels has become trained in the field of Restorative Justice as a Circle Facilitator and is founder of a behavioral health services organization, dedicated to assisting families who have lost a loved one to

gun violence or incarceration.

Ms. Daniels, a strong believer that no one is the sum total of the worst thing they've ever done or experienced, brings a unique perspective to the board and is an advocate for accountability through a connection to care and help.

**SALVADOR DIAZ, MEMBER**, appointed in 2005, has a community-based panorama of experience. A retired Chicago Police Officer, Mr. Diaz has a history of working with youth as a Cook County Juvenile Probation Officer, Child Abuse Investigator, Social Worker, and Child Welfare Worker with Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

In the field of education, with the City Colleges of Chicago, Mr. Diaz has been a full-time Criminal Justice Instructor and student advisor/counselor. He was also an instructor at the Chicago Police Academy and the Cook County Sheriff's Police Academy, where he taught courses in Tactical Communications, Child Abuse Investigations, and Psychology of Variant Behavior. His educational history consists of a Bachelors Degree in Sociology, a Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology, and finalizing work toward a doctoral degree in Education.



**D. WAYNE DUNN, MEMBER,**

appointed in March 2015. Mr. Dunn received his B.S. degree in Social Studies in 1967, his M.S. in Guidance and Educational Psychology in 1970, and has done advanced graduate work in the field of Educational Administration and Supervision. All academic work was completed at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. In addition to the above, he has obtained additional training in computer technology, property appraisal, and insurance.

After graduation in 1967, he taught in rural schools for some time, primarily dealing with the at-risk students. Many of these were economically and culturally deprived. During one year, he was a Neighborhood Youth Corp counselor that worked in the lower 5 counties to place high school dropouts back in some type of educational setting, be it academic or vocational.

Since that time, he was employed as a Guidance Director for approximately 30 years. He also served the school districts as a work study coordinator, and special education coordinator. In 2005, he was hired as the Mental Health Administrator at the Illinois Youth Center in Harrisburg, a position that he held for approximately ten years. This position involved the coordination of mental health services to the population, and required the supervision of a professional staff.

Mr. Dunn was also the contract monitor for the substance abuse staff, and coordinator of the psychiatric services to the

population at the facility. While living in Southern Illinois all his life, Mr. Dunn has been very active as a community activist. Some of his involvement has included serving as the Chairman of the Board for the Shawnee Development Council, treasurer of the Southern Seven Health Department, initiator of the nutrition program for the elderly in several counties, known as Southern Pride, and currently serving on the advisory board for the Shawnee Alliance for seniors.

**PETE FISHER, MEMBER,** appointed in March 2015. Mr. Fisher retired from law enforcement after nearly 35 years of service in the Tazewell County area. His career began in 1980 with the East Peoria Police Department, retiring in 2009 at the rank of Deputy Chief. In 2010, Mr. Fisher was appointed as the Chief of Police with the Creve Coeur Police Department, retiring in 2015. He held many different ranks and positions throughout his career including Detective Sergeant, Patrol Sergeant, Detective, Field Training Officer, and undercover narcotics agent. Mr. Fisher is a 2005 graduate of the FBI National Academy (session 222) in Quantico, Virginia.



**VONETTA HARRIS, MEMBER,** appointed in September 2013. Ms. Harris began her career as a social worker for Gateway Outpatient Health Clinic and a Crisis Hotline Intervention Specialist for Call For Help, providing assessments and interventions for the dually-diagnosed and alcohol and substance abusers. Ms. Harris later transitioned her career from social work to education, targeting displaced families and at-risk youth. Ms. Harris has served as an Educational Counseling Specialist, Program Coordinator, and a Director, organizing specific programs to address the stigma of low-income, first-generation youth and the rate of recidivism amongst juveniles. She is an active board member for Call for Help, Inc., and a Planning Commissioner for the City of East St. Louis, promoting community resources and job opportunities for an impoverished community. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and a Master's in Education Administration from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri

**OREAL JAMES, MEMBER,** appointed in April 2019. Mr. James is a certified mediator who has focused on establishing Restorative Justice Practices within public education settings and community organizations for nearly two decades. As a foster/adoptive parent for 20 years, he focused on the practice of shared parenting when children could return home.

Mr. James holds a B.A. in Political & Economic Analysis from DePaul University and his JD at the DePaul College of Law. He resides in Chicago, IL.

**VIRGINIA MARTINEZ, MEMBER,** appointed in March 2017. Ms. Martinez is an attorney and has spent most of her career working in non-profit organizations and has been a strong advocate for Latinos, women, children and the poor. Prior to being appointed to the PRB she was a nonprofit management consultant and collaborative leadership trainer.

**AURTHUR MAE PERKINS, MEMBER,** appointed in March 2015. She retired from Peoria Public School District 150 after 30 years of service. Her roles included being a classroom teacher, the principal of Harrison Primary School, and the last 4 years as the family liaison at Trewyn K-8 School. She was an adjunct faculty member at Bradley University. She currently serves on the Peoria Housing Authority Board and the Peoria Citizen's Committee for Economic Opportunity (PCCEO) as a board member. Mrs. Perkins and her husband, Howard, have been married for sixty years and reside in Peoria, Illinois. They have four adults sons and three deceased children. They continue to be actively involved in their church and in their community. Mrs. Perkins graduated Cum Laude with her Bachelor's Degree in Education from Bradley University in 1982. She also earned her Master's Degree in Education from Bradley University in 1990.

**JOE RUGGIERO, MEMBER**, appointed in September 2018. Mr. Ruggiero graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign in 1984 and Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago Kent College of Law in 1987. He worked approximately 30 years as a prosecutor for the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office. After serving five years as the Chief of the Criminal Bureau, Mr. Ruggiero became the First Assistant prior to accepting the position as a Board Member with the Prisoner Review Board. He has prosecuted and tried several murderers and other high profile DuPage County cases. He is the former President of the Illinois Prosecutors Bar Association and member of several other distinguished Boards including the Board of Directors for the Illinois Prosecutors Bar Association, the Executive Boards of the DuPage Police Chiefs Executive Board, and Major Crimes Task Force. Mr. Ruggiero is the recipient of several law enforcement awards including the Prosecutorial Excellence Award from the Chicago Crime Commission.

**DONALD SHELTON, MEMBER**, appointed in September 2012. He retired from the Champaign Police Department after 23 years of service, the last 14 years at the rank of Patrol Sergeant. Mr. Shelton is credited with starting the agency's Crime Scene Unit. He taught a Basic Investigative Photography course for many downstate police departments, as well as a digital photography class as an adjunct faculty member of the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy (College of DuPage). At the Champaign Police Department he held various assignments

in the Investigations Division, is a Field Training Officer, and on a street crimes unit.


**KENNETH D. TUPY, MEMBER**, appointed in June 2016. Mr. Tupy graduated from the University of Illinois in 1979 with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Psychology. He graduated from John Marshall Law School in 1982 and was a Staff Editor for Law Review. Mr. Tupy became a Sangamon County Assistant State's Attorney and was the Chief of the Felony Division until 1995. He worked in private practice and was the Republican Attorney for the Illinois House Criminal Law Committee. He was also the attorney for the Prison Reform Committee; the Truth in Sentencing Committee and the Juvenile Reform Committee. He became the Chief Legal Counsel for the Illinois Prisoner Review Board in 1998 until 2016 when he accepted the appointment as a Board Member for the Prisoner Review Board.

**ELEANOR "KAYE" WILSON, MEMBER**, appointed in April 2019.









**Illinois Prisoner Review Board**  
319 East Madison Street, Suite A  
Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Telephone: (217)782-7273  
Victims Toll Free: (800) 801-9110  
Fax: (217)524-0012 Web Page: [www.Illinois.gov/prb](http://www.Illinois.gov/prb)

Printed by Authority of the State of Illinois  
**February 1, 2021**  
25 printed copies  
Printing Order # \_\_\_\_\_

