State of Illinois
Prisoner Review Board

Pat Quinn, *Governor*

Adam P. Monreal, *Chairman*

ILLINOIS
Prisoner Review Board

37th ANNUAL REPORT
January 1 to December 31, 2013

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF ILLINOIS
PAT QUINN, GOVERNOR

PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Adam P. Monreal, Chairman

The Honorable Pat Quinn
Office of the Governor
207 Statehouse
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Governor Quinn:

As Chairman of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board, I present to you the thirty-seventh annual report for the calendar year 2013.

The Prisoner Review Board has two primary goals. The first and foremost goal is to maintain the safety of the residents of the State of Illinois. The residents of the State are entitled to live in their communities knowing that their State officials are working toward reducing the crime rate.

The second goal which the Prisoner Review Board strives to accomplish is directed toward developing strategies, programs, procedures and working policies with the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Attorney General's Office and State & local law enforcement agencies that are responsible for transitioning ex-offenders who are being released from State penal institutions and returning to communities throughout the State. The Prisoner Review Board works and collaborates with other public and private agencies that provide assistance and programming to ex-offenders in their transition. An ex-offender's successful transition to their community provides these individuals with the opportunity to become productive residents of the State therefore, reducing the rate of recidivism in the State. The criminal justice system continues to change and will always evolve to society's demands.

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board is a pivotal State Agency in the State's criminal justice system. The State of Illinois has always held a position of prominence within the criminal justice system. In the recent past, the Prisoner Review Board has promoted and supported statutory changes in the law that protect the rights of law abiding residents and the victims of criminal behavior. Furthermore, the Prisoner Review Board has proposed legislation that provides second opportunities to ex-offenders who have demonstrated that their criminal behavior is part of their past.

Recognizing the State and the Union are entering a new era within the criminal justice system, the Prisoner Review Board continues to adapt to the changes in order address the multitude of issues that confront the Board.

In summary, the Prisoner Review Board will continued to strive in order develop and implement strategic methods in the parole system order to achieve the goal of making the State of Illinois the safest State in the Union.

Sincerely,

Adam Monreal
Chairman

PRISONER REVIEW BOARD STAFF

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Kenneth Tupy	Chief Legal Counsel
Tracy Buckley	Chief of Operations
Nichole Damhoff	Chief Administrative Officer/ Clemency & Victim Notification

STAFF

Colette Knoles	Executive Clemency Liaison
Kelly Knappmeyer	Executive Clemency Liaison
Shunique Joiner	King Hearing Officer
Kim Morrison	Victim Services Liaison
Angie Asbrock	Institutional Liaison
Shannon Austin	Institutional Liaison
Regina Bosie	Institutional Liaison
Robin Miller	Institutional Liaison
Deborah White	Institutional Liaison
Veronica Sherman	Institutional Liaison
Valorie Ford	Office Assistant
Chuck Eguez	Office Assistant
Constance Slightom	Office Assistant
Fredrick Howard	Office Clerk

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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 Statue 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 10,333 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 two times 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 devoted to alerting victims and their families of the impending release of an inmate from IDOC.
The Victim Notification Unit ("VNU") documents the names The VNU has always facilitated the victims' desire 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 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 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. On an average month the Board will issue approximately 2,000 orders for these inmates who will 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 173 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 convenes two times a month at its Springfield headquarters to thoroughly discuss and vote on these special cases.

Other Hearings

The Board also reviews Illinois Department of Correction's recommendations for revocation of inmate good conduct credits when there has been an alleged violation of institutional rules. It provides a hearing to permit an inmate to make a defense, if desired, against the allegation, then decides 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 3,800 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 47.1%, 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 Prisoner Review 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, they are afraid of lawsuits on negligent hiring, insurance companies and in some cases because of legal prohibitions regarding hiring of 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 get jobs. They are on public aid and because they cannot earn a living return to a life of crime in order to survive.

In order to break the high rate of recidivism, we must allow convicted persons to become 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 817 clemency cases this year.

ILLINOIS PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITY-ADULT

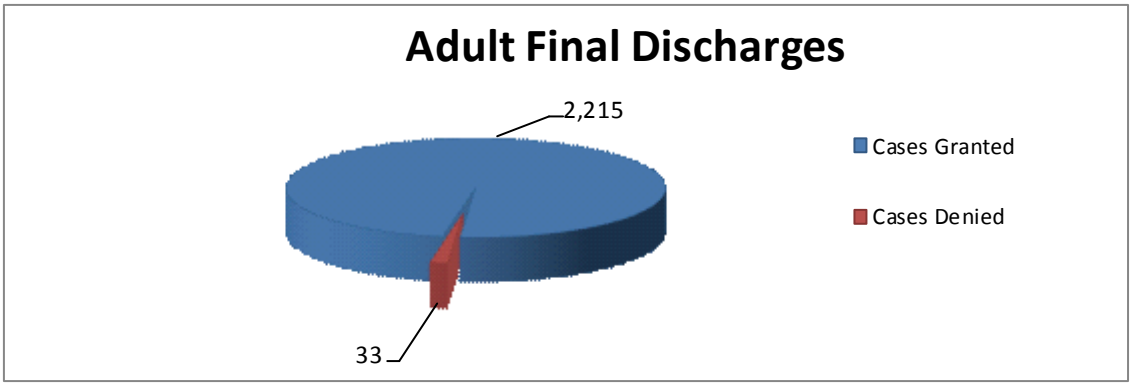
TYPE OF HEARING	NUMBER OF CASES
Parole Reviews/C-Numbers	89
Good Conduct Requests	2,738
Release Reviews	24,019
Parole/Release Revocations	8,345
Final Discharges	2,248
Executive Clemency	745
Cases Revised/Amended	352
Cases Continued	1,876
Cases Revised by Parole Agent Requests	1,997
Rehearing Request and Reconsideration Requests	112
Total Adult Considerations	**42,521**

ADULT RELEASE REVIEWS

Mandatory Supervised Release Reviews	24,019

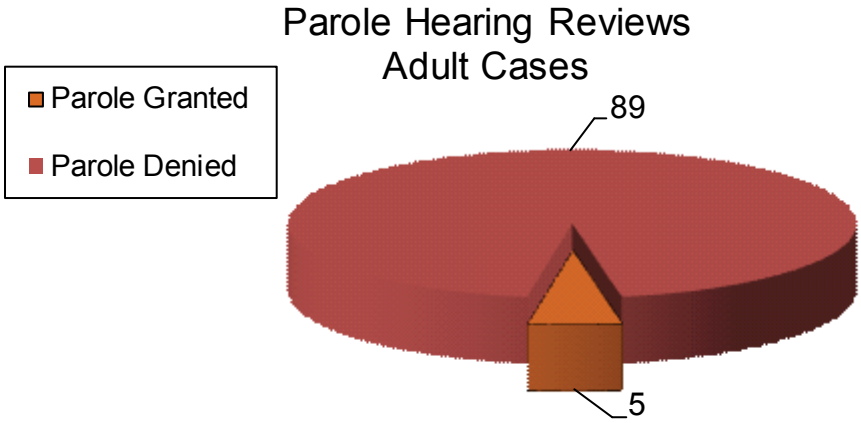
ADULT FINAL DISCHARGES

Total Cases Considered	2,248
Total Cases Granted	2,215
Discharge Consideration Approval Rate	**98.5%**



ADULT PAROLE REVIEWS/C-NUMBERS

Total Cases Considered	89
Total Cases Granted	5
Parole Consideration Approval Rate	**5.6%**



ADULT PAROLE CASES/C-NUMBERS BY CORRECTIONAL CENTER

Center	Cases Decided	Parole Granted	Parole Denied	Parole Rate
Big Muddy River	7	0	7	0.00%
Centralia	2	0	2	0.00%
Danville	6	1	5	20.0%
Decatur	0	0	0	0.00%
Dixon	22	1	21	4.75%
Dwight	0	0	0	0.00%
East Moline	0	0	0	0.00%
Graham	7	0	7	0.00%
Hill	9	1	8	12.5%
Illinois River	6	0	6	0.00%
Jacksonville	1	0	1	0.00%
Lawrence	2	0	2	0.00%
Lincoln	0	0	0	0.00%
Logan	0	0	0	0.00%
Menard	4	0	4	0.00%
NRC	0	0	0	0.00%
Pinckneyville	6	1	5	20.0%
Pontiac	6	0	6	0.00%
Robinson	0	0	0	0.00%
Shawnee	2	0	2	0.00%
Sheridan	0	0	0	0.00%
Southwestern	0	0	0	0.00%
Stateville	5	1	4	25.0%
Taylorville	0	0	0	0.00%
Vandalia	0	0	0	0.00%
Vienna	0	0	0	0.00%
Western	4	0	4	0.00%
TOTAL	**89**	**5**	**84**	**9.5%**

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

ADULT PAROLE CASES / C-NUMBERS

Adult Parole Cases	Custody
Currently Incarcerated	173
Currently Paroled	53
Total	**226**

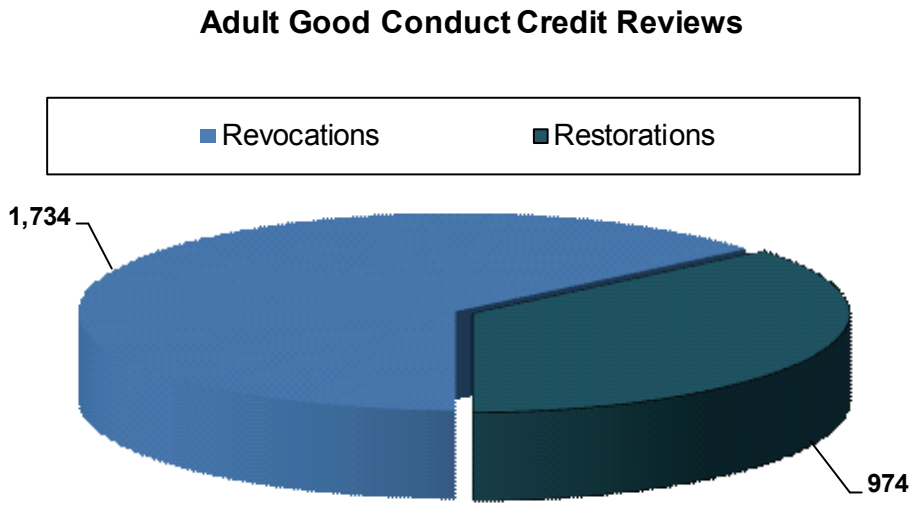
KING HEARINGS

King Hearings Conducted	2,131
King Hearings with Probable Cause Found	1,550
Rate	**72.7%**

ADULT GOOD CONDUCT CREDITS

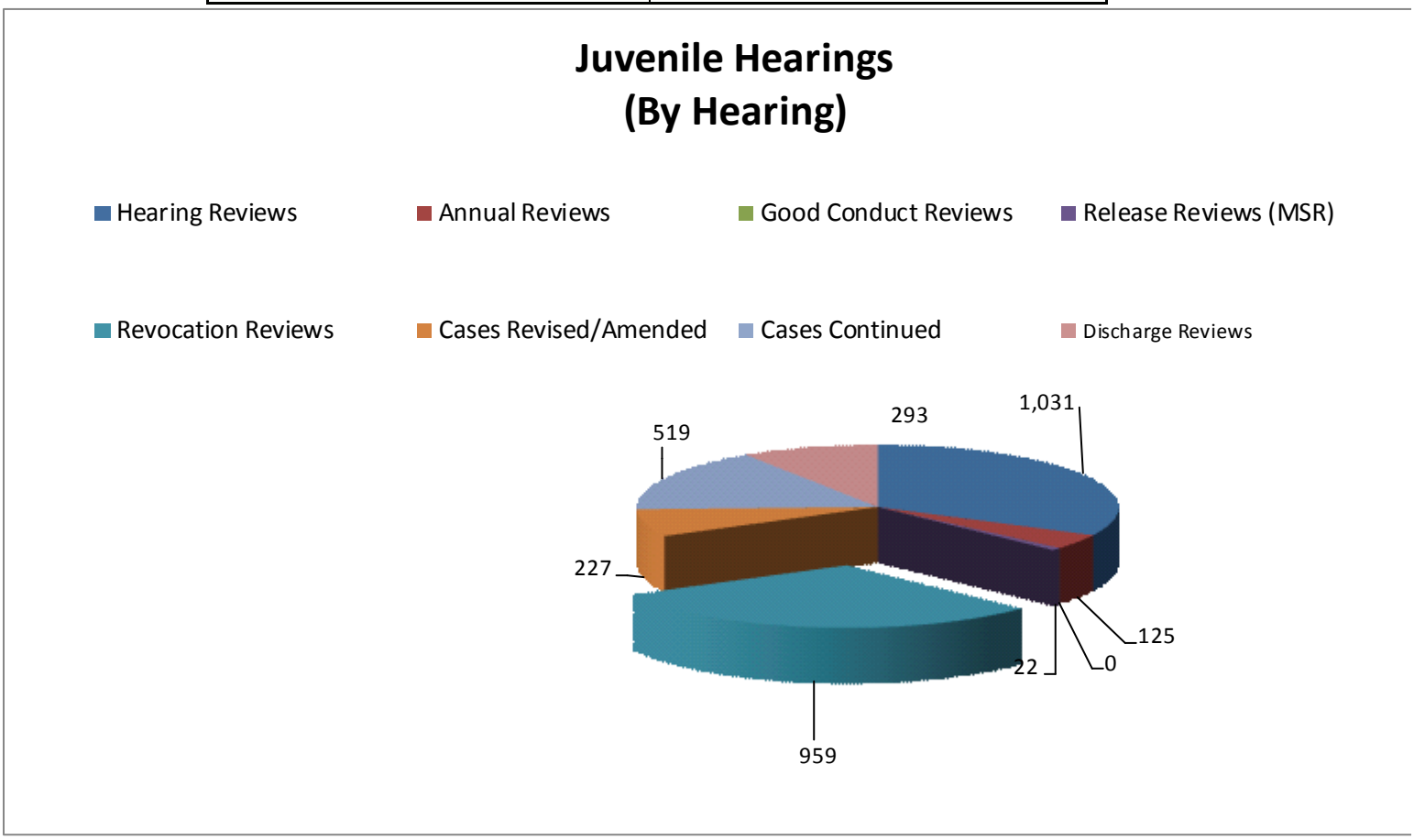
Revocations	Number of Cases
Reviewed	1,734
Revoked	1,007
Lowered	652
Disapproved	75

Restorations	Number of Cases
Reviewed	974
Restored	956
Lowered	7
Disapproved	11



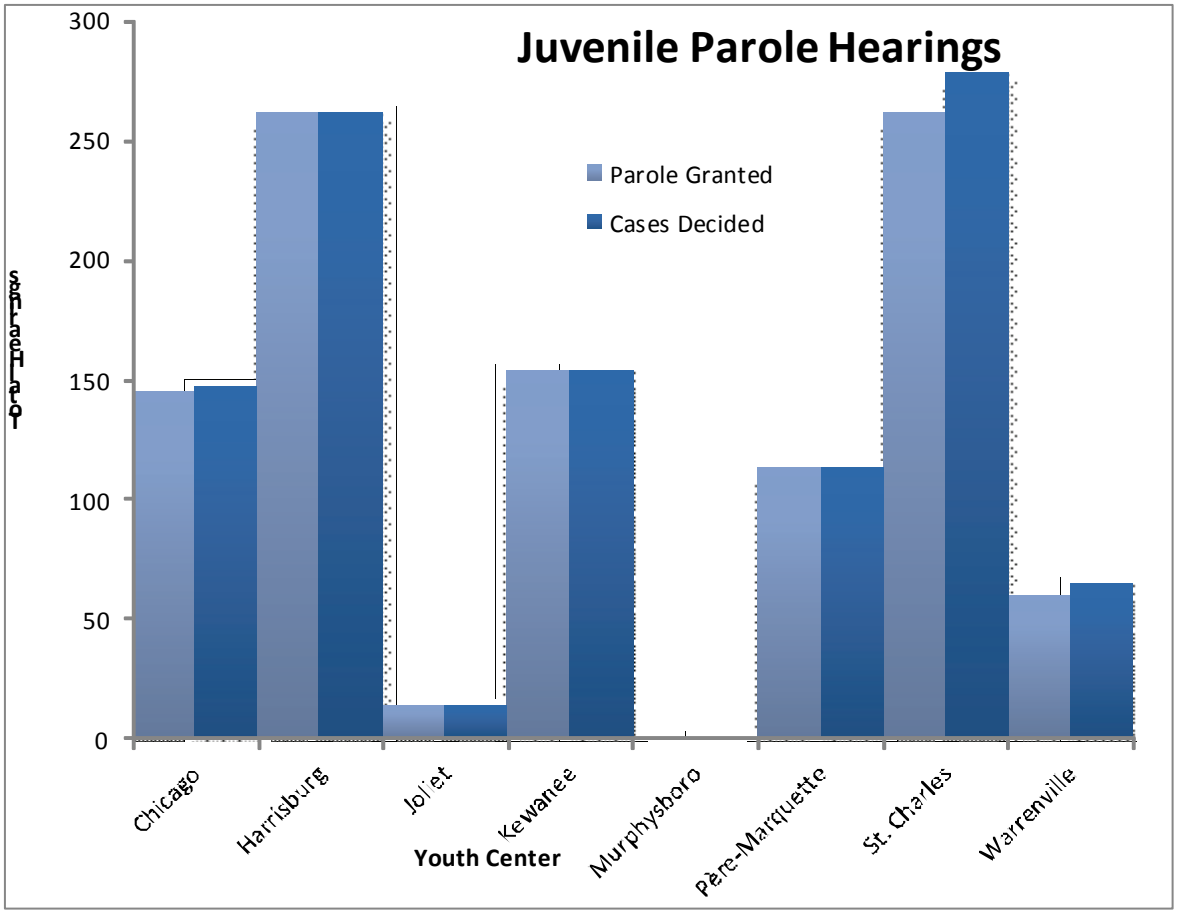
SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITY - JUVENILE

JUVENILE HEARINGS	NUMBER OF CASES
Hearing Reviews	1,031
Annual Reviews	125
Good Conduct Reviews	0
Release Reviews (MSR)	22
Revocation Reviews	959
Discharge Reviews	293
Cases Revised/Amended	227
Cases Continued	519
TOTAL JUVENILE REVIEWS	**3,176**



JUVENILE PAROLE REVIEWS BY YOUTH CENTER

Youth Center	Cases Decided	Parole Granted	Rate
Chicago	147	144	3%
Harrisburg	261	229	32%
Joliet	14	8	6%
Kewanee	153	142	11%
Murphysboro	0	0	0%
Père-Marquette	113	104	9%
St. Charles	278	261	17%
Warrenville	65	60	5%
TOTAL	**1,031**	**948**	**83%**



JUVENILE CASES REVIEWED

Parole Hearing Reviews	1,031
Paroles Granted	948
Rate	**91.9%**

Discharge Reviews	293
Discharges Granted	281
Rate	**95.9%**

Parole Revocation Hearings	959
Paroles Revoked	538
Rate	**56.1%**

2013 EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY PETITIONS REVIEWED BY THE PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

January	149
April	182
July	160
October	254
Total Hearings	**745**

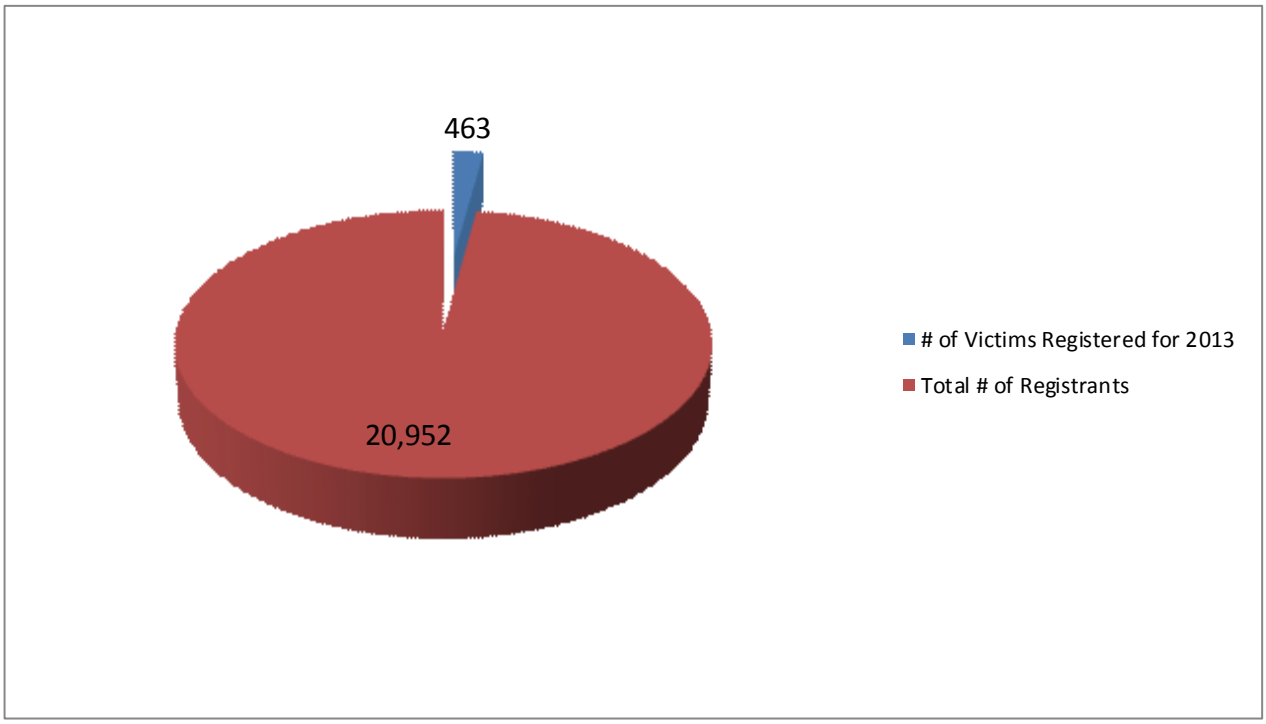
2013 EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY PETITIONS ACTED UPON BY THE GOVERNOR*

Granted Pardons/ Expungements	190
Denied	391
Commutation of Sentence	2
Total Petitions Acted Upon	**583**

*Petitions heard from previous years.

VICTIM NOTIFICATION UNIT (ACTIVITY)

2013 Victim Notification Registrants	463
Adult Release Notifications	535
Total Number of Victim Registrants	**20,952**



BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

ADAM MONREAL, CHAIR, appointed in August 2010, Mr. Monreal received his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice in 1990 from Loyola University of Chicago and a Doctorate in Jurisprudence in 1994 from Northern Illinois University college of Law in 1994. He began his legal career as an Assistant State's Attorney for Cook County. Later he became the Assistant to the Mayor for Public Safety of the City of Chicago, where he was the liaison from the Mayor's Office to all City of Chicago departments in regards to public safety related matters. After leaving the Mayor's Office, Mr. Monreal practiced law in the area of Trusts and Estates and Real Estate. In February, 2010, he became the supervisor of the Workers' Compensation Fraud Unit for the Illinois Department of Insurance.

ANGELIA BLACKMAN-DONOVAN, MEMBER, appointed in August 2010. Mrs. Blackman-Donovan has practiced law since 1977, in criminal prosecution and defense, juvenile court prosecution and defense and in civil litigation. She resides in Belleville, St. Clair County, Illinois, with her husband of 30 years and their three sons.

EDWARD BOWERS, MEMBER appointed March 2006 Mr. Bowers brings a long history of public service to the Prisoner Review Board. His career began in 1966 where he served the Peoria Police Department as a detective and polygraph examiner. While serving in this capacity Mr. Bowers was able to earn his Bachelor's Degree from Bradley University in 1971. Offering a brief conclusion to his career with the Peoria Police Department Mr. Bowers entered the private practice in 1976. Within this period Mr. Bowers remained a strong supporter of the correctional system where he would conduct both commercial and criminal polygraph examinations.

In 1988 he accepted a position at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Peoria, where he retired in 2006 as Director of Facilities, Security and Planning. Mr. Bowers continued to administer polygraph examinations for law enforcement and defense attorneys until 2006.

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 BA in Political Science and a Para Legal Certificate from Roosevelt University and an MA 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 para legal 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 .

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, as a 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 the doctoral degree in education.

CRAIG FINDLEY, **MEMBER**,
appointed in February 2001. Mr. Findley was Chairman of the Board from January 2003 to May 2004. 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 and a board member of Goodwill Industries of Central Illinois. 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.

ERIC GREGG, MEMBER, appointed in April 2013. Mr. Gregg was appointed in April 2013. He has served as the Mayor of Harrisburg, Illinois. He has an extensive career in public service serving as a Saline County Commissioner, 12 years as a member and two years as the Chairman. He also served on the Coleman Tri-County Mental Health Agency Board of Directors for eight years, Saline County Housing Authority for four years, and has been part of the Saline County Tourism Board for the past several years. From 1985-2000, Mr. Gregg worked for the Illinois Department of Corrections in both the adult and juvenile divisions as the volunteer services coordinator and as a correctional counselor. While in the juvenile division, he was certified as an educator in conflict resolution. He was also the A.F.S.C.M.E. union president at IYC Harrisburg facility. Mr. Gregg also worked for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity in the coal and market development divisions. He has served as the high school boys and girls soccer coach. Mr. Gregg graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication and a minor in Political Science. He was recognized by the American Corrections Association for excellence in state and community service and was designated with the Leaders Among Us Award in 2012 by the Southern Illinoisan Newspaper

VONETTA HARRIS, MEMBER, appointed in August 2013. Ms. Harris was 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 delineate 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 a poverished community. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, a Masters Degree in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and a Masters in Education Administration from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri.

THOMAS L. JOHNSON, MEMBER, appointed in March 2013. After finishing a tour of duty in Vietnam (U.S. Army '66-'68), he earned his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan and a Doctorate of Law from DePaul University. He served as an Assistant State's Attorney in DuPage County where he became Chief of the White Collar Crime Division. He was an instructor at the College of DuPage during this period as well teaching a course on crime scene investigations. He was a founding partner in the law firm of Johnson, Westra et. al. where he continued in the private practice of law until taking office as the State Representative for the Illinois 50th District . He served ten years in the Illinois House where he chaired the House Judiciary Committee and was Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Illinois Prison Reform Committee. He has a passion for criminal justice reform so that the recidivism rates can be reduced. He has served on numerous boards, task forces, and community organizations. Mr. Johnson previously served on the Prisoner Review Board from 2004 to 2011, afterwards he took office as an Illinois Senator from 2011 to 2013.

JESSE MADISON, MEMBER, appointed in May 2004. He worked as a Special Assistant to Senate President Emil Jones, Jr. Before that he was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Abraham Lincoln Centre. He retired from the Centre in April 2001 after 11 years of service. In 1983, he served in the Cabinet of former Chicago Mayor Harold Washington as commissioner of Consumer Services. In 1986, Mayor Washington appointed Mr. Madison as General Superintendent of the Chicago Park District. In the mid-1970's, Madison served three terms in the Illinois Legislature as a State Representative.
He is a native of Memphis, Tennessee where he grew up. He attended Roosevelt University in Chicago where he earned a degree in Business Administration. Mr. Madison also did some graduate work in Finance and Management at Roosevelt.

WILLIAM NORTON, MEMBER, appointed in September 2012. Mr. Norton was appointed in September 2012. Mr Norton attended Southeast Missouri State University on a track and cross country scholarship and earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science in 1975. He attended law school at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and received his Juris Doctorate Degree in 1978. Mr. Norton served as an Assistant State's Attorney and has engaged in the general practice of law for thirty-five years. Mr. Norton also served by appointment, as a Circuit Judge for approximately two years. He is an Eagle Scout and has been a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America for fifty years. Mr. Norton and his wife, Cathy, have been married for thirty-nine years and reside in Sparta, Illinois. They have three adult sons and continue to be active and involved in various activities and organizations in their community.

JENNIFER PARRACK, MEMBER, appointed August 2011. Prior to joining the board, she had a variety of mental health correctional experiences working at Cook County Jail as a Mental Health Specialist and then for four years with the Office of the State Appellate Defender as a Mitigation Specialist in their Post Conviction Unit and then with the Capital Trial Assistance Division. During this time, she also served as an adjunct professor at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She also holds a current State of Illinois license as a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor.

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, as a Field Training Officer and on a street crimes unit.

WILLIAM SIMMONS, MEMBER, appointed in August 2010. After 40 years in Law Enforcement, Mr. Simmons retired from the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office, where he held the position of Chief of Criminal Investigations for ten years. Prior to his service for the State's Attorney, he worked for the DuPage County Sheriff's Office for 30 years in a variety of positions including, Director, Gang Suppression Unit (GS9); Supervisor, DuPage Metropolitan Enforcement Narcotics Task Force; and, Detective, Violent Crimes Division. Mr. Simmons attended Texas A & I University and graduated from the Suburban Police Academy. He was an Instructor at the Suburban Law Enforcement Police Academy at the College of DuPage. He has served on numerous boards, task forces and community organizations. Mr. Simmons has earned many awards for his police work over the years.

GERALDINE TYLER, MEMBER, appointed in May 2004. She has over 25 years experience in the criminal justice field, including spending the last 13 years with the Cook County adult Probation Department, where she was employed as a probation officer and Executive Assistant to the Chief Probation Officer. She has also served as an Adjunct Professor at several colleges and universities. She earned a Master's Degree in Corrections/Criminal Justice from Chicago State University in 1992. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and is active in local community affairs.

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