

Rhode Island Parole Board 2015 Open Meeting

December 3, 2015

**RI Parole Board Mathias Bldg. #56 111 Howard Ave. Cranston, RI
02920**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5pm

**Present: Chairperson Laura Pisaturo, Vice-Chair Victoria Almeida,
Mrs. Doris Del Los Santos, Dr. Frederic Reamer, Major Thomas Verdi**

Absent: Dr. Jorge Armesto, Mr. Ray Rickman

**A written stenographic recording of the meeting was taken and is on
hand at the Rhode Island Parole Board Office and available upon
request.**

The following is a summary of meeting minutes and votes taken:

1. Proposed Guidelines

**The Chairperson presented the Guidelines under consideration by the
Parole Board, as previously noticed and posted. Proposed Parole
Board Guidelines were marked as Exhibit A, Proposed Sex Offender
Community Notification Guidelines were marked as Exhibit B.**

2. Public Comment

**A motion was made by Doris DelosSantos to open the Public
Comment portion of the meeting; seconded by Vice-Chair Victoria
Almeida. All voted in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.**

The Chairperson noted for the record that written letters were

received from Public Defender Mary McElroy, ACLU/RI Executive Director Steven Brown and from RI Coalition for the Homeless Executive Director Leanne Byrne, submitted to the Parole Board on or before December 4, 2015, and these were collectively marked as Exhibit C.

Public Comment continued with oral testimony by Steven Brown, American Civil Liberties Union/RI Chapter; Michael DiLauro, Esq., Office of the RI Public Defender; Megan Smith, House of Hope CDC; and Dr. Susan Erstling, Family Services of Rhode Island. Refer to transcript for oral testimony/public comment.

A motion was made by Major Thomas Verdi to close the Public Comment portion of the meeting; seconded by Doris DelosSantos. All voted in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

3. Votes Taken:

a. A motion was made by Vice-Chair Victoria Almeida, seconded by Major Thomas Verdi to adopt the proposed amendments to the Sex Offender Community Notification (“SOCN”) Guidelines (Exhibit B) as presented. After discussion the Board voted to adopt the Guidelines. Vote: Almeida, Del Los Santos, Pisaturo, Reamer, and Verdi in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

b. A motion was made by Vice-Chair Almeida, seconded by Dr. Reamer, for the Parole Board to adopt a Resolution to take under advisement the concerns expressed by the ACLU, RI Chapter, representatives of Harrington Hall and others regarding further need to modify and conduct a more comprehensive review of the SOCN

Guidelines. After discussion the Board voted to adopt the Resolution. Vote: Almeida, Del Los Santos, Pisaturo, Reamer, and Verdi in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. The Chairperson noted that she would send a letter out to community stakeholders and others regarding the concerns expressed at the evening's meeting regarding the scope of the SOCN Guidelines.

c. A motion was made by Doris DelosSantos, seconded by Major Thomas Verdi to adopt the proposed amendments to the Parole Board Guidelines. Discussion was held and the Chairperson proposed to add the word "substantial" before 'compliance' in the section titled "Institutional Adjustment". No other changes. After discussion the Board Voted to adopt the Guidelines, as amended. Vote: Almeida, Del Los Santos, Pisaturo, Reamer, and Verdi in favor, no opposed, no abstentions.

4. Adjournment: Vice-Chair Victoria Almeida moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Major Thomas Verdi. All voted in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm