

THE PAROLE REPORT

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In this Issue:

- Orleans Pilot Program
- Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act
- Parolee Success
- Parole Violator Initiative



Inside This Issue:

SOMTA	2
Award Winners	3
Horowitz Captured	4
New Commissioners	5
Parolee Success Story	6
Remembering Sister Karen	7
Parole Violator Initiative	8

Message From the Chairman

I am extremely pleased to be back at the Division of Parole after a seven-year hiatus and am looking forward to taking on the many challenges that lie ahead.

Since my return to Parole service, the Division's primary focus has been taking stock of our present resources to ensure the safety and well-being of our parole officers and all of our employees. That issue will remain first and foremost on my agenda throughout my tenure as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Division.



I am looking forward with great enthusiasm to working with all of you in the months and years ahead.

Currently, there are about 63,500 inmates incarcerated in 69 correctional facilities across the state. Approximately 23,000 offenders are released to supervision of the Division of Parole

See CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE, Page 2

Parole and DOCS Partner in New Pilot Program

The Division of Parole and the Department of Correctional Services in August launched a new program aimed at helping prepare inmates to return to their communities as productive, law-abiding citizens.

The 60-bed pilot program at Orleans Correctional Facility will move inmates close to the communities to which they will return to enable family members, potential employers, social workers and others to establish contact with them before they leave prison.

The Orleans program will house general population inmates three months or more from release back to nearby Erie County. It is part of the reentry initiative Governor Eliot Spitzer announced in his 2007-08 Executive Budget proposal.

The Orleans unit is intended to serve as a model for future re-entry initiatives around New York State.

The two state agencies are working with the Erie County Reentry Task Force and other agencies to create an environment that will foster the prisoners' successful return to the community by providing personal contact between inmates and those who will help them fulfill their obligations as citizens.

Prior to release, participants will be matched up with any necessary programs, such as job training, anger management or substance abuse counseling.

Program staffers will also help parolees apply for public benefits prior to their release to help defray the cost of such programs.

The Division of Parole has assigned several facility and field Parole Officers to the program. The staffers will track the program participants' progress against other parolees who are not part of the pilot initiative.

Parole staffers will meet with the participants numerous times to determine their risk level

See PILOT, Page 2

PILOT: Parole Partners with DOCS (continued from front page)

and the types of needs they may have after their release.

“If you have a coordinated plan for inmates from before they get out of prison continuing through parole supervision, there is a much better chance they will not commit new crimes,” Chairman George Alexander said.

“This program will help alleviate the culture shock many could face

after spending years in a correctional facility. We are especially hopeful that the family reunification aspect of this program could help former inmates make a seamless transition back to society,” he added.

The Division and DOCS are looking at other counties that have developed similar reentry task forces for future locations for the program, including Monroe, Nassau, Oneida, Orange, Rens-

selaer, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester.

“By providing the kind of personal contact that could make all the difference to an inmate’s successful readjustment to the community, this new program is invaluable to both the inmates and the citizens of Erie County and Western New York,” Brian Fischer, Commissioner of the Department of Correctional Services said.

Chairman’s Message (continued from front page)

each year.

Many of those released from prison are poorly educated, have few job skills and suffer alcohol and substance abuse problems. Some lack the emotional maturity to conduct themselves as law-abiding citizens.

Under the leadership of Governor Eliot Spitzer, the Division is now refocusing its efforts on helping those parolees successfully re-enter society as productive citizens.

After many conversations with the governor, it is clear the Division needs to redouble its efforts to make sure inmates being released to supervision are provided with all of the tools they may need to become successful, whether it be anger-management counseling, drug treatment or job skills training.

By getting parolees the services they need, we at the Division of Parole will also fulfill our public safety mis-

sion by reducing recidivism and preventing more people from becoming victims.

Over the past several months, I have traveled around the state giving a presentation to management on the National Institute of Corrections’ Transition from Prison to Community Initiative.

It’s a plan we, along with a handful of other states, are following as a model.

We at the Division realize that corrections, law enforcement and human service agencies are all stakeholders in the transition process for inmates.

As part of the state’s re-entry initiative, we will work with the Department of Correctional Services, the Office of Mental Health, the Division of Criminal Justice Services and numerous other state and local social service agencies to promote our common inter-

ests, integrate our policies and coordinate efforts.

Along with these other agencies we will develop a reentry plan for each offender beginning up to a year before his or her release.

We will focus on the critical issues for each inmate, including housing, employment, parole conditions and access to programs and services.

At the same time we will make sure local communities, faith-based groups and victims are involved as we monitor each paroled inmate’s progress or regression.

Public safety will remain at the forefront of all our efforts.

I look forward to fulfilling this crucial mission and welcome feedback and ideas from everyone in the Division.

—George B. Alexander
Chairman and CEO

Governor Signs New Sex Offender Law

Keeping the streets safer by providing intensive supervision and/or treatment for high risk sex offenders is the goal of the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act. This new law, signed by Governor Eliot Spitzer earlier this year, is designed to provide the continuous management of sex offenders after completion of their institutional sentence or other status by means of civil confinement for

dangerous sex offenders, or by providing strict and intensive supervision (SIST) for sex offenders released to the community.

The statute also mandates the review of designated felonies to determine if an offender’s offense was sexually motivated. Offenders are evaluated and, if appropriate, classified as a sex offender under SOMTA.

The law, which went into effect April

13, establishes new requirements for comprehensive sex offender management. The aim is to reduce the risks to public safety posed by sex offenders most likely to commit crimes again.

“This legislation is a critical public safety initiative helping to keep the most dangerous sexual predators off our streets and place them in secure supervised environments away from our families,” Gov-

SOMTA: New Role for Parole

ernor Spitzer said in signing the law.

The law establishes an inter-agency collaboration to ensure the comprehensive management of sex offenders. The legislation also requires intensive supervision activities by the Division of Parole, and specifies programming to target the chain of behaviors that are known to cause sex offenders to re-offend.

Under SOMTA, sex offender programming starts while the offender is in Department of Correctional Services custody, and continues if the inmate is civilly confined. The law also includes treatment requirements for sex-offenders if and when they are returned to the community.

Sex offenders who are returned to the community who violate technical aspects of SIST conditions may be taken off the street by a Parole Officer for reevaluation by a psychiatric examiner. That person will determine if the offender poses a danger to

the public and needs be civilly confined.

The SIST provisions of SOMTA

“This legislation is a critical public safety initiative helping to keep the most dangerous sexual predators off our streets and place them in secure supervised environments away from our families,” Governor Spitzer said.

increase the complexity and nature of parole supervision.

The legislation incorporates many of the best practices for sex offender supervision that have been used by Parole Officers for years, into a statute that clearly defines comprehensive sex

offender management.

It also takes into account that sex offenders under SIST, who suffer from a mental abnormality will receive the appropriate treatments.

Inter-agency collaboration is a key requirement of this legislation. New management systems, new reporting protocols, and interagency liaison between SOMTA designated agencies will help combine efforts to address sex-offender management. New tasks for facility and field Parole staff are now being instituted to bring the Division into compliance with the law.

The law provides the Division of Parole with a clear set of the legislative expectations targeted at protecting the public from dangerous sex offenders released to community supervision.

--This article was written by Nicole Plantz of the Sex Offender Management Unit.

Division of Parole Announces Award Winners

A Springfield, Massachusetts police officer, a U.S. Marshal and a Deputy Commissioner at the state Division of Criminal Justice Services are this year's winners of the Division of Parole's Vincent DeFilippis Law Enforcement Recognition Award.

The three were to be honored as part of the Division of Parole's annual Employee Recognition Luncheon at the Hall of Springs in Saratoga Springs on Oct. 4.

The DeFilippis award is given to outside law enforcement personnel who have performed acts to aid the Division's mission to protect the public.

Springfield Police Officer David Askins was wounded by a Parole fugitive from New York in March after police had surrounded the house in which the absconder was hiding. The suspect opened fire on the police before being shot and killed in response.

U.S. Marshall Gary Mattison is being recognized for his work in hunting down Parole absconder Alan Horowitz to India.

DCJS Deputy Commissioner John Bilich was honored for his continued efforts to include the Division of Parole in law enforcement initiatives throughout the state.

The Chairman's Commendation Award was given to Parole Officer Eileen Vives of the Buffalo Area Office for "putting the needs of the citizens of New York State far above" her own.

The Frederick A. Moran Parole Board Recognition Award was given to Elmira Correctional Facility Parole Officer II Gary Geiger and Southport Correctional Facility Parole Officer I Loretta Young for their work helping the Parole Board to fulfill its duties and mission.

The Brian Rooney Memorial Award for Meritorious Service was given to Parole Officers Jay Shelgren and Lee Lessner for their commitment to public safety. Two Parole Officers with the Bureau of Special Services, James DiTucci-Cappiello and Albert Fernandez were given the

award for their work tracking down the Division's Most Wanted fugitives. A third officer, Robert Georgia, was granted the award for his tireless effort in apprehending Horowitz.

Recipients of the Jack Weisz Memorial Award, given to support and technical staff, include: Gail McGurk, Fernando Correa, Vickie Devlin, Jean Alvarado, Rick Eckhardt, Bryan Dott, Brenda Spring, Joseph Nowak, Sharon Indilicato, Sharon Althiser and Margaret Paskevich.

Parole Officer Detrel Howell of Manhattan VI was given the Linda Mills Memorial Award For Community Service.

The Russell G. Oswald Memorial Award was given to Senior Parole Officer Angelo Ervolina of the Auburn Area Office.

Timothy O'Brien, Deputy Director of Statewide Facility Parole Operations, was honored for his work improving the violation process.

The Chairman's Award was to be announced at the luncheon.

Alan Horowitz Captured After International Manhunt

The Division of Parole in July scored a major victory with the return of convicted child molester and parole absconder Alan J. Horowitz to New York State custody.

The 60-year-old Horowitz was arrested in May by U.S. and local authorities in India following an 11-month international manhunt.

The Division of Parole worked with numerous law enforcement agencies, including the U.S. Marshals, the FBI, Interpol, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York and the Schenectady County District Attorney's Office, to track down the Level 3 sex offender.

Horowitz was returned to the United States on July 8 by agents with the U.S. State Department Bureau of Diplomatic Security and brought back to Schenectady County on July 12 by officers with the Division of Parole's Bureau of Special Services.

"I would like to take this opportunity to commend federal, New Jersey and New York State law enforcement officials for their efforts resulting in the extradition of Alan Horowitz back to New York State," said Deputy Secretary for Public Safety Michael Balboni. "The cooperation of these agencies has taken a dangerous fugitive off the streets and will ensure that he is brought to justice."

Chairman George B. Alexander said: "Our parole officers play a crucial role in ensuring public safety and thanks to their diligent efforts, we were able to capture this sexual predator."

Schenectady County District Attorney Robert Carney said: "Alan Horowitz used his status as a trusted authority figure to exploit children throughout the world for his own sexual gratification. In my 17 years as a District Attorney I have seen no more suitable candidate for civil confinement than him and I will be asking the Attor-

ney General to pursue this option once his sentence is fully served."

Horowitz, a Harvard-educated psychiatrist and self-proclaimed rabbi was serving a 10- to 20-year sentence for 1st degree sodomy after admitting he sexually abused children. He was convicted in Schenectady County in 1992.

Horowitz's known criminal history dates back to 1982 when he was convicted in Maryland for "perverted sex practices" and sentenced to five years probation.

Horowitz's crimes were particularly heinous in that many of the victims were under his care during his career as a psychiatrist.

After a parole violation hearing in August, Horowitz was returned to state prison to serve the remainder of his sentence behind bars.

He may also face additional charges.

Employee to Mark 57 Years with Division

When Mary VandeWal started working at the Division of Parole, houses cost \$9,000, eggs were 24 cents a dozen and gasoline was 18 cents a gallon.



In February, Mary will mark her 57th anniversary at the Division. The 85-year-old Albany resident has no plans to retire from her job in the file room at Central Office.

With the loss of her husband David 15 years ago and the recent death of her

sister, Mary says she prefers remaining a productive worker at the Division to any leisure activities.

"I enjoy working here," she said. "I don't want to retire. I feel better being out in public."

Ms. VandeWal first came to the Division in 1951 as a typist when the central office was located on Broadway in Albany, near the former Union Station train terminal. She's seen more supervisors than she can remember, and recalls days in the summer when the staff was sent home because of the heat.

"We would go home at night and the carbon paper would be stuck to us," she said.

At the time, the office was comprised of about 150 people, she says, with no more than 100 file drawers to store records.

To this day, Mary faithfully shows up for duty Monday to Friday at 6 a.m.

She's been honored numerous times for her length of service and will again be recognized at the awards ceremony. The Central Office file room will be named in her honor.

"I've seen a lot of changes within the department," said VandeWal, the longest serving employee at the Division. "Right now it's the best though. The whole system is nicer now. Its more modernized."

Comments and Suggestions

THE PAROLE REPORT is written and edited by the staff of the Office of Media Relations and Public Affairs. Anyone in the Division with story ideas or suggestions is asked to contact us at (518) 486-4631 or e-mail Mark Johnson, Director of Media Relations at mjohnson@parole.state.ny.us

Board of Parole Welcomes New Commissioners

The Board of Parole so far this year has welcomed three new commissioners to its ranks in addition to Chairman George Alexander.

The three commissioners, nominated by Governor Eliot Spitzer and confirmed by the New York State Senate, come to the Board with vast criminal justice experience.

In June, Sally A. Thompson was confirmed by the Senate to serve a six-year term on the 19-member Board.

Thompson comes to the Board after serving 20 distinguished years with the New York City Police Department.

From 1993 to 2003 she served as a detective in the department, investigating violent crimes and making numerous felony and misdemeanor arrests.

Prior to that, Thompson served for five years in the Bronx Narcotics/Major Case Division, conducting complex criminal investigations that included surveillance and undercover operations.

She is an active member of the Fraternal Order of Police and the Detective Endowment Association.

Her term expires on May 4, 2013.

Thompson's confirmation followed the May 1 Senate confirmations of Commissioners William M. Casey and Henry Lemons.

Commissioner Casey, before joining the Board of Parole, served as Chief Investigator with the office of the New York Attorney General, a position he held from 1999.

Prior to that, Casey had a long,



notable career with the New York City Police Department, last serving as a Deputy Chief overseeing the Bronx Borough Patrol, encompassing 12 precincts.

During his tenure, Casey served as Executive Officer of the Organized Crime Control Bureau, the Command-

ing Officer for the Intelligence Division and Commanding Officer of Criminal Investigations in the Internal Affairs Bureau, among other posts.

His appointment fills the position held by former Chairman Robert Denison.

Prior to his nomination, Commissioner Lemons served in the Attorney General's Office as the Deputy Chief Investigator for the Downstate Region's Criminal Investigations Bureau.

From 1993 to 2004, he worked in the Kings County District Attorney's Office, last holding the position as Assistant Chief Investigator in the Special Investigations Bureau.

From 1973 to 1993, Lemons served with distinction in the New York City Police Department, rising to the rank of sergeant and supervising major narcotics investigations.

Lemons succeeded Marietta Gailor, who retired.

His term expires on June 18, 2008.

There are currently two vacancies on the Board.

Chairman Alexander was unanimously confirmed by the State Senate in May.

Parole Officer Honored For Football Prowess

In the 1970s, Parole Officer Kelly Funderburk was a rambling running back for Lafayette High School in Buffalo.

Along with fellow ball carrier Wayne Bolden, Funderburk helped lead his team to the Harvard Cup, the championship game of the Buffalo public school system.

In a defensive struggle on Thanksgiving Day 1976, Lafayette tied East High School to share the public school football crown that year. Lafayette finished the year 8-0-1.

As a tribute to his gridiron accomplishments, Funderburk on Oct. 6 will be inducted into the Harvard Cup Hall of Fame's 6th annual induction ceremony.

Now 48, the unassuming parole officer said he was quite surprised when he received a letter from the Buffalo Public School's Department of Athletics informing him of the honor.



"The Harvard Cup is one of the longest football traditions in the nation," said Funderburk, who attended

Lafayette High from 1973 to 1977. During his tenure, the team compiled a 27-5-1 record.

"I was really flabbergasted when the letter came to my doorstep," he

said.

Funderburk, who has been with the Division of Parole for 10 years and previously worked as a substance abuse counselor with the Department of Correctional Services, said his days on the football field helped prepare him for life as a parole officer, whether it be learning to work with a team, developing a strong work ethic or communicating with others.

"I always had the philosophy to be the best at what I did," said Funderburk.

The Harvard Cup dates back to 1904, when 2,000 football fans turned out on Nov. 24 to watch Masten Park defeat Central High School 28-5.

New Recruits Strengthen Parole's Ranks

The Division of Parole on August 30 welcomed 37 new Peace Officers to its ranks during graduation ceremonies in Albany.

With the addition of these 37 new Parole Officers and one Warrant and Transfer Officer, the force of the New York State Division of Parole has been increased to over 1,260 sworn Peace Officers.

Most of the new Parole Officers have been assigned to Parole Field Offices in the New York City metro area as well as Department of Correctional Services facilities throughout the state.

The intensive eight week training program took place at the Senator Hugh T. Farley Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy in Schenectady, New York. The new Parole Officers received training in offender supervision and criminal justice best practices at the state-of-the-art police-training facility.

"This is an exciting time at the Division of Parole and we couldn't be happier to add more dedicated officers to our ranks," Chairman Alexander said. "Parole Officers fill dual roles in both law enforcement and social work and play a key

role in making New York one of the safest states in the nation."

Parole Officer Lachonda Glover was honored as the recipient of the Leroy Drake Memorial Award. The Leroy Drake Award is presented to the graduating recruit who excelled academically at the Parole Officer Candidate School.

Leroy Drake was a Parole Officer for 13 years. He exemplified the highest standards of demeanor and personal conduct, and off



both on the job.

Parole Officer Scott Bailey was honored as the recipient of the Eric Jaworski Memorial Award.

This award is presented in Eric Jaworski's honor to the graduating recruit who exhibits the highest degree of firearm proficiency.

Eric Jaworski was a Parole Officer who worked for the Division for four

years. He was an outstanding worker who always gave an extraordinary degree of effort on the job. Jaworski died in April of 1991 after a courageous bout with cancer.

Parole Officer Anthony Constantini was honored as the recipient of the Chairman's Achievement Award. The award is presented to the individual who demonstrated the highest level of overall excellence during training.

Criteria considered for the award include high academic performance, class participation, knowledge of case management principles, firearm proficiency and leadership ability.

Parole Officer Stacey Sullivan was selected by her fellow graduates as this year's class representative.

Currently, two more training classes are underway at the Zone Five Training Academy in Schenectady.

Their graduations this Fall will add more than 80 more peace officers to the Division.

The two classes are slated to participate in a first-ever dual graduation ceremony at the historic Proctor's Theater in Schenectady on Nov. 16.

Former Inmate Finds Success on Parole

Antonio Rivera has two master's degrees and oversees 26 staffers at FACES New York, a group that helps those affected by or living with HIV/AIDS.

Last year, the 43-year-old got married. He recently purchased a home on Staten Island that he shares with his wife and 17-year-old stepson.

He's also on parole for second-degree murder and criminal possession of a weapon.

Released in 1999 after serving about 17 years behind bars, Rivera has shown himself to be a changed man.

He is an example of how the criminal justice system and parole officers can help reform offenders and help them re-enter society as assets to the community.

"I'm not sure I would have met the

challenges and made the same accomplishments if I hadn't gone to prison," said Rivera.

As a teenager, Rivera was involved with gang activity in New York.

At 17, after getting into an altercation with a man in his neighborhood, he retrieved a gun, sought his enemy out and ended the man's life.

Convicted in a 1983 trial in Brooklyn Rivera was sentenced to 15 years to life.

Rivera didn't immediately begin changing his attitude, but it came in time. However, he did take his first positive step by earning his GED while incarcerated at Rikers Island.

"I realized pre-release planning had to start early on," Rivera said. "Getting ready doesn't start 90 days before your release date. You really need to think,

'how can I change my life so I don't repeat this?'"

"I prepared for 12 to 14 years to see the Board of Parole," he said.

While in prison, he pursued two associates degrees, a bachelors degree and earned a master's in sociology.

He also became involved in inmate program service and later created the PACE program at Eastern Correctional Facility. PACE (Prisoners for Aids Counseling and Education) is a 12-week educational course on the dangers of HIV and AIDS. Rivera said fellow prisoners who took the course and were later transferred to different facilities would then spread the knowledge they had gained in the program.

Rivera was denied parole on his initial

See PAROLE SUCCESS, Page 7

Sister Karen Klimczak Remembered

Sister Karen Klimczak knew the dangers of working with former inmates just released back into society.

But the Roman Catholic nun always treated former inmates with dignity and respect. She felt that by giving these men some hope, she could help them turn their lives around.

It was in fulfilling that mission that ultimately cost Sister Karen her life.

As a lasting tribute, the Division in July dedicated a conference room to Sister Karen at its Buffalo area office and adorned it with a plaque emblazoned with the dove symbol that had become her well-known calling card.

The 62-year-old Klimczak was perhaps best known for her work helping former inmates become successful members of society through her ministry at Bissonette House in Buffalo. Bissonette is a halfway home she founded in 1987 by transforming a former rectory where a priest had been killed years earlier. The facility, first called HOPE House, offers a home-like community living environment for men recently released from prison, where the staff and residents share in the facility's upkeep and operation in a supportive way.

"Really, a true leader is a person who inspires," said Sister Jean Klimczak, who, like her sister, is also a nun. "Sister Karen inspired both Parole Officers and parolees. She was a true leader because she was a true inspiration."

Sister Karen served on an advisory board for the Buffalo area Parole office, using humor and persistence to convince others to follow her example.

It was one of the men that Sister Karen so earnestly tried to help that took her life on Good Friday in April 2006. That man, Craig Lynch, was convicted of second-degree murder in her death and is now serving 25 years to life in state prison.

Chairman George B. Alexander, in honoring Sister Karen, also awarded commendations to Parole Officers Beth Hart and James McNamara for their hard work in tracking down Lynch.

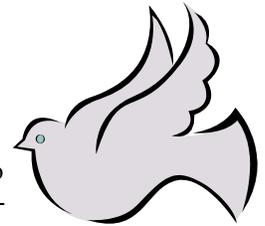
Sister Karen's work continues through the staff at Bissonette House and the room dedicated to her will serve as a reminder of the many good works she accomplished.

The plaque reads:

Dedicated to the Memory of Sister Karen Klimczak

**She devoted her life to helping the less fortunate
She was committed to the cause of non-violence
She touched us all with her friendship and loyalty**

She left us "Peaceprints"



Parolee Success (continued from page 6)

appearance before the Board.

At first he took the rejection hard, but continued to try to improve his chances through other prison work and educational efforts.

He was granted release on his second appearance before the Parole Board in 1999.

Rivera credits his first parole officer, Ilene Staniszewski, with helping him look for work and making sure he got into a counseling program.

Staniszewski gave Rivera letters of recommendation for jobs he was seeking. She brought him into prisons to speak to problem inmates. She became friends with his first wife and mother.

Most of all, she helped him acclimate to a society that had changed tremendously while he was in prison.

"He had never seen a VCR," she said.

After his release, Rivera first worked with at-risk teenagers to help them avoid the same mistakes he made. He later decided to return to his efforts at AIDS prevention.

In 2003, he won a New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene scholarship. He attended Hunter College and graduated in 2005 with a master's of social work degree.

Rivera now works for FACES NY (Forging ahead for Community Empow-

erment & Support), a Harlem-based organization that provides HIV/AIDS education and outreach, legal advocacy and representation, case management, substance abuse and other services.

"He's a gentleman," said his current parole officer, Elizabeth Mendoza. "He does everything he's supposed to do. He pays his supervision fees. He produces his pay stubs. They should all be like this."

FACES Executive Director Violet Tabor said she recruited Rivera after watching him work in his previous job.

"He is very loyal to the organization and that is something that is very hard to get in this field because people keep moving from one organization to the next. He

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Governor Eliot Spitzer

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The New York State Division of Parole's mission is to promote public safety by preparing inmates for release and supervising parolees to ensure their successful reentry back to communities across the State.

The Division consists of nearly 2,100 employees working in its Central Office in Albany, 50 field offices and 61 Department of Corrections facilities statewide.

The Division is responsible for the community supervision and reentry of offenders released from state correctional facilities by the Board of Parole, by conditional release or those sentenced to Parole supervision.

The Board of Parole consists of up to 19 members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the State Senate. Commissioners serve six-year terms.

The Parole Report is published quarterly by the Division of Parole's Media Relations Staff.

Division Begins Parole Violator Initiative

For years, county governments have complained about the costs associated with housing parole violators in local jails.

Now, the Division of Parole is working to help counties across the state defray those costs through a new Parole Violator Initiative that started earlier this year.

"These simple proposals will lead to big dividends by saving taxpayers across the state money and making our operations run smoother," Chairman Alexander said.

The Division has developed a "Menu of Services" it will offer and County authorities will then be able to pick and choose which services best meet their needs.

As part of this effort, the Division is hiring three new administrative law judges to speed up the violation hearing process and is expanding an expedited arraignment process used at Rikers Island in New York City to the rest of the state.

The Division has also created a "certificate of disposition," that will be provided to counties to let them know immediately when an inmate has been found guilty of violating his parole and ordered to return to state custody. The aim is to alleviate unnecessary days of

"These simple proposals will lead to big dividends by saving taxpayers across the state money and making our operations run smoother."

local incarceration and return the inmate to Department of Correctional Services custody as soon as possible.

The state is planning to work with the New York State Association of Counties to develop ways to train local govern-

ments on return procedures for parole violators.

Executive Director Felix Rosa last month explained the Division's plans at the annual NYSAC meeting.

There has already been significant progress.

In jails outside New York City, the number of parolees being held on a Division warrant in August was 763. That's down from 1,022 in December 2006.

The Division also plans to work with NYSAC to develop effective ways to train local government officials on the return procedures for parole violators.

Under Governor Eliot Spitzer, the Division is also reviewing and restructuring its overall re-entry efforts to ensure that parolees are integrated back into the community through effective, coordinated treatment and supervision plans.

The goal is to ultimately decrease the number of parolees who are sent back to jail through parole violations or new arrests.