



Post Release Supervision and Parole Commission

REVISED 5-27-15

Parole Eligibility Report

SL 2011 – 145

March 4, 2015

Paul G. Butler
Chairman

Willis J. Fowler
Commissioner

James L. Forte
Commissioner

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Commissioner

REVISED Parole Eligibility Report

The original Parole Eligibility Report dated March 4, 2015 has been revised from new statistics used to account for changes in sentence lengths as a result of the Justice Reinvestment Act.

Pursuant to SL 2011-145, Section 18.7, the Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission compared the amount of time Pre-Structured Sentencing cases had served with the amount of time they would have served under the Structured Sentencing Law.

This report includes the following: the class of the offense for which each parole-eligible inmate was convicted and whether an inmate had multiple criminal convictions. The Commission has reinitiated the parole review process for each offender who has served more time than that person would have under Structured Sentencing as provided by subsections (a) and (b) of this section.

The Commission also reports on the number of parole-eligible inmates reconsidered in compliance with this section and the number who were actually paroled.

Class A felonies were not included since they would be sentenced to Life without Parole under the Structured Sentencing Law. Only Pre-Sentencing cases with Parole Eligibility dates on or before July 1, 2014 were considered.

The Parole Commission will continue to monitor many of these cases for subsequent comparison projects. Every effort was made to release those inmates who were judged to be an acceptable risk to the community. Others were recommended for the Mutual Agreement Parole Program to help them prepare for release through involvement in rehabilitation programs.

The following explanation and data was prepared by the Research and Planning section of the Department of Public Safety:

Parole Eligibility Report

(Actual time served by FSA offenders compared time served for similar crime under SSA)

Purpose:

- Analysis of the amount of time each inmate who is eligible for parole before July 1, 2014, has served, compared to the time served by offenders under Structured Sentencing for comparable crimes, including the class of the offense for which each parole-eligible inmate was convicted and whether an inmate had multiple criminal convictions.
- Determination as to whether the person has served more time in custody than the person would have served if sentenced to the maximum sentence under Structured Sentencing.

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Methodology:

- Identify currently active inmates eligible for parole.
- Exclude DWI and First Degree Murder life sentences. (DWI is its own special case and First Degree Murder is not eligible for release under Structured Sentencing Act)
- Divide the dataset into two groups: inmates with a single commitment and those with multiple commitments.
- Determine the SSA equivalent penalty class for each crime that effects the time of the current incarceration.
- Apply the number of months for the maximum presumptive sentence under the SSA to each relevant commitment.
- Determine the number of months that the inmate has served in prison on this period of incarceration.
- Compare the two numbers.
- Create two groups
 - Compares favorable (inmate has served more time under FSA sentence than SSA)
 - Compares unfavorably (Inmate has not served as much time as SSA would require)

Results:

Table 1 displays the population breakdown for 5/2/15 that resulted in the data for this report.

Table 1

TOTAL INMATES IN THE POPULATION AS OF 05/02/15	37,396
TOTAL ELIGIBLE TO BE PAROLED LESS DWI AND 1ST DEGREE MURDER	1,723
PAROLE ELIGIBLE ON OR BEFORE 7/1/2014	1,155
NOT PAROLE ELIGIBLE ON OR BEFORE 7/1/2014	568
PAROLE ELIGIBLE (SINGLE COMMITMENT)	393
PAROLE ELIGIBLE (MULTIPLE COMMITMENTS)	762

ON 5/2/15 A TOTAL OF 1,155 INMATES HAD A PAROLE ELIGIBILITY DATE BEFORE 7/1/2014. SEVERAL PAROLE ELIGIBLE INMATES RECEIVED LONGER SENTENCES UNDER FAIR OR PRE-FAIR SENTENCING LAWS THAN THEY WOULD HAVE UNDER THE STRUCTURED SENTENCING ACT. TABLE 2 DISPLAYS THE TOTAL ELIGIBLE AND THOSE THAT COMPARED FAVORABLY OR UNFAVORABLY.

TABLE 2

	COMPARISON NOT FAVORABLE	COMPARISON FAVORABLE	TOTAL
PAROLE ELIGIBLE SINGLE COMMITMENT	329	64	393
PAROLE ELIGIBLE MULTIPLE COMMITMENTS	639	123	762