

## FLORIDA PAROLE COMMISSION

2601 Blair Stone Road, Building C, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2450

TENA M. PATE Commissioner/Vice-Chairman

MONICA DAVID

Commissioner/Secretary

## FLORIDA PAROLE COMMISSION Monthly Accomplishments' Report March 2010

### Featured Monthly Parole Case:

At the March 24, 2010, Commission hearing, an initial hearing on inmate Edward Wasko. Mr. Wasko's crime involved the 1983 Sexual Battery and Murder of 10 year old Staci Weinstein who was pistol-whipped, severely beaten, and shot once each in the chest and head. The Commission set Wasko's Presumptive Parole Release Date at July 9, 2093.

Mr. Wasko was originally sentenced to Death on March 1, 1984 (sentence vacated on September 17, 1987). He was resentenced to Life for First Degree Murder with a Firearm and given a consecutive Life sentence for Armed Burglary. Wasko's accomplice John D. Pierson received a 17 year sentence for 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder, Armed Burglary, and Attempted Sexual Battery (each concurrent), he was released at the end of his sentence in December of 1990.

A five-year subsequent interview has been set for November 2014.

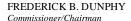
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#### **APRIL 2010 RCR STATUS**

As of April 1, 2010, there were 67,096 pending RCR cases. Of these, 31,112 were application cases and 35,984 were EOS/TOS cases.

AP	22,295	6,166	2,651	31,112
EOS/TOS	16,806	19,178	0	35,984
TOTAL	39,101	25,344	2,651	67,096

- Administration: Organized and set up Parole Qualifications Committee pending a June Commissioner vacancy;
- Administration: Continue to negotiate Central Headquarters move with DMS and Legislature;
- Administration: Finalized new Jacksonville Office lease at a cost savings to the State;
- Operations: Finalizing plans for out of town Commission vote now set for May 26-27 in Ft. Lauderdale.





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- Clemency: Executive Clemency continues to work with the DOC's Information Technology Section on additional enhancements to the website application form, including drop down areas explaining the different forms of clemency available and the basic time requirements of each. This is an educational tool for the clemency process as well as making the website more user friendly.
- Clemency: The MACNet Application upgrade from Visual Studio 2003 to Visual Studio 2008 has been completed. This necessary first step by DC OIT allows the clemency database to continue to be supportable and for future enhancements to improve functionality by users.
- Clemency: On March 18, 2010, Chairman Fred Dunphy, OEC Coordinator Julie McCall, and Director of Clemency Administration Steve Hebert addressed the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity at the Capitol at the invitation of State Senators Tony Hill and Gary Siplin, and State Representative Darryl Rouson. Chairman Dunphy addressed the group on the positive achievements of the RCR process under Governor Charlie Crist's leadership, and Clemency Coordinator McCall and Director Hebert participated in a question and answer period from the approximately 100 seminar participants. Each attendee was provided educational RCR materials and RCR posters for use in their home communities.
- Clemency: A new instructional training manual was issued statewide for conducting Restoration of Civil Rights Level 1 (Automatic Approval) reviews of Expiration of Sentence (EOS) and Termination of Supervision (TOS) cases.
- Legal: Cases currently being handled in the courts: (1) In <u>Baggett v. FPC</u>, the court held that the Commission's PPRD determination was not an abuse of discretion. It also denied the inmate's attempts to receive confidential victim information. (2) in <u>Florida v. McClendon</u>. Mr. McClendon attempted to have the trial court terminate his parole supervision early. We intervened in the case and kindly advised the trial court that it has no jurisdiction to do so. The trial court agreed and referred the motion to the Commission to rule upon it. Per the court's instructions, this case is set to come before the Commission in the future. (3) In <u>Nance v. FPC</u>. This case is a typical federal order dismissing the federal habeas petition challenging parole revocation as time-barred; this is the position we are asking the Florida courts to accept in the upcoming oral argument. (4) Finally, in <u>Johnson v. FPC</u>, this case dismissed a repetitious filing of the inmate challenging his conditional release.



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Legal: In March the Legal staff focused on pending and proposed legislation in coordination with Director Jane Tillman as well as continuing to answer the several court orders, briefs, and petitions.