STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

"MAKING NEXT PRACTICES, BEST PRACTICES"

FY 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Nathan Deal, Governor

Albert Murray, Chairman

Terry Barnard, Vice Chairman

Robert Keller, Member

James Donald, Member

James Mills, Member

Michael Nail, Executive Director

Georgia®

State Board of Pardons and Paroles

"making next practices, best practices"

www.pap.georgia.gov

Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report

Our Mission

To serve the citizens of Georgia as an integral component of the Criminal Justice System by making informed release considerations and protecting the public through effective offender supervision.

Our Vision

To be the most efficient and effective paroling agency in the nation.

Our Core Values

We value Ethics, Integrity, Fairness and Honesty.

State Board of Pardons and Paroles

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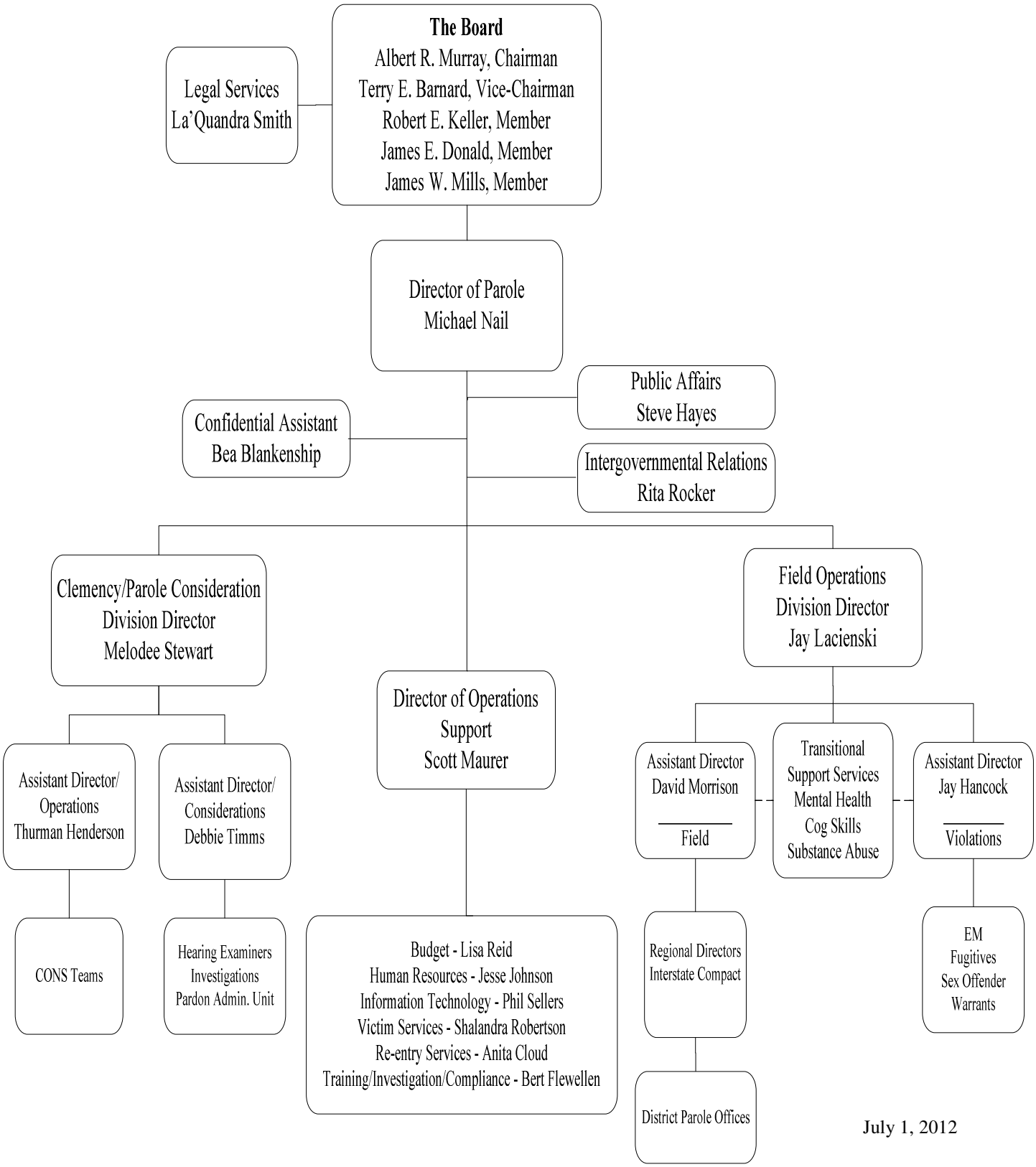
State Board of Pardons and Paroles



July 1, 2012

Parole Highlights for FY 2012

In Fiscal Year 2012, the State Board of Pardons and Paroles successfully continued its mission of providing public safety through informed parole considerations and effective supervision. The agency again maximized the limited resources available and increased the use of technology in all areas of work, including the two major divisions which are Clemency, the parole selection and consideration process, and Field Operations or parole supervision.

Governor Nathan Deal addresses Criminal Justice Reform after signing the legislation on May 2, 2012. Georgia's Parole Board members are among those in attendance.

Probation/Parole Officer Certification

On June 7th, the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council (P.O.S.T.), unanimously approved the new Probation/Parole Officer certification. Officers who complete the new eight week course can now work for either the Department of Corrections as a probation officer or the Board of Pardons and Paroles as a parole officer without being required to complete an agency specific basic training course. (page 21)

CONS - Clemency Online Navigation System

During the fiscal year, the CONS application, an electronic offender case management system, was operational for the entire year allowing Board Members to vote more than 18,000 cases electronically as opposed to reading a paper file. CONS is designed to reduce the overall time an offender's case takes from inception to a board decision. (page 16)

Document Imaging

In conjunction with CONS, the agency moved closer in FY 2012 to a paperless system by imaging more than 24,000 active inmate files, completing the project in May 2012. (page 16)

AnyTrax: Voice Recognition Supervision

What began as a pilot program was expanded statewide in FY 2012. Parolees with a track record of success while on regular parole supervision can be moved to AnyTrax, allowing parole officers to have more direct contact with higher risk offenders. More than 3,000 parolees were reporting through AnyTrax at the end of the fiscal year. Less than 2% have violated and were returned to regular supervision or revoked to prison. (page 20)

Chairman Albert Murray (left) and Board Member James Mills with Parole Officer Yucca Simpson, a graduate of the 54th Basic Parole Officer Training Course.

Parole Highlights for FY 2012

Parole Board Member James Mills, with his wife Rita, takes the oath of office from Governor Nathan Deal in November 2011.

(l-r) Board Chairman Albert Murray, Vice Chairman Terry Barnard and Executive Director of Parole Michael Nail pause during a quarterly administrators' meeting in Forsyth.

Albert Murray succeeds James Donald as Board Chairman for FY 2013.

Pardon Administration Unit

In FY12, the Clemency Division overhauled the Pardons Unit, streamlining the process and utilizing existing Board Member assistants to process applications. Even though a thorough investigations process cannot be compromised, the overall process was shortened considerably, allowing applicants to receive decisions in a shorter time span. (page 17)

Virtual Office (Office Lease Reduction)

A pilot program set to expand in FY 2013 has parole officers full time in state vehicles, allowing for increased direct contact with parolees. The first office to go "virtual" was Albany in southwest Georgia. The program will also reduce office space leases. (page 21)

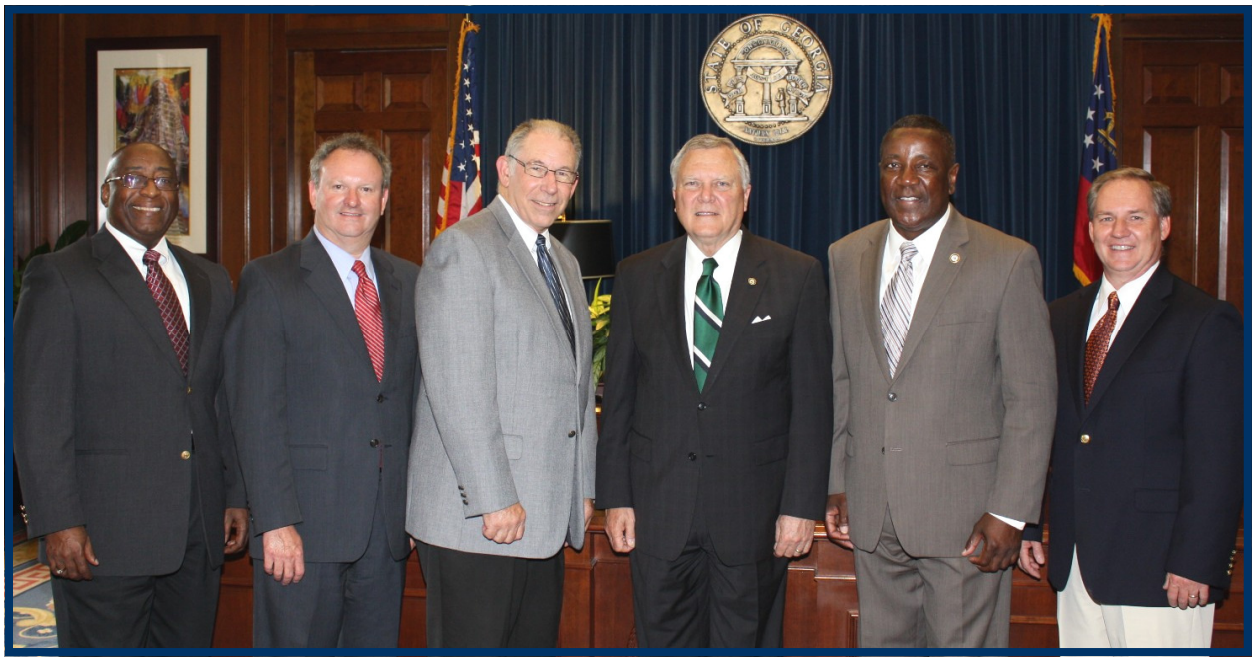
Joint Law Enforcement Operations

The Field Operations Division increased the number of operations conducted with other law enforcement agencies. (page 22)

Parole in Georgia Prisons

Parole staff made 132 visits to Georgia prisons during the fiscal year, fostering a better working relationship with the prison system and increasing contact with the offender population. (page 21)

Basic Parole Officer Training Class #54 in May 2012, takes the oath of office from then Vice Chairman Albert Murray.



THE GEORGIA PAROLE BOARD

Georgia's Constitution provides for three branches of government to serve as checks and balances on the power of government over the offender. The legislative branch sets the minimum and maximum range of the prison sentence, the judicial branch sentences the offender within that range, and the Parole Board, as part of the executive branch, serves as a check and balance on the other two branches, while managing the finite resource of state prison beds.

Unlike some states where the Governor has the authority, the State Board of Pardons and Paroles is the **only** entity in the state with the constitutional authority to commute a death sentence. The Parole Board is also the sole authority to make informed decisions on which inmates are deserving of parole, thereby ensuring that the state's prison beds are dedicated to the offenders who have committed the most serious crimes.

The Board's core mission is ensuring public safety by successfully managing prisoner reentry. Parole officers skillfully and carefully reintegrate offenders into the community under strict supervision. In Fiscal Year 2012, the five members made 63,667 clemency votes. In FY 2012, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the percentage of Georgia parolees successfully completing parole supervision was 72%, while the national average was 52%. For the past several years, the Board has maintained a success rate 20% higher than the national average. As a result, the Georgia Parole Board is viewed as a nationally recognized paroling authority.

Above: Georgia's Parole Board with Governor Nathan Deal. The Board's five members are full time employees. Please see member profiles starting on page 11.

PAROLE BOARD MEMBERS

In 1943, Georgia voters ratified a landmark amendment to the State Constitution establishing the State Board of Pardons and Paroles as an independent agency authorized to grant paroles, pardons, reprieves, commute sentences (including death sentences), remit sentences and remove disabilities imposed by law.

The Georgia Constitution provides that Parole Board Members are to be appointed by the Governor to serve seven-year staggered terms, subject to confirmation by the State Senate. Originally, the Board consisted of only three members. In 1973, when the prison population reached 9,000 inmates, the Constitution was amended to expand the Parole Board to five members.

The Board still stands at five members, although the prison population exceeds 57,000 inmates. The Parole Board Members are full time employees and are professionals from various fields, including criminal justice, the legislature and private business.

The Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the Georgia General Assembly
Citizens of the State of Georgia

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report for the State Board of Pardons and Paroles. I serve the citizens of Georgia as a member of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles, a position I have held since May 2010. During FY12, I again served as vice chairman and on July 1, 2012, I assumed the role of chairman after being elected to the leadership role by my board colleagues.

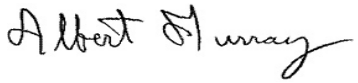
As Chairman of the Parole Board, I am humbled by this leadership role and appreciative of my colleague's confidence in electing me to serve in this capacity. As citizens, I want you to know that Georgia has a very experienced, balanced and committed Parole Board. However of the utmost importance is that our informed, data driven decisions regarding the parole of offenders, are never made at the expense of your safety. Public safety is non-negotiable. Period!

Once an offender is on parole, his or her supervision is also of the utmost importance. While the percentage of inmates successfully completing parole supervision in Georgia is well above the national average, it is the Board's goal to continuously improve on this success rate. By thoroughly investigating an offender's case and utilizing all available data, the Board sets supervision requirements that are specific to the offender, again with your safety in mind. If an offender is non-compliant, there are swift, certain and proportionate sanctions put in place to include returning that offender to prison.

Additionally, we continue to increase our collaborations with the Department of Corrections and local, state and federal law enforcement to remove offenders from Georgia communities who are unmanageable or who commit new crimes. Through new partnerships, Parole is working smarter and more efficiently in an effort to better serve you and we embrace our role in the criminal justice reform process underway in Georgia.

Again I am proud to serve and to work alongside such dedicated staff, who put your safety first. Please take a few moments to look through the Board's website (www.pap.georgia.gov) to help answer any additional questions you may have about the State Board of Pardons and Paroles and to learn more about our current initiatives.

Thank you



Chairman,
State Board of Pardons and Paroles

Board Chairman Albert R. Murray, of Rockdale County was elected chairman for FY 2013 by the Board, and will serve in the leadership role from July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013.

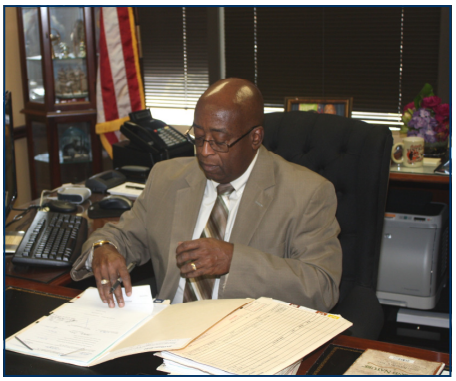
Mr. Murray was appointed to serve on the Board by Governor Sonny Perdue in May 2010, leaving his post as Commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice. Murray had served in that capacity from January 2004 to May 2010, making him the longest serving juvenile justice commissioner in Georgia's history. Prior to being elected Chairman of the Parole Board, Murray served two one-year terms as vice chairman.

It was Mr. Murray's long and successful career in criminal justice, specifically youth services, that brought him to Georgia. He began his service to troubled youth in his native state of Tennessee as a counselor and was promoted to Superintendent of the Tennessee Youth Center and eventually to Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Children Services and the Department of Youth Development for the state of Tennessee, a position he held for sixteen years. His successful career in Tennessee resulted in his appointment as the first commissioner of the newly created Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority in 1996. In Kansas, he worked to create a comprehensive Juvenile Justice System for the state, serving as commissioner until 2003. In 2003, Mr. Murray served as Deputy Commissioner of Programs for the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Mr. Murray's service to Georgia is notable. A major accomplishment as Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice was the completion of all requirements for the release from the agency's memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice on May 05, 2009, ending eleven years of federal oversight. Also under his leadership the agency maintained an accredited school system for the youth in custody, new community programs were added, as well as a newly created victim advocacy component. Additionally more training opportunities were created for staff.

Mr. Murray has served for many years in several capacities as a member of the American Correctional Association (ACA), and in 2009 he received the ACA's Cass Award for lifetime achievement. Mr. Murray graduated *cum laude* with a master's degree in Education from Middle Tennessee State University and a bachelor's degree in English from Tennessee State University.

Parole Board Chairman Albert R. Murray



Top right middle: Chairman Murray reviews an offender's paper file

Lower right: Chairman Murray speaks to an inmate graduation class

Right: CONS file review

State Board of Pardons and Paroles

Vice Chairman
Terry E. Barnard

Vice Chairman Terry E. Barnard, of McIntosh County, was appointed to the Board in May 2010 and reappointed December 31, 2010. He was elected vice chairman for Fiscal Year 2013.

The former State Representative served nearly sixteen years in the Georgia House of Representatives. The Coastal Georgia lawmaker served as a member of several key House Committees including the State Institutions and Property Committee, where he served as the distinguished chairman for six years.

Mr. Barnard's legislative experience and knowledge of the Georgia Department of Corrections is proving invaluable as a member of the Board. As a state representative, Mr. Barnard shepherded every bill introduced into the Georgia Legislature that had any impact on the Department of Corrections.

In 1995-1996, Mr. Barnard guided through the Georgia House, the framework for the State Sex Offenders Registry and Sexual Predators Review Board. As a result, interested parties can easily learn if a convicted sex offender is living in a neighborhood of interest.

Mr. Barnard is a native of Tattnall County. He is a graduate of Atlantic Community College and has a strong background in business. He has owned and operated several businesses, among those a Real Estate Brokerage. With over eighteen years of experience in the financial industry, he served as Vice President and Manager of First Citizens Bank of Reidsville, and as a Regional Marketing Director for Green Tree Acceptance, a national mortgage lender. He is involved in a local Baptist Church and takes part in many community events and activities.

Robert E. Keller

Board Member Robert E. Keller, of Clayton County, was appointed to the Board on January 3, 2007, and served previously as Vice Chairman of the Parole Board from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2010.

Mr. Keller served as Executive Counsel to the Prosecuting Attorneys Council of Georgia, and is the former chairman of that organization. Before joining the Prosecuting Attorneys Council, he served as the Assistant District Attorney of Clayton County from 1972-1974. He maintained a private practice from 1974-1977. Mr. Keller served as the District Attorney of Clayton County from 1977-2004. During those years he was voted District Attorney of the Year in 1987 and 2001.

Mr. Keller served as a member of the Georgia Board of Public Safety, the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Judicial Retirement System, the Georgia Code Revision Plan Committee and the Commission to Assess Crime Laboratory Needs into the 21st Century. He also served as Vice Chair of the Governor's Commission on Certainty in Sentencing. In addition, Mr. Keller was a 2009 delegate to Israel with the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange.

Mr. Keller earned a bachelor's degree from Birmingham Southern College and a law degree from Emory Law School. He has a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system, and his reputation and credibility among the judiciary and prosecutors is highly admired.

General James E. Donald

Major General (Retired) James E. Donald was appointed to the Board in January 2009 following more than five years as the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Corrections. He served two terms as board chairman from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012. Since joining the Board, General Donald has focused on public safety and effective reentry for the offender population and he has worked to increase a base of community partners offering parolees more opportunities for success.

As Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, General Donald oversaw the fifth largest prison system in the nation with an annual budget of more than $1.2 billion. General Donald reorganized the department into a leaner, more efficient agency. He opened seven new Pre-Release Centers, ten new Faith and Character-based dormitories, six new "non-resident" Day Reporting Centers, and added over 1,500 new beds for transition centers or work release programs.

Mr. Donald is a retired Major General of the United States Army Forces Command. He earned the Bronze Star as a Task Force Commander with the 101st Airborne "Screaming Eagles" during Gulf War I. He also served as Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific and as Assistant Division Commander to the 25th Infantry Division.

General Donald is a native of Jackson, Mississippi, and graduated from the University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. He earned his Master of Public Administration from the University of Missouri. He is the 2010 recipient of the *Mississippi Trailblazer Award* honoring his outstanding achievement in the U.S. Military and Government. In 2012, General Donald was inducted into the University of Mississippi *Alumni Hall of Fame*.

James W. Mills

Board Member James W. Mills, of Hall County, was appointed to the Board on November 14, 2011. The former State Representative served nineteen years in the legislature representing the 25th district. Mr. Mills served on numerous committees and he served as Secretary of the Rules Committee and Chairman of the Banks and Banking committee.

During his legislative service, Mr. Mills sponsored key legislation including the amendment that placed, "IN GOD WE TRUST," on the Georgia state flag and he passed "proof of citizenship when registering to vote" legislation. He also helped to pass the Georgia Mortgage Fraud law allowing district attorneys to prosecute mortgage fraud and the "Option of Adoption" legislation, the first of its kind in the nation. He was invited to the White House on two occasions as recognition for his tax cutting efforts as a state legislator.

Mr. Mills was named Christian Coalition Legislator of the Year in 2001. In 2007, he was named "Legislator of the Year" by the Georgia Retail Association. That same year he received the "Outstanding American Award" and was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. He is the recipient of the "Pro-Life Hero" award from the Georgia Right to Life organization and in 2007 was named the Pro-Life Hero Legislator by the Justice Foundation.

Mr. Mills is a successful businessman and three times he has been named to the Atlanta Business Chronicle's Who's Who in Finance. Mr. Mills graduated from Mercer University in 1985 with a bachelor's degree. In 1990, he received a master's degree from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (N.O.B.T.S.). Mr. Mills is involved in many community youth activities and he's led numerous overseas mission trips through his local church.

Executive Director of Parole
Michael Nail

Executive Director of Parole

Michael Nail was appointed Executive Director of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles in July, 2010. In this leadership role, he manages the day-to-day operations of the agency and reports directly to the five member board.

Mr. Nail began his career with the Department of Corrections as a probation officer in 1989 and held several management and leadership positions to include Director of Probation and Deputy Director of the Corrections Division. Prior to joining the Parole Board, he served as the Director of the Corrections Division, responsible for day-to-day oversight of Facility Operations, Probation Operations and Special Operations. Collectively, the operations are responsible for the management and supervision of over 150,000 adult felony probationers and over 60,000 adult felony inmates.

Mr. Nail holds a Master of Public Administration, a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, and is a graduate of the Georgia Law Enforcement Command College. Along with his participation in many professional organizations, he currently serves on the Executive Council of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council and is Chairman of the Probable Cause Committee.

Clemency,
Parole Consideration

Field Operations,
Parole Supervision

Operations Support

CLEMENCY and Parole Consideration

Clemency Online Navigation System

For the past year and a half, the process of preparing a case for consideration by the Board has been completed electronically in CONS, the Clemency On-line Navigation System. CONS is an innovation that has eliminated the production of paper files and has other states wanting to know more. The transition from paper to an electronic environment has significantly improved the agency's business processes and board members can review an offender's file and complete a parole vote all in CONS.

In the previous business model, a paper file was systematically circulated among different work units, each specializing in varying aspects of either the consideration or release processes. Today however, the "file" is completely electronic and created once a sentence package is electronically received from the Department of Corrections.

The first of its kind in the nation, the CONS application was designed to reduce the time involved in preparing a case for the Board and provide for an increase in the number of cases reviewed by the Board each year. During the first six months from December 2010 to June 30, 2011, the five board members voted just under two thousand cases using CONS. For FY 2012, 18,150 cases were voted on CONS.

Document Imaging

The Clemency Division's imaging project is the second part to the equation to make the parole selection and consideration process more efficient.

In November 2006, the Parole Board implemented a digital document management system (TRIM) for the imaging of the Board's "Closed" files. The imaging process is a key part of the larger Clemency On-line Navigation System (CONS), and integrates digital images into the division's electronic business model, thereby improving efficiency while preserving historical information needed for informed decision making. It also allows the viewing of electronic forms such as investigative reports which can be completed and viewed from any remote location with computer access.

Parole staff present CONS at a national conference in 2012

The members of the Board as well as all Clemency and field parole staff are now able to view electronic documents via TRIM. Additionally, in July 2011, the Board's Clemency Division began the process of imaging the Board's active serving inmate (non-lifer) files. This project was completed in May 2012.

A total of 24,811 active serving inmate files were imaged. The Board's imaging and records management process places the agency in the forefront in the area of digital archiving and records management.

Clemency staff prepare case files.

Clemency and Parole Consideration

Pardon Administration Unit

On March 1, 2012, the Parole Board implemented a new process for applying for Pardons and Restoration of Rights. Along with the new application, each applicant is now required to submit their criminal history, certified sentence sheets for dispositions not noted on their criminal history and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All restoration of firearms applications will require a personal interview and photo identification.

The Pardon Administration Unit was reorganized at this time as well. The unit has a Pardon Coordinator who is assisted by a staff of five. The unit staff includes the four board member assistants who have accepted the additional pardon unit duties and responsibilities.

The changes have allowed 1,400 backlogged cases to be processed. In FY12, 1,307 applications were received and 864 were granted (all types, see chart this page). The application and complete process description is available online at www.pap.georgia.gov.

Parole Investigators

Parole investigators, formerly under Field Operations, were moved to the Clemency Division in FY12. Seventy-four investigators were moved to Clemency because the investigations process is more closely aligned with the construction of the offender's parole file. The unit is now comprised of six regions. Investigators complete criminal background reports for all offenders being considered for parole, including those seeking pardons. In FY12, the unit completed 42,199 investigations for the Parole Board.

The Parole Process

After the agency receives an offender's sentencing information from the Department of Corrections, parole investigators throughout the state collect details of conviction offenses, interview inmates and their family members.

For non-life sentence cases, hearing examiners review all of the information obtained in the investigations. They process and prepare summaries using a parole decision guidelines scale utilized by the Board for making equitable decisions. (See guidelines at www.pap.georgia.gov/parole-consideration-eligibility)

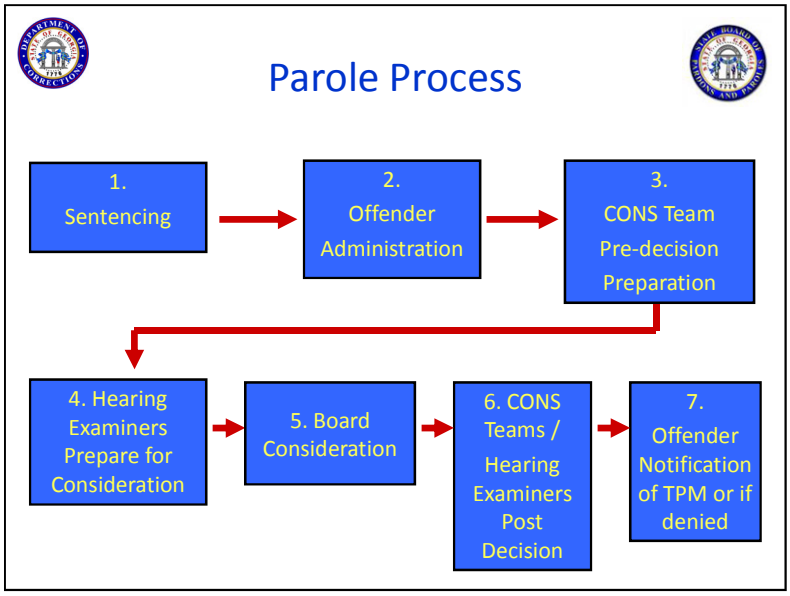
Pardon Administration Unit - FY12	
Applications Received	1,307
Investigations Processed	1,955
Pardons Granted	552
Pardons Granted with Firearms	176
Restorations of Civil and Political Rights	136
Total applications granted FY12	**864**

Board Member James Mills speaks to life sentenced inmates at Burris Correctional Facility. Lifer groups often request board members as speakers for their programs.

THE CASE FILE OF AN OFFENDER

- Drug Reports
- Personal History
- Sentencing Reports
- Criminal History
- Legal Investigation
- Parole Review Summary
- Victim Impact Statements
- Employment History
- Prison Diagnostic Summary

Clemency and Parole Consideration



Hearing Examiners (HE) prepare the offender's case file for the Board Members, including a recommendation regarding parole. During the final review process, the HE may authorize a release date or recommend the Board extend the TPM or deny parole.

After a TPM is established, parole can be denied due to new information to include reports of poor prison conduct, new sentences, warrants or detainers on the offender.

The Parole Process continued

Cases are electronically forwarded to a Board Member with a recommendation of a number of months of the sentence to be served prior to parole.

Board members individually consider the cases. The members can agree with the time to serve recommendation or they may increase or decrease the number of months to be served before parole is granted. The Board can also deny parole.

Tentative Parole Months or TPMs

After receiving the case from the hearing examiner, a **T**entative **P**arole **M**onth (TPM) is set when three of the five board members agree on a specific time for an offender to serve. Offenders receive written notification of the Board's decision. Tentative parole months or "grants" can be rescinded at any time. The public is able to view the TPM status of an inmate on the agency's website at www.pap.georgia.gov. The "Inmate TPM Lookup" (offender/inmate parole status) link is located on the home page. The TPM is NOT a release date or a final parole release decision.

Final Review Process

At the Tentative Parole Month (TPM), the hearing examiner will conduct a final review of the offender's case file. The final review determines if there is any reason a release date should not be set. Parole could be delayed or denied as a result of the offender not completing required programming, poor prison conduct, or because of detainers, warrants or new sentences. A release date that is set can be rescinded at any time prior to the release.

Clemency and Parole Consideration

Clemency Actions in FY 2012

RELEASE ACTION	Totals
Parole	8,960
Supervised Reprieve	1,961
Conditional Transfer	1,666
Commutation	19
Remission	0
Other Release Action	0
TOTAL RELEASES	**12,606**
TOTAL PAROLE REVOCATIONS	**2,618**
DISCHARGES	
Discharge from Parole	11,412
Discharge from Reprieve	1,885
Commutation to Discharge Parole	208
TOTAL DISCHARGES	**13,505**
INITIAL DECISIONS UNDER GUIDELINES	**8,158**
LIFE SENTENCE DECISIONS	
Deny Parole to Life Cases	870
Grant Parole to Life Cases	235
TOTAL LIFE DECISIONS	**1,105**
OTHER BOARD ACTIONS	
Pardon	864
Commutation to Reduce Sentence	0
Medical Compassionate Reprieve	102
Restoration of Rights	136
Revocation Hearings	419
Preliminary Hearings	130
RELEASES UNDER SUPERVISION (June 30, 2012)	
Georgia Releases in Georgia	21,554
Out-of-State Releases in Georgia	926
Georgia Releases Out-of-State	2,837
TOTAL PAROLEE POPULATION	**25,317**

Life Sentence Parole Considerations

Life sentenced inmates are considered when they become eligible under Georgia law (see below). Unlike other offenders, the Board's guidelines are not used and a TPM is not the result of the Board's decision. The Board's decision is either to grant or deny parole.

If parole is denied to a life sentenced inmate, the Board, by policy, will reconsider the case again at least once every eight years. The duration between considerations is voted on by the Board.

Life sentenced inmates denied parole with a scheduled reconsideration date may receive expedited parole reviews if the Board receives new information.

A life sentenced inmate receiving a "grant" parole decision may be required to complete a work release program as a pre-condition to parole.

State Law and Life Sentences

Since 1995, there have been two statutory changes pertaining to serious violent felonies that determine parole eligibility for a life sentenced offender.

If a crime considered to be a "seven deadly sin" was committed prior to 1995, the offender is eligible after seven years. In 1995, offenders committing these crimes became eligible after serving fourteen years. If the crime is committed after July 1, 2006, the offender is eligible after serving thirty years.

FIELD OPERATIONS and Parole Supervision

During Fiscal Year 2012, the parole population decreased from 23,729 parolees on July 1, 2011, to 22,480 (supervised in-state) on June 30, 2012. Meanwhile, the parole completion success rate rose to 72% (see chart on page 23). The total number of parolees under supervision in Georgia at some point during the fiscal year was 38,423.

The average caseload per parole officer in the state during the fiscal year was 84, down from 85 the previous fiscal year. The Parole Board employs annually approximately 300 parole officers statewide. Parole officers must have a four year college degree and are required to complete an eight week basic training course. (See Training information on page 33)

Georgia's parole officers made 312,123 face-to-face contacts with offenders across the state during Fiscal Year 2012.

By visiting parolees at their homes, on the job, at counseling and treatment programs and other locations in our communities, parole officers effectively monitor the offender's activities.

AnyTrax: Voice Recognition Supervision

In Fiscal Year 2012, the Parole Board began fully implementing a voice recognition supervision system for lower risk offenders who have a proven track record of success under regular or standard parole supervision. AnyTrax is a 100% offender funded web-based service system, in which lower risk/lower need offenders are enrolled after performing well while under regular parole supervision. It is a self reporting program, requiring participants to call AnyTrax at least once a month to verify or update their status (address, place of employment, etc.). The parolee's identity is confirmed through advanced voice recognition software.

98% - The percentage of successful parole completions on AnyTrax voice recognition supervision in FY 2012.

AnyTrax was implemented in Georgia in July 2011, with assigned parolees from Savannah, Waycross, Albany, Carrollton, DeKalb, Monroe and Augusta. Statewide deployment of AnyTrax occurred in October of 2011, and 3,176 parolees were being supervised through AnyTrax on June 30, 2012. The percentage of successful parole completions on Anytrax for FY 2012 was 98.3%.

The goal of the program is to eliminate the need for these high performing parolees to report monthly in person to the parole office. In doing so, parole officer resources are being reallocated toward the supervision of higher risk/higher need offenders in the community, thereby increasing public safety. As a result, some caseloads of higher risk/higher need parolees have dropped to 40 offenders per parole officer, allowing those officers to increase monitoring and supervision of these higher risk/higher need parolees.

The Parole Board expanded the use of video conferencing in FY12. Video conferencing is utilized for staff meetings and some preliminary parole revocation proceedings. As a result of a reduction in travel costs and associated work hours, the agency saved an estimated $57,000 during FY12 after the initial cost of the equipment.

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

Parole continues presence in State Prisons

In FY12, 203 visits were made by parole managers and staff to 33 Georgia state prisons, continuing a practice from 2011.

By having parole staff visible inside the prisons, inmates realize prison conduct is important in the parole consideration process. Parole staff also have the opportunity to dispel rumors about the parole process as they speak with inmates.

Another objective is to increase communication and the understanding by prison staff about the parole process.

Board Member James Donald stresses program treatment completion to Georgia prison inmates.

Virtual Offices increase direct contact with parolees

In March 2012, Field Operations began a pilot project titled the "Virtual Office." Instead of working from an office, parole officers take full time to the streets in their state vehicle, increasing direct contact with parolees where they work and live.

The pilot project in Albany pairs a parole officer with a state probation officer and together they supervise their caseloads by driving a state issued vehicle to meet directly with the offender. The officers have all of the state issued equipment necessary to work from the vehicle and are able to input all of the necessary data about their caseloads into the appropriate database.

The virtual office concept seeks to reduce the office footprint and maximize the amount of time the officers spend conducting community supervision in the field. Also in FY12, the virtual office concept was utilized in the Brunswick Parole Office. For FY 2013, the agency is expanding the concept statewide.

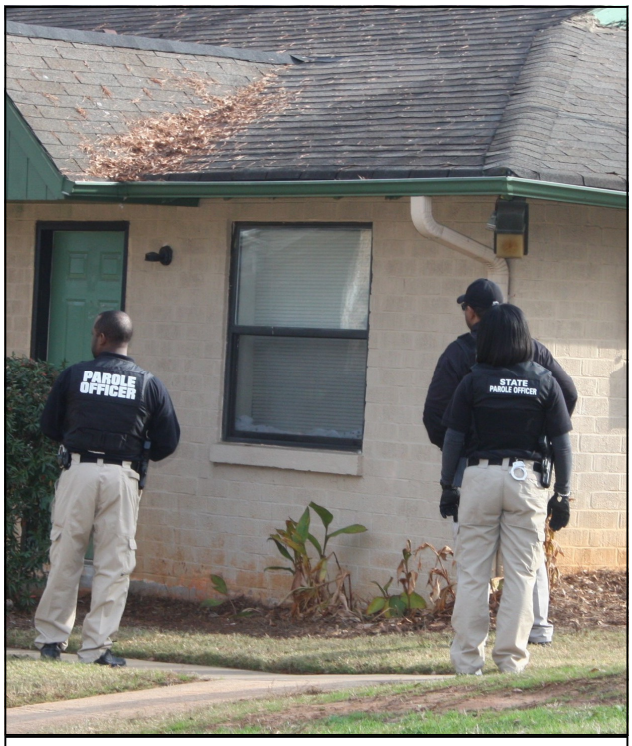
Albany's virtual office pairs a parole officer and probation officer as they work side by side to supervise their caseloads.

Probation/Parole Officer Certification

In June, the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, P.O.S.T., unanimously approved the new Probation/Parole Officer certification. The certification and basic training curriculum was developed jointly by the Parole Training Academy and the Department of Corrections Probation Training Unit. The new certification eliminates duplicate training conducted by the agencies and will increase the number of graduating classes annually. As a result, officers will be out in the field performing supervision duties much quicker.

Parole Chiefs meet to discuss next practices.

Field Operations and Parole Supervision



Parole officers worked alongside state probation officers and Atlanta police officers checking parolees for compliance in FY12.

Probation/Parole Officer Certification continued

Also, since the eight week program will be delivered by both agencies a total of six times per year, managers will now be able to choose between any of the six courses depending upon hire date. The new certification and new basic training curriculum are crucial "next practice" enhancements that will result in streamlined business practices, cost savings, and most importantly, a better trained community supervision officer. Probation and parole officers with the certification will supervise their respective caseloads but can work for either agency. The first class graduated later in 2012.

Joint Law Enforcement Operations

In FY12, Parole staff participated in 132 Joint Law Enforcement Operations, a method by which the State Board of Pardons and Paroles ensured compliance by parolees and aided public safety through arresting parole violators and fugitives in FY 2012. Joint operations were conducted statewide.

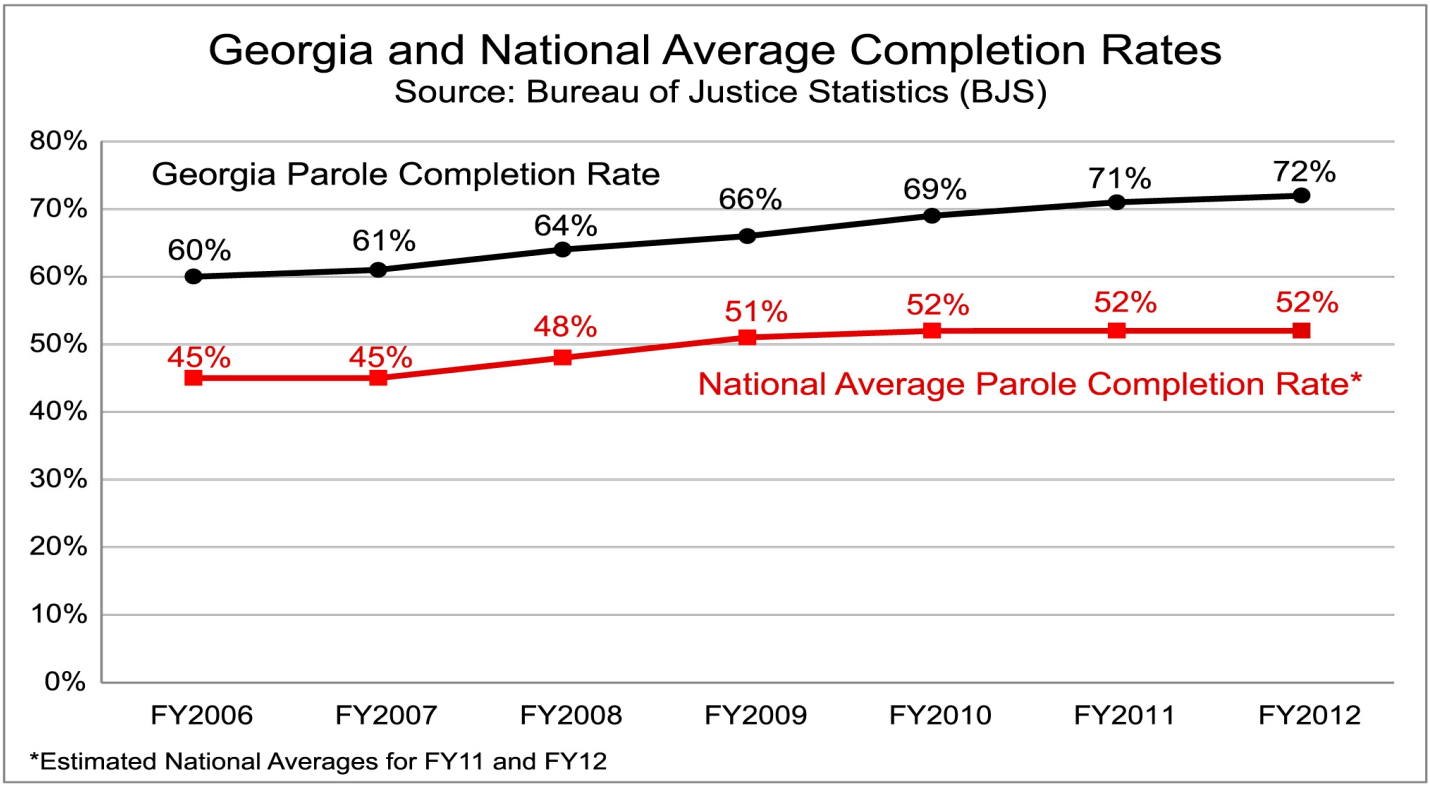
Supervision of Georgia's Parole Sex Offender Population

During FY 2012, the monthly average of the Parole Sex Offender population increased by more than 52% to 810 offenders. The Board requires sex offenders to be supervised at the highest level to include electronic monitoring. Parole officers check to ensure compliance monthly by conducting property searches and verifying residence requirements.

Year	Radio Frequency Electronic Monitoring (RF EM)	Global Positioning System Electronic Monitoring (GPS EM)	Total Electronic Monitoring	Sex Offenders
FY 2012	1014	369	1383	810
FY 2011	989	222	1211	530
% Change	2.0%	66.2%	13.8%	52.8%

Electronic monitoring is a supervision requirement for sex offenders.

Field Operations and Parole Supervision



For the sixth consecutive year, the rate of Georgia parolees successfully completing supervision has increased and is 20% above the national average. The calculations are based on BJS methodology.

Parole Revocations and Warrants

During Fiscal Year 2012, 2,618 offenders had their paroles revoked, up slightly from 2,594 in FY 2011. Until last year, revocations had gradually declined since 2006. Revocations as a result of technical violations accounted for only 5.8%, a significant drop from 10.4% in FY11. Intermediate sanctions help some offenders avoid revocation.

Parole Board Members conducted 419 final revocation hearings during the fiscal year. The hearing is held by an individual Board Member who makes a recommendation to the full Board to revoke and return the offender to prison or continue parole.

In FY 2012, a total of 9,788 warrants were issued by the Board. Parole officers arrested 2,921 parolees in FY 2012 and 777 fugitive arrests were made.

Parole Board Member Robert Keller, a former prosecutor, holds a revocation hearing for an offender. The final hearing is held to determine if the offender violated the terms of supervision and if he/she will be returned to prison.

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

Interstate Compact

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles' Interstate Compact Unit is one of the most efficient in the nation. The unit is responsible for overseeing the placement and transfer of all Georgia parolees and inmates with an out-of-state residence. The unit is also responsible for overseeing this process for out-of-state parolees transferring to Georgia. In addition to arranging supervision of transferring parolees, the unit is responsible for responding to violations, handling extraditions and responding to victims' needs. Additionally, the unit maintains the files of all the Conditional Transfers to out-of-state and federal custody, as well as Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainers.

The Georgia Parole Board is a member of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS). This organization is responsible for creating and upholding the rules of the Commission. ICAOS is comprised of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands.

Fiscal Year 2012:

- Offenders Released/Paroled to Out-of-State Supervision: 354
- Offenders Released to a Federal or Out-of-State Detainer (Conditional Transfer): 423
- Offenders currently under Out-of-State Supervision (June 30, 2012): 2,837
- Offenders Released to ICE for Deportation: 375 (a cost savings for Georgia of $21,064,417)
- Current Offenders under Conditional Transfer Supervision to a Federal or Out-of-State Detainer: 1,617
- Other State's Offenders currently under Georgia Supervision: 926

Office Consolidation

In another FY 2012 move to best utilize state resources, the Parole Board closed three leased offices, moving parole officers into state owned facilities. Parole officers are now working alongside State Probation in Athens, Waycross and Brunswick. More moves are planned for FY 2013.

Gainesville probation and parole officers work side by side in state owned space.

Drug Testing and Drug Treatment FY 2012

During FY 2012, **8,205** parolees were referred to drug treatment programs and **9,016** parolees were enrolled into drug treatment programs. The number of parolees completing drug treatment successfully during the fiscal year was 4,973 (64% completion rate).

Drug Testing

Drug testing is used to identify parolees who need counseling and verify compliance with parole conditions, to include counseling and special conditions. Testing is also used to determine the level of drug usage among those on parole. A total of **54,892** drug tests were administered by parole officers in FY 2012. The agency conducted 6,574 random drug tests of which 10% or 686 parolees tested positive.

Field Operations and Parole Supervision

Drug Treatment FY 2012 continued

FY 2012 Parolee Outpatient Substance Abuse Recovery Services	
Number of Part-Time, Contracted Substance Abuse Counselors: Deliver the below services in each Parole District	86
Number of Motivation, Assessment and Planning (MAP) Groups: Assess participants' risk of re-arrest based on the research-based Parole Risk Factors	2,137
Number of Recovery Groups: Successful discharge requires attending a minimum of six consecutive sessions and continued negative drug tests	8,629

Spotlight: The 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

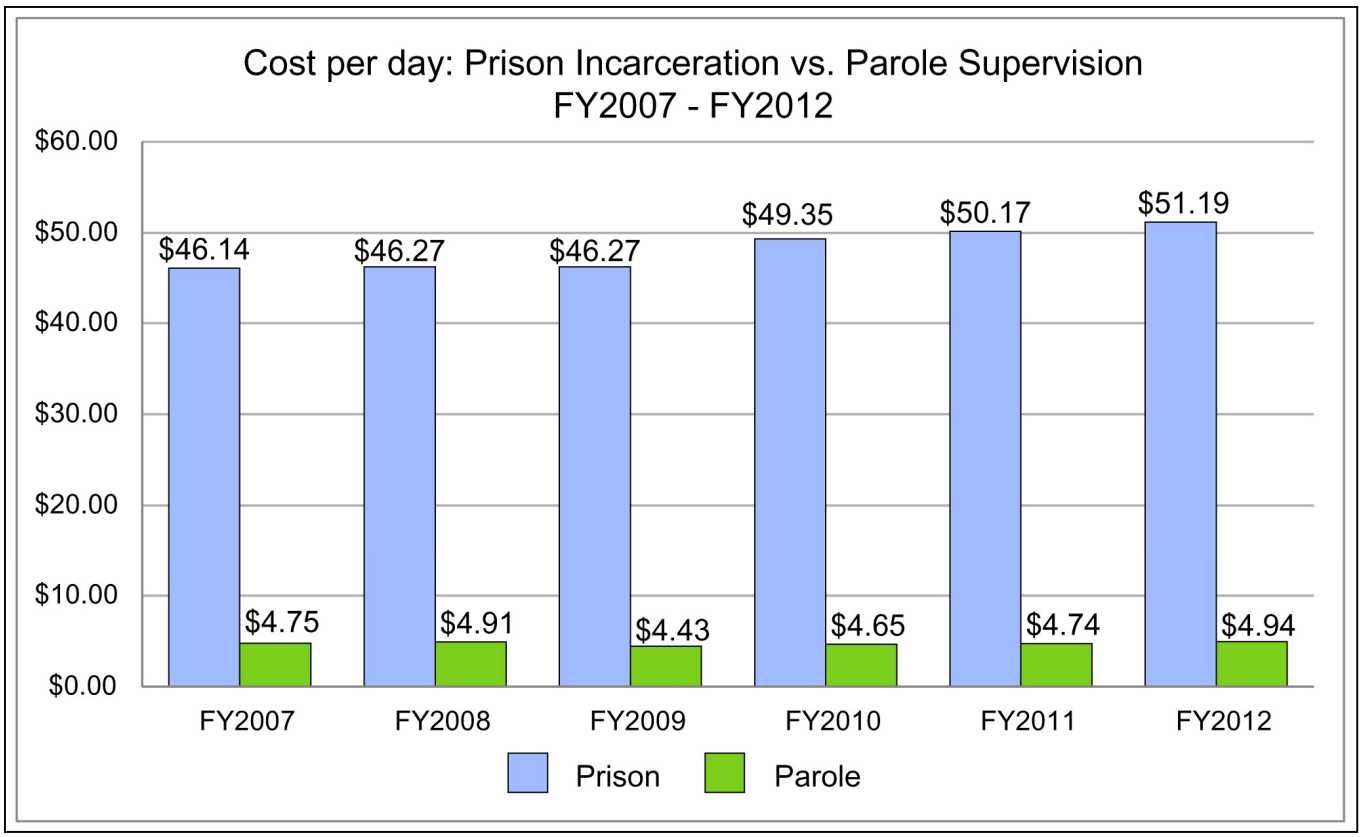
Beginning in March 2010, the Parole Board used $1.9 million to provide intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment, recovery support and residential substance abuse treatment services in several districts. Eligible parolees will have tested positive for drugs, experienced residential and/or employment instability due to alcohol or other drug use, had a prior treatment program failure and/or a self-identified need for treatment and were high-risk for violating parole conditions and potentially returning to prison. This funding allowed the majority of the 377 participants to remain in the community and improved community safety. The project demonstrates that filling existing gaps in community-based treatment is an effective alternative to incarceration. The grant ended in September 2012.

Total Parolees Served	377
Intensive Outpatient Treatment Successful Completions	52.4%
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Successful Completions	58.6%
National Average Substance Abuse Treatment Successful Completions	46%

FY 2012 No Turning Back Recovery Program	
Admissions	156
Graduates (includes those admitted the prior year)	159
Unsuccessful Discharges	19

The No Turning Back Program at the Whitworth Parole Center operated in FY12 as an intensive addiction treatment program for parolees who are identified as both higher-risk and higher-need.

Field Operations and Parole Supervision



On June 30, 2012, there were 57,535 offenders incarcerated in Georgia prisons and 25,317 (in-state and out-of-state) under parole supervision. In FY 2012, the annual cost avoidance to the prison system as a result of offenders on parole is calculated at $351,168,318.

STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
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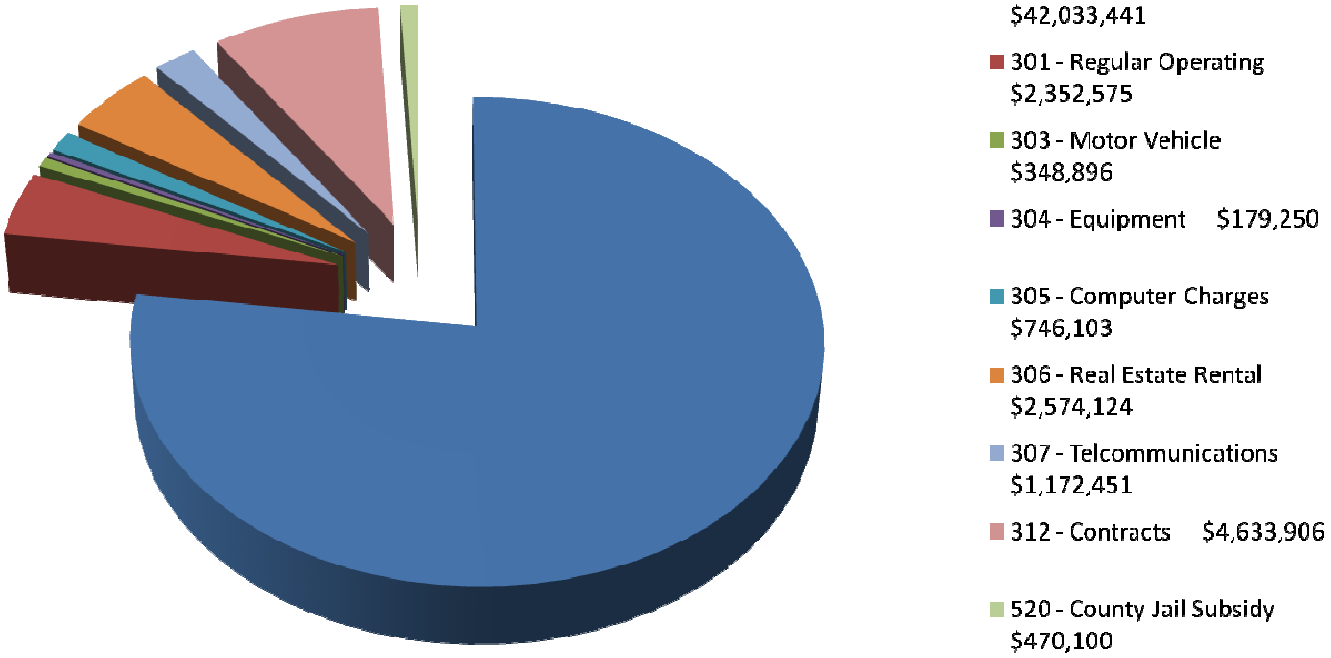
1776

Operations Support Division

The Operations Support Division consists of six offices and provides support to the Field Operations Division and the Clemency Division. The offices under this division are Budget, Human Resources, Information Technology, Reentry Services, Victim Services and the Office of Training, Investigations and Compliance.

Budget Services

FY 2012 Expenditures



Total Expenditures for FY 2012 $54,510,846

FY 2012 Fund Sources	
Federal	$ 153,704
Other	$ 961,685
Stimulus	$ 1,580,290
State	$ 51,815,167
Total Funds	**$ 54,510,846**

Budget Services

Offender Fees

Starting July 1, 2011, the Parole Board began using the Department of Corrections' Consolidated Banking System to collect, process and disburse all funds paid by parolees for Supervision, Victims Compensation and Restitution. The change was made to increase accountability, efficiency, and accuracy.

Court ordered Restitution, which goes directly to the victim, is the first priority. Payments to the Victims Compensation Fund are next, followed by Parole Supervision Fees.

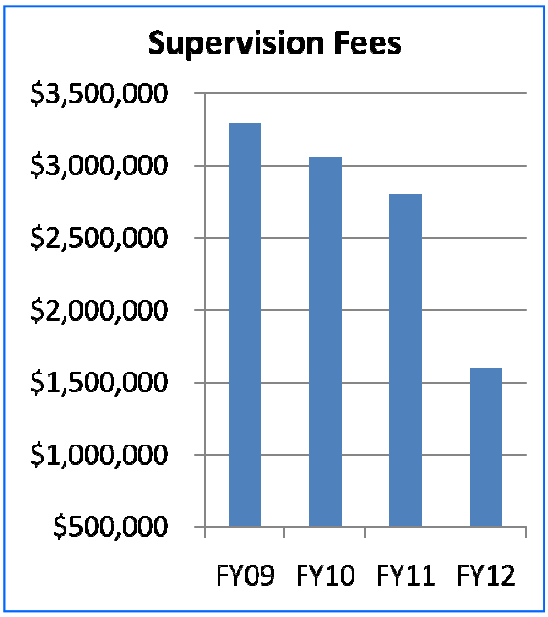
In FY12, Restitution collection is a combined total for offenders under supervision for both the Parole Board and the Department of Corrections. Supervision and Victims Compensation fees collected in FY12 were collected from parolees.

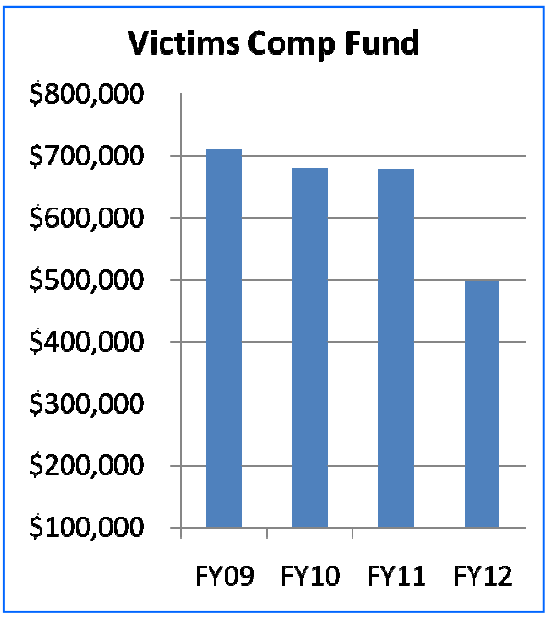
FY 2012 Payments by all Offenders
$16,238,358.95

Restitution
$14,141,158.42

Supervision
$1,600,727.74

Victims Compensation
$496,472.79





Supervision fees collected from parolees go directly into the general treasury.

Victims Compensation fees go into the Victims Compensation Fund which is administered by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

Restitution is disbursed directly to crime victims.

Victim Services

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Department of Corrections' Office of Victim Services keeps victims of crime informed about the offender's case and parole status.

Victim Offender Dialogue Training

The Office of Victim Services (OVS) began preparation in FY12 for Victim Offender Dialogue (VOD), a program that will provide an opportunity for victims of violent crimes to have a structured, safe, one-on-one meeting with their offender. The program will allow the victim and offender to meet to discuss the crime and its impact on the victims. The program was scheduled to be launched late in 2012. VOD can only be initiated by the victim and the offender must voluntarily agree to participate and must acknowledge his/her role in the crime.

VOD requires a lengthy preparation process involving both the victim and the offender working separately with a trained facilitator.

Victim Information Program or V.I.P.

V.I.P., is a 24-hour automated information system providing victims of crime and/or their families with access to information about their offender. By completing a victim impact statement or crime victim notification form, victims can be registered with V.I.P. The forms are available on-line at www.pap.georgia.gov or by calling 404-651-6668.

How V.I.P. Assists Crime Victims

Upon registering, victims are issued a PIN (Personal Identification Number). When accessing the system (800-593-9474), victims can learn the status of the offender. Also through V.I.P., registered victims receive information on releases under the following circumstances:

- after completing the court ordered term of incarceration (end of sentence),
- if placed on parole or probation supervision.

During Fiscal Year 2012, there were **4,127** new V.I.P. registrants; **11,517** calls were logged into the V.I.P. automated phone system by victims and others; **509** calls were automatically made to victims of crime.

GEORGIA CORRECTIONS AND PAROLE BOARD OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES

Victim Services

Victim Offender Dialogue training took place in FY12 in preparation for the program's launch late in 2012.

Office of Victim Services
2 Martin Luther King Jr., Drive, S.E.
Suite 458, East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
(404) 651-6668
Fax (404) 654-6377
Statewide Toll-free Number
1 (800) 593-9474

The Office of Victim Services hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Victim Services

Victims Visitors' Days

Victims Visitors' Days is a program by which victims of crime in Fiscal Year 2012 received additional services.

One Victims Visitors' Day was held during FY12 allowing crime victims to meet face-to-face with Board Members and other parole staff to discuss offender cases.

Parole Board staff traveled to Forsyth in April, where 131 victims and family members discussed cases with agency staff.

Since 2006, the Board has met with over 1,300 crime victims and family members at Victims Visitors' Days conducted across Georgia.

Board Vice Chairman Terry Barnard (left) with Hearing Examiner Scott Reaves meet victims in Forsyth in April 2012.

Additional crime victim services

- Victim Impact Statements and Protest Letters are submitted to the Parole Board for review
- Notification of Parole consideration, release, and supervision of offenders
- Advocacy for victims, including unwanted contact from offenders and offender compliance with court-mandated conditions
- Victim referrals to community based resources and services
- Preparation and orientation for family members of homicide victims for pending executions in death penalty cases

Fiscal Year 2012

- The Office of Victim Services received **5,125** direct phone calls from victims or family members.
- **5,562** correspondences were officially filed as part of offender records.
- **12,516** correspondences were sent to victims addressing their concerns.
- **2,415** victim impact statements and notifications were filed with the office.

Board Member James Donald speaks with a crime victim in April 2012.

Victim Services at National Night Out in October 2011

Human Resources

Human Resources provides support to the agency staff in key areas such as payroll and benefits. The agency's workforce on June 30, 2012, was 659 employees, down from the previous fiscal year total of 676.

A breakdown is as follows:

Total full time staff: 659

Sworn staff:

- **Chief Parole Officers: 42**
- **Assistant Chief Parole Officers: 36**
- **Parole Officers: 270**
- **Other sworn staff: 65**

Total sworn staff: (413)

Non sworn staff: (246)

The parole officer turnover rate for FY12 was 17.6%.

Employees by gender: Male (293/45%)
Female (363/55%)

Employees by age:

- **20-29 (71/11%)**
- **30-39 (176/27%)**
- **40-49 (204/31%)**
- **50-59 (166/25%)**
- **60 + (43/6%)**

Employees by race/ethnicity:

- **American Indian (2/0.3%)**
- **Asian (8/1.2%)**
- **Black (251/38.3%)**
- **Hispanic (5/0.75%)**
- **Multiracial (1/0.15%)**
- **White (389/59.3%)**

Parole Training

Parole Board Member Robert Keller (right) with Parole Officer Thomas Green, a graduate of BPOTC, #53.

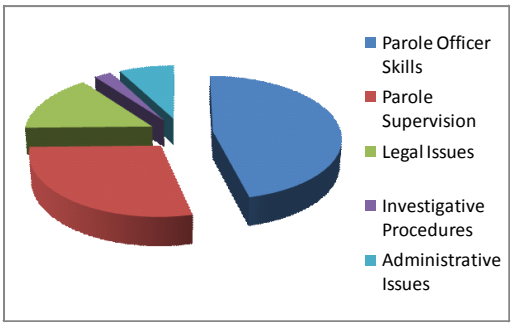
Inaugural Management and Leadership Development Class; graduation May 2012.

During FY12, the Training Unit developed the agency's first one-day training session for support staff. Executive Director Michael Nail speaks to the group in Forsyth.

Training

During Fiscal Year 2012, the Board's training unit delivered 22,419 hours of training to the department's workforce. The unit's four full time employees facilitated the training. Sworn staff training hours totaled 18,666 and non-sworn staff received 3,753 of the training hours. All newly hired parole officers must complete the eight week basic training course within twelve months of their hire date. In FY 2012, two Basic Parole Officer Training Courses (BPOTC) were conducted, graduating twenty six new parole officers. The course is conducted at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth.

BPOTC includes supervision techniques, investigation procedures, intervention strategies, criminal and Georgia law, policy and procedure, interview skills, physical fitness, arrest procedures, defensive tactics, computer interaction and firearms qualification. The training includes certification to use an agency issued service weapon. All agency employees must complete in-service training on an annual basis. Sworn staff must complete twenty hours annually which includes mandatory firearms requalification and use of deadly force. Non-sworn staff must complete eight hours of in-service training annually.



Training Unit Accomplishments During Reporting Period:

- Developed Probation/Parole Officer Certification approved by P.O.S.T. (see page 21);
- Exceeded P.O.S.T., and agency in-service training requirement for sworn staff by 130%;
- Exceeded agency in-service training requirement for non-sworn staff by 95%;
- Developed and implemented new in-house executive development program.

Reentry Services

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles works with community partners to assist parolees with needed services, to include employment and housing. In FY12, the average monthly percentage of parolees employed was 65%. Many offenders approved for parole have limited or no housing options. There are two housing programs available depending on the parolee's needs.

Reentry Partnership Housing Program (RPH)

The Reentry Partnership Housing Program (RPH) provides housing through vendor partners to convicted felons who remain in prison due solely to having no residential options after the Parole Board has authorized their release. The program provides the short term financial assistance necessary to help stabilize the offender's reentry process and enhances his or her ability to remain crime-free. The Department of Community Affairs (DCA) is the administrative agent that processes all RPH funding. Participating housing providers are compensated $600 per month for up to three months, a total not to exceed $1,800 per parolee. In return, parolees are provided room and board without charge for this period.

Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR)

Through the Transitional Housing for Offender Reentry (THOR) program, there are an additional 133 approved residential providers. Many of these residential providers offer treatment services to parolees.

Parole Board employees have frequent contact with staff in these facilities, and are able to assist with issues that may occur. Staff conduct site visits a minimum of every two years to re-approve facilities based on THOR Directory standards.

The THOR Directory is a an online resource accessible to parole and corrections staff to assist in finding offender housing. The service is accessible at www.pap.georgia.gov/thor-directory.

Parole Board Member James Donald addresses Department of Corrections Transition Center Directors in FY12. Transition Centers provide work opportunities for offenders prior to their release on parole, probation or at end of sentence.

FY 2012

- 34 RPH providers
- 451 parolees placed in RPH
- RPH expenditures—$721,966
- Cost avoidance program generated by paroling offenders to RPH—$5,074,337.

Total THOR facilities	**133**
Number of inspections completed	**70**
Number of structured housing residences	**33**
Number of standard recovery residences	**59**
Number of intensive recovery residences	**41**

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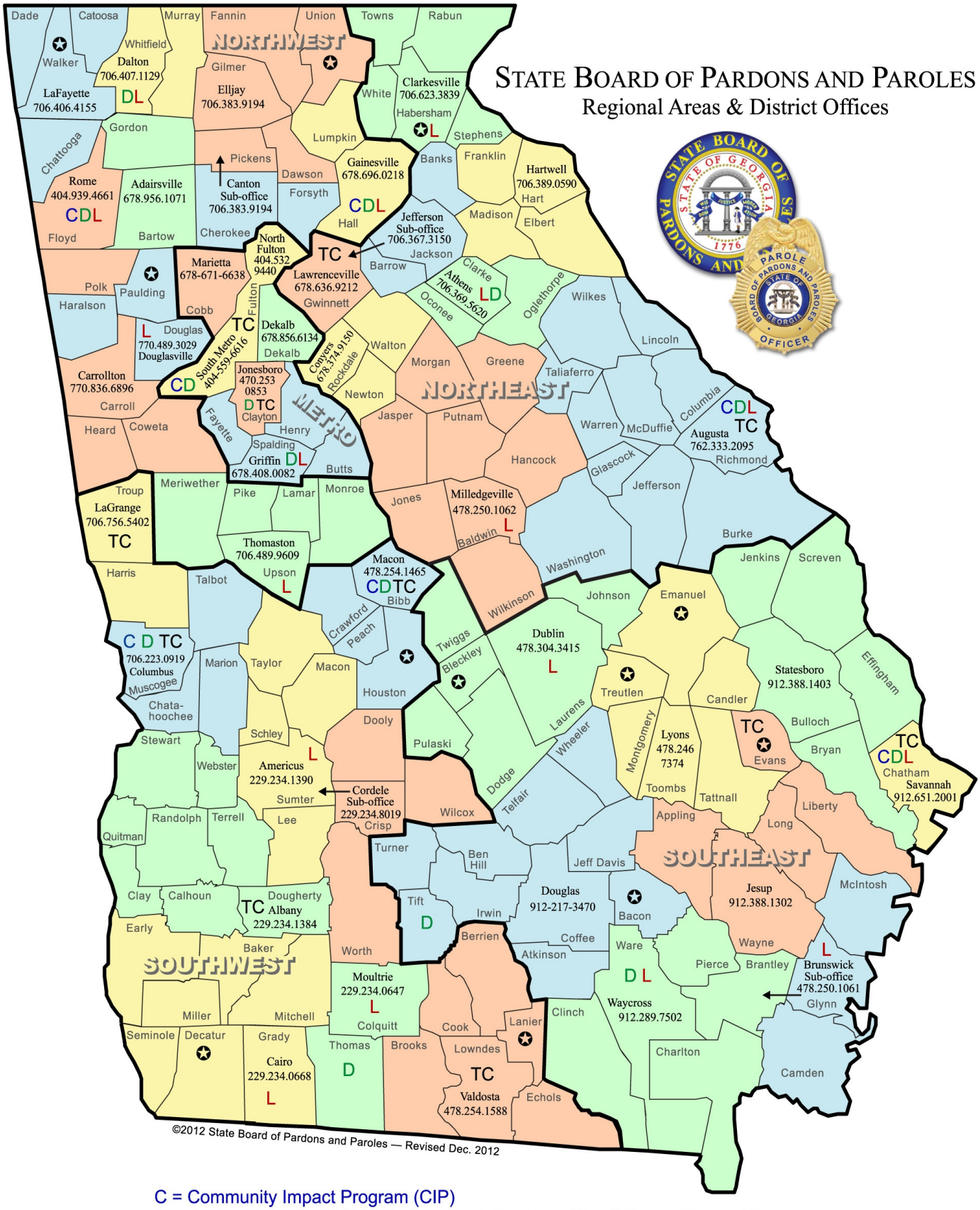
State Board of Pardons and Paroles



C = Community Impact Program (CIP)
L = Co-location with GDC Probation
D = GDC Day Reporting Center (DRC)
TC = Transitional Center Max-out Program
✪ = Probation Dentention Center

Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report

"making next practices, best practices"

The Fiscal Year 2012 Annual Report was prepared by the Parole Board's Office of Public Affairs and the Office of Information Technology.
Cover by Richard Oleson

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