



## Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

### Maryland Parole Commission

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STATE OF MARYLAND

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CHAIRMAN

### COMMISSION MEETING JANUARY 24, 2018 CENTRALIZED HIRING CONFERENCE ROOM 6774-C REISTERSTOWN ROAD BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215

#### MINUTES OPEN SESSION

**Attendees:** Chairman Blumberg; Commissioners Begosh, Cluster, DeBoy, Hill, Keckler, Miller, Reynolds and Smack; Assistant Attorney General Susan Baron; Program Managers Christine Burke and Ruth Ogle

**Absent:** Commissioner Greene (telework)

Chairman Blumberg convened the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

- The minutes from the January 10, 2018 open session were reviewed and approved as submitted.
- Chairman Blumberg is scheduled to attend budget hearings in Annapolis on February 7 & 8, 2018. The Commission will not meet on February 7, 2018; the next meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2018.
- Chairman Blumberg is scheduled to attend a Wicomico County Circuit Court hearing on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 to give testimony on the parole process.
- Revocation dockets at the Maryland Reception, Diagnostic & Classification Center (MRDCC) will be discontinued. Parole and mandatory supervision violators will be transferred to a Jessup region facility.
- Program Manager Christine Burke and four staff members worked in the Records Unit on Saturday, January 20, 2018
- The Commission will be able to extract statistical data for Justice Reinvestment Act (JRA) cases from the Offender Case Management System (OCMS) once the change note goes into effect.

- **Goucher College Prison Education Partnership addressed the Commission:**
  - ◆ **The program has been in place for 6 years and is only offered at Maryland Correctional Institution for Women (MCIW) and Maryland Correctional Institution Jessup (MCIJ).**
  - ◆ **There is no cost to the state; the program is maintained and scholarships are provided to participants through private funding.**
  - ◆ **The same courses that are taught on campus are taught in the prisons by college professors.**
  - ◆ **Any credits earned are transferrable or participants may stay at Goucher to finish their education.**
  
- **Central Commitment Deputy Director Judi Hemler addressed the Commission:**
  - ◆ **With the implementation of JRA on October 1, 2017 parole and mandatory violators are allowed to earn diminution credits on new sentences.**
  - ◆ **Good conduct credits are front loaded to the period of incarceration but industrial, education and special project credits are earned monthly.**
  - ◆ **The maximum number of credits that may be earned monthly is 30.**
  - ◆ **Home invasion was added to the list of violent crimes as of October 1, 2017.**
  - ◆ **Commissioners should write a specific number or the word “all” when rescinding diminution credits.**
  - ◆ **When street time is not awarded the maximum expiration date is extended.**
  
- **At 11:36 a.m. under General Provisions Art. § 3-305 Chairman Blumberg made a motion to end the open session and go into a closed session to discuss personnel matters and review cases en-banc. A vote was taken and all commissioners were in favor. The meeting will reconvene in the Parole Commission’s conference room.**