



**TEXAS BOARD
OF
PARDONS AND PAROLES**

Number: BPP-DIR. 141.355

Date: July 23, 2010

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Supersedes: May 27, 2009

BOARD DIRECTIVE

**SUBJECT: OFFENDER PAROLE INTERVIEWS IF INCARCERATED FOR 20
CONSECUTIVE YEARS**

**PURPOSE: To provide procedures for the voting members to conduct interviews on
offenders who have been incarcerated 20 consecutive years or more.**

AUTHORITY: Texas Government Code Section 508.141(c)

Texas Administrative Code, Title 37, Part 5, Chapter 141, Subchapter E

**DISCUSSION: Section 508.141 of the Texas Government Code provides that before
releasing an inmate on parole, the panel may conduct an interview with
the offender. The purpose of the interview is to provide the offender an
opportunity to present information, make a statement(s) and provide
document(s) to the voting member.**

This interview is not a hearing and is not open to the public.

**DEFINITIONS: Lead Voter – the member of the parole panel or designated to cast the first
vote in the parole review process.**

Unit of Assignment – the Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Correctional Institutions Division (TDCJ CID) unit where the offender is
currently located.

PROCEDURES:

- I. Offenders who have been incarcerated in the TDCJ CID for 20 consecutive years or more and have never been released on parole will be interviewed by the Lead Voter if the offender has not been interviewed by a voting member during the last two parole reviews.
- II. Prior to voting the case, the Lead Voter of the parole panel shall schedule and conduct an interview with the offender at the offender's unit of assignment. Time and duration of the interview shall be established at the discretion of the Lead Voter. These interviews will be conducted on the offender's unit of assignment.
- III. For cases that require an extraordinary vote, the Lead Voter is a board member. For all other cases, the Lead Voter may be a board member or parole commissioner.
- IV. This directive does not apply to offenders who are in disciplinary status, diagnosed by the medical staff as mentally ill or impaired, housed in administrative segregation determined to be a violent or considered dangerous as determined by TDCJ CID staff or offenders incarcerated in a FCI (federal correctional institution).
- V. A record of the interview and any documents received from the offender during the interview shall be placed in the offender's file. The interview should be documented in the file on the minute sheet.

SIGNED THIS, THE 23RD DAY OF JULY, 2010.

RISSIE OWENS, PRESIDING OFFICER (CHAIR)

** Signature on file.*