



**TEXAS BOARD  
OF  
PARDONS AND PAROLES**

**Number: BPP-POL. 04-01.05**

**Date: January 8, 2004**

**Page: 1 of 2**

**Supersedes: BPP-POL. 01-11.03**

## **BOARD POLICY**

---

**SUBJECT: DESIGNATION OF STANDARDIZED DISTANCE FOR CHILD SAFETY ZONES AND DETERMINATION OF A PERIOD OF TIME REQUIRED FOR SEX OFFENDER COUNSELING**

**PURPOSE:** To establish a standardized distance for child safety zones while maintaining a parole panel's flexibility to vary from the established distance on a case-by-case basis as appropriate to the offender's individual circumstances. It is further intended to determine the duration of time for psychological counseling of an offender, who has committed a sexual offense as defined in 508.187(a), against a victim who is identified as a "child" by Section 22.011(c) of the Penal Code.

**AUTHORITY:** §§508.0441, 508.045, 508.187, 508.221 and 508.225, Government Code

**POLICY:** A parole panel shall establish a child safety zone applicable to an offender. The Board adopts as its standardized distance for child safety zones the distance of five hundred (500) feet.

Parole panels shall require sex offenders to receive psychological counseling until such time as the treatment provider, in conjunction with the Parole Division, determines that treatment is no longer required. The Parole Division will submit a recommendation to withdraw the requirement to attend psychological counseling to the appropriate parole panel in those instances where such action is deemed appropriate.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Child safety zone: the distance an offender must maintain between himself or herself and any location where children commonly gather, including but not limited to: schools, day-care facilities, playgrounds, public or private youth centers, public swimming pools or video arcade facilities.

Playground, premises, school, video arcade facility, and youth center: as defined by Section 481.134, Health and Safety Code.

Psychological counseling: counseling sessions with an individual or organization which provides sex offender treatment or counseling as specified in writing by the offender's supervising parole officer.

Standardized distance: the Board's established distance for child safety zones.

**ADOPTED BY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE BOARD ON 8<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2004.**

**RISSIE OWENS, PRESIDING OFFICER (CHAIR)**

---

\* *Signature on file.*