



Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles
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TEXAS BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

VOTING OPTIONS

PAROLE REVIEW PROCESS

A Parole Division case pull list identifies offenders 6 months prior to initial parole eligibility date and subsequent parole review cases are identified 4 months prior to next review date. Notice is sent to trial officials/victims/victims' family. Institutional Parole Officer interviews offender and prepares the parole case summary.

Offender's file is sent to the affected board office.

- A panel consists of 3 parole panel members.
- 1st voting member reviews/votes case.
- Case transferred to 2nd voting member - reviews/votes case.
- 2 similar votes = final vote on case.
- If the first two votes differ from each other, the 3rd voting member of the panel reviews the case and breaks the tie.
- There must be a majority of two votes for a vote to become final.

Offender is notified of parole panel decision via correspondence.

Interviewing the offender is at the discretion of the parole panel member.

Granting interviews to individuals in support/ protest of an offender's release is also at the parole panel member's discretion.

Parole panel members *must* grant interview to victim upon request.

FACTORS CONSIDERED IN THE VOTING OF A CASE

- Seriousness of the offense(s)
- Sentence length/amount of time served
- Offender's age

- Juvenile history
- Criminal history (prior probation/parole)
- Number of prison incarcerations
- Other arrests
- Institutional adjustment (Participation in TDCJ-CID proposed or specialized programs)
- Letters of support and/or protest

Parole panel members do not just vote "yes" or "no." They have a wide range of voting options:

Release when eligible (called **FI-1**) or on a specified month/year (**FI-2**). Transfer to a TDCJ rehabilitation program, then release to parole only after program completion and no earlier than 3 months (**FI-3R**), or 4 months (**FI-4R**), or 6 months (**FI-6R**), or 9 months (**FI-9R**); or 18 months (**FI-18R**) from a specified date. Transfer to a Pre-Parole Transfer facility prior to presumptive parole date set by a board panel and release to parole supervision on presumptive parole date (**FI-4**). Transfer to In-Prison Therapeutic Community (IPTC) Program the release to aftercare component only after completion of IPTC program (**FI-5**). Transfer to a DWI Program, then release to an alcohol abuse continuum of care treatment program (**FI-6**). Transfer to the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) program, then release to parole only after program completion and no earlier than 7 months (**FI-7R**) from a specified date. Do not release, but set the next parole review month/year (**NR**). Require the offender to serve all his sentence (**SA**).

SB 45

Authority: Section 508.046, Government Code (formerly SB 45, 74th Legislature) (Two-Thirds Majority Vote Required).

FI-1: Release when eligible. All conditions attached therewith apply.

FI-4R: Transfer to a TDCJ rehabilitation program (SOEP), then release to parole only after program completion and no earlier than 4 months from a specified date.

FI-9R (M/Y): Transfer to a TDCJ rehabilitation program (SOTP-9) then release to parole only after program completion and not earlier than nine months from specified date.

FI-18R (M/Y): Transfer to a TDCJ rehabilitation treatment program (SOTP-18) then release to parole only after program completion and not earlier than 18 months from the specified date. Place sex offenders into eighteen months of treatment prior to release. In no event shall the specified date be set more than three years from the current panel decision date.

NR (M/Y): Deny favorable parole action and set for review in three years.

SA: Deny parole with no regular subsequent reviews. Offender must serve balance of sentence.

HB 1433 CASES – DISCRETIONARY MANDATORY SUPERVISION VOTING OPTIONS

DMS: Deny release to Mandatory Supervision and set for review on a future specific month and year (setoff) one year from the date of the panel decision.

Note: A parole panel that votes DMS must determine that the offender's accrued good conduct time is not an accurate reflection of the offender's potential for rehabilitation AND that the offender's release would endanger the public. The panel specifies the above reasons in written form on the minute sheet.

RMS: Release to Mandatory Supervision. Offender will be scheduled for release on minimum expiration (or projected release) date.