



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Opportunity to serve as a Commissioner for the Illinois Prisoner Review Board (PRB)

The PRB currently is seeking candidates for a newly-created Commissioner role. Commissioners must be attorneys licensed in the State of Illinois. This is a part-time contractual role that will be paid an hourly rate.

Background: The PRB

The PRB conducts several types of hearings:

- **Indeterminate Parole Hearings or “En Banc” Hearings** – for individuals in custody who were sentenced for crimes committed prior to 1978.
- **Revocation Hearings** – for individuals on parole or mandatory supervised release (MSR) who are alleged to have violated the terms of such release.
- **Joe Coleman Act/Medical Release Hearings** – for individuals in custody suffering from a terminal illness or medical incapacitation to apply for early release.
- **Youthful Parole Hearings** – for certain individuals who were convicted of offenses before the age of 21.
- **Clemency Hearings** – the PRB hears petitions and makes recommendations to the Governor regarding commutation and pardon requests.

The PRB also performs reviews that typically occur on a paper record:

- **MSR Terms** – the PRB imposes terms of MSR for individuals who are released from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) custody onto MSR. These terms vary and are individualized based on factors which can include risk assessments and the sentencing offense.
- **Early Discharge Reviews** – for individuals on MSR who are seeking early discharge from MSR.

More information is available at prb.illinois.gov.

Commissioner Opportunity – General

Illinois Senate Bill 19, which recently became law, allows the PRB to “appoint commissioners to assist it in such manner as it directs and may discharge them at will.” Commissioners must be attorneys licensed to practice in the State of Illinois. They are required to take trainings at the start of their service and before they take part in any hearings, as well as continuing education throughout the year. Commissioners will be compensated for the training hours.

The PRB is in the process of identifying an initial group of Commissioners to help pilot this new role. During this pilot phase, the precise work that Commissioners will perform is subject to change. However, it is likely to include, but is not limited to, the following tasks:

- Assisting the Board and making recommendations regarding MSR conditions;



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

- Performing early discharge reviews, and making recommendations to the Board regarding their resolution; and
- Summarizing files or performing other tasks to assist and streamline the Board's work.

Commissioner Opportunity – Expertise in reviewing medical files

Attorneys who have experience and expertise in reviewing medical files may also provide assistance to the Board for Joe Coleman Act/Medical Release hearings.

Compensation and Expectations

The PRB anticipates an hourly rate of pay of approximately \$75 per hour. The rate of pay may be adjusted over time depending on the complexity of the assignment and the level of experience or expertise required. Currently, the PRB does not intend to offer benefits.

The estimated time commitment is approximately 40-50 hours per month; this may be less for Commissioners who are performing a specific role (such as reviewing medical files).

Much of the work that will be assigned to commissioners is time-sensitive and requires a reasonably quick turnaround. However, the work can be performed remotely and can be assigned in a flexible way to accommodate the Commissioner's schedule.

Serving as a Commissioner is an excellent way to provide an important public service and to perform meaningful work, while gaining experience in a quasi-judicial setting. As the Commissioner model develops, there may be opportunities for Commissioners to serve alongside Board members in PRB hearings and to gain additional experience.

Application

To apply or learn more about this opportunity, please email a resume, including a list of references, to the PRB Chief of Staff, Melissa Brandenburg at Melissa.m.brandenburg@illinois.gov.