

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD**



# **27th Annual Report**

January 1 to December 31, 2004

**Governor:** Rod Blagojevich  
**Chairman:** Jorge Montes



# PRISONER REVIEW BOARD STAFF

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

|                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Kenneth Tupy       | Chief Legal Counsel     |
| Suzie Davis        | Records Supervisor      |
| Santiago D. Romero | Chief Personnel Officer |

## STAFF

|                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Angie Asbrock       | Institutional Liaison      |
| Linda Badger        | Victim Services Liaison    |
| Tracy Buckley       | Institutional Liaison      |
| Damhoff Nicole      | Institutional Liaison      |
| Shunique Joiner     | Institutional Liaison      |
| Colette Knoles      | Executive Clemency Liaison |
| Tracy Leischner     | Institutional Liaison      |
| Robin Miller        | Institutional Liaison      |
| Veronica Sherman    | Institutional Liaison      |
| Kimberly Boster     | Office Coordinator         |
| Regina Bosie        | Office Assistant           |
| Michael Burdinsky   | Office Assistant           |
| Chuck Eguez         | Office Assistant           |
| Stephanie Mctaggart | Office Assistant           |
| Constance Slightom  | Office Assistant           |
| Valorie Ford        | Office Clerk               |

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## INTRODUCTION

Prior to February 1, 1978, the Illinois Prisoner Review Board (“the Board”) was a division of the Illinois Department of Corrections (“IDOC”) known as the Parole and Pardon Board. Today the Board is a quasi-judicial entity that makes decisions on a range of adult and juvenile prison inmate matters. It is currently composed of 15 members who are appointed by the Governor, with the approval of the State Senate.

While the number of classic parole cases has decreased in recent years, today the greater part of the Board’s time is employed in holding a dramatically larger docket of parole revocation hearings, consisting of technical and new sentence revocations. This docket has grown exponentially in recent years to approximately 14,573 cases a year. These hearings, which are held at the various penal institutions around the state, can be complex fact-finding affairs, involving attorneys on both sides of the questions, witness testimony, cross-examinations, lie detector tests, and volumes of documentary evidence.

### **C-Number Hearings**

Before 1978 one of the Board’s primary mandates was to hold parole eligibility hearings for prison inmates whose sentences were of indeterminate durations.

After that date, when determinate (flat) sentences were legislated in Illinois, the number of classic parole hearings for what have become known as C-number inmates, was fixed at a group of approximately 16,500 inmates, a number that has been whittled down to approximately 320 in the course of the years. These hearings continue to be held across the state and constitute the Board’s most contested and deliberated hearings. The Board convenes two times a month at its Springfield headquarters to thoroughly discuss and vote on these special cases.

This kind of hearing and reviewing activity at both juvenile and adult institutions is at the heart of the Board’s duties. Board members and staff travel to each institution of the Illinois Department of Corrections and to the Cook County Jail at least once each month. On any given month, the Board will visit 40 institutions to conduct its hearings.

### **Victim Notification**

One of the Board’s other historically significant mandates has been to provide victim notification services. The Board has an award-winning, specialized victim notification unit devoted to alerting victims and their families of the impending release of an inmate from IDOC.

The Victim Notification Program (“VNP”) documents the names and addresses of persons who request to be included in its registry.

The VNP has always facilitated the victims' desire to inform the Board of their opinions about the individuals who victimized them.

By allowing the victims to be involved in the process, it is the Board's intention to assist them in experiencing less frustration with the criminal justice system. Victims and their loved ones call, write or very often meet with Board members to register their opposition to parole or to request special conditions of parole. This is all coordinated by a small, dedicated staff that compose the VNP and the Operations Unit. Board members and staff work closely with victim advocates and state's attorneys throughout Illinois to coordinate efforts to protect the rights of crime victims.

The Board also convenes at least twice a month to deliberate and prepare orders that enumerate the conditions that an inmate shall abide by while on parole/mandatory supervised release. On an average month the Board will issue approximately 2,287 orders for these inmates who will be placed on mandatory supervised release pursuant to law.

### **Executive Clemency**

Perhaps the most visible work the Board does involves executive clemency proceedings, which occur four times a year. Twice in Chicago and two times in Springfield the Board convenes to hear petitions from individuals seeking clemency in the form of a

pardon, an expungement, a commutation or some other form of relief from the Governor. Confidential recommendations are made to the Governor after these hearings are held and they are sent to his office for a final determination. Most petitioners request public hearings, but the Board also reviews petitions without a hearing if the petitioner so chooses.

### **Other Hearings**

The Board also reviews Illinois Department of Correction's recommendations for revocation of inmate good conduct credits when there has been an alleged violation of institutional rules. It provides a hearing to permit an inmate to make a defense, if desired, against the allegation, then decides whether to revoke these credits. The Board is further authorized to review IDOC recommendations for restoration of lost credits in cases in which an inmate's good behavior appears to merit such a reward. More than 5,030 such hearings are conducted each year.

Finally, the Board carries out specialized juvenile parole hearings at eight juvenile institutions each month under provisions of the Juvenile Court Act. These hearings mirror the adult hearings described above, but are conducted pursuant to different laws than those observed in the adult hearings.

**ILLINOIS PRISONER REVIEW BOARD  
SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITY-ADULT  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

| <b>TYPE OF HEARING</b>                   | <b>NUMBER OF CASES</b> |
|--|------------------------|
| Parole Reviews/C-Numbers                 | 214                    |
| Re-hearing and Re-consideration Requests | 401                    |
| Good Conduct Requests                    | 5,030                  |
| Release Reviews                          | 27,441                 |
| Parole/Release Revocations               | 14,573                 |
| Final Discharges                         | 193                    |
| Executive Clemency                       | 759                    |
| * Cases Revised/Amended                  | 1,867                  |
| * Cases Continued                        | 2,987                  |
| <b>Total Adult Consideration</b>         | <b>53,482</b>          |

\* Not reported in previous years

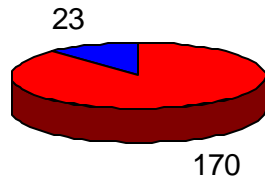
**ADULT RELEASE REVIEWS  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

|                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Mandatory Release Reviews            | 0             |
| Statutory Parole Reviews             | 4             |
| Mandatory Supervised Release Reviews | 27,437        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                         | <b>27,441</b> |

## ADULT FINAL DISCHARGES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Total Cases Considered    | 193       |
| Total Cases Granted       | 170       |
| <b>Total Cases Denied</b> | <b>23</b> |

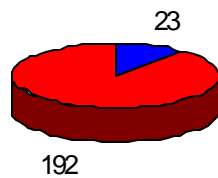
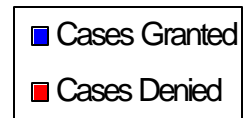
TOTAL CASES: 203



## ADULT PAROLE REVIEWS/C-NUMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Total Cases Considered    | 215        |
| Total Cases Granted       | 23         |
| <b>Total Cases Denied</b> | <b>192</b> |

TOTAL CASES: 215



**ADULT PAROLE CASES/C-NUMBERS BY CORRECTIONAL CENTER  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

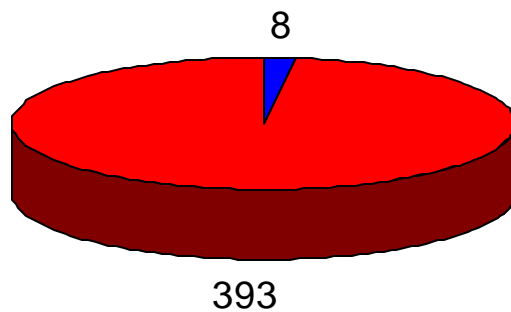
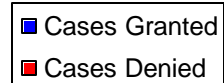
| Center          | Cases Heard | Parole<br>Granted | Parole<br>Denied | Percent Rate  |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Big Muddy River | 20          | 4                 | 16               | 20%           |
| Centralia       | 10          | 1                 | 9                | 10%           |
| Danville        | 25          | 2                 | 23               | 8%            |
| Decatur         | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0%            |
| Dixon           | 57          | 9                 | 48               | 16%           |
| Dwight          | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| East Moline     | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Graham          | 9           | 1                 | 8                | 1.1%          |
| Hill            | 5           | 1                 | 4                | 20.0%         |
| Illinois River  | 15          | 1                 | 14               | 6.6%          |
| Jacksonville    | 2           | 0                 | 2                | 0.0%          |
| Lawrence        | 10          | 1                 | 9                | 10.0%         |
| Lincoln         | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Logan           | 4           | 1                 | 3                | 25.0%         |
| Menard          | 19          | 0                 | 19               | 0.0%          |
| NRC             | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Pinckneyville   | 15          | 1                 | 14               | 6.6%          |
| Pontiac         | 4           | 0                 | 4                | 0.0%          |
| Robinson        | 1           | 0                 | 1                | 0.0%          |
| Shawnee         | 4           | 0                 | 4                | 0.0%          |
| Sheridan        | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Southwestern    | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Stateville      | 5           | 0                 | 5                | 0.0%          |
| Tamms           | 2           | 1                 | 1                | 50.0%         |
| Taylorville     | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Vandalia        | 0           | 0                 | 0                | 0.0%          |
| Vienna          | 1           | 0                 | 1                | 0.0%          |
| Western         | 7           | 0                 | 7                | 0.0%          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>215</b>  | <b>23</b>         | <b>192</b>       | <b>10.70%</b> |



## ADULT RECONSIDERATION REVIEWS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Total Cases Considered    | 401        |
| Total Cases Granted       | 8          |
| <b>Total Cases Denied</b> | <b>393</b> |

TOTAL CASES: 401



## ADULT GOOD CONDUCT CREDITS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

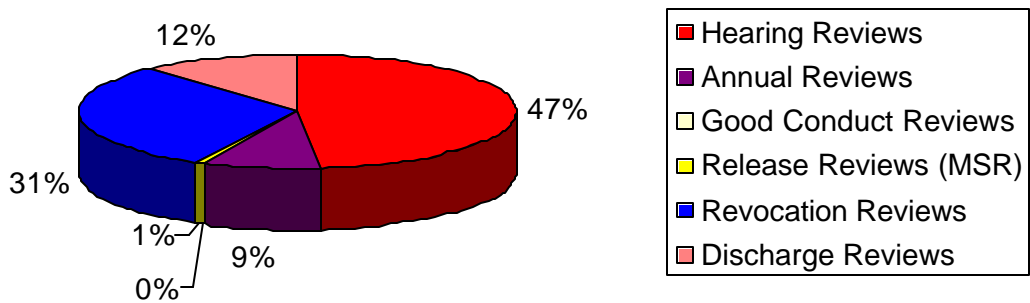
| Revocations | Number of Cases |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Reviewed    | 3,579           |
| Revoked     | 2,175           |
| Lowered     | 921             |
| Disapproved | 483             |

| Restorations | Number of Cases |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Reviewed     | 1,451           |
| Restored     | 1,327           |
| Lowered      | 54              |
| Disapproved  | 70              |

**SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIVITY-JUVENILE  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

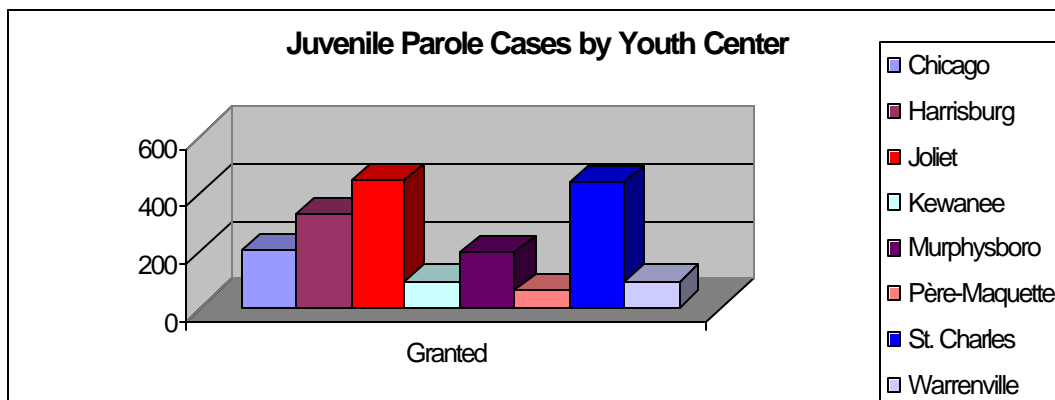
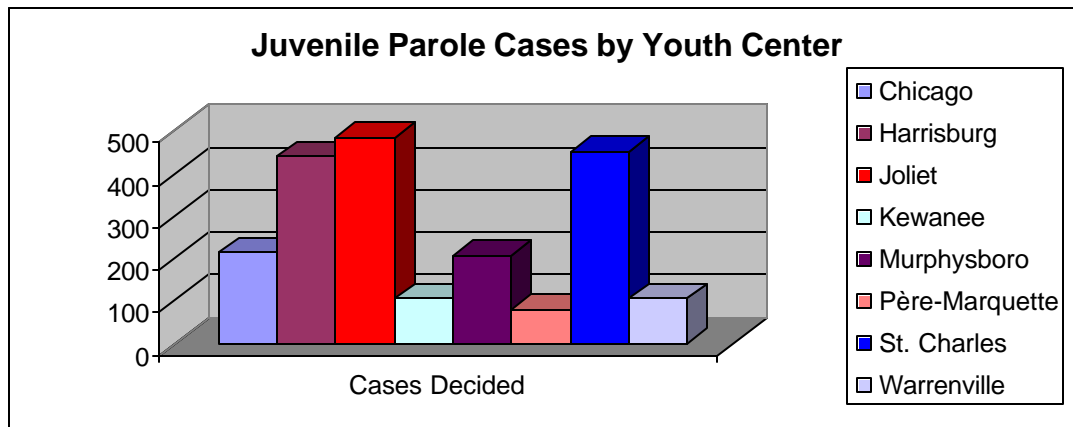
| <b>JUVENILE HEARINGS</b>      | <b>NUMBER OF CASES</b> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Hearing Reviews               | 2,100                  |
| Annual Reviews                | 370                    |
| Good Conduct Reviews          | 0                      |
| Release Reviews (MSR)         | 44                     |
| Revocation Reviews            | 1,327                  |
| Discharge Reviews             | 502                    |
| <b>TOTAL JUVENILE REVIEWS</b> | <b>4,343</b>           |

**TOTAL JUVENILE REVIEWS: 4,343**



## JUVENILE PAROLE CASES BY YOUTH CENTER AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

| Youth Center   | Cases Decided | Parole Granted | Rate          |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Chicago        | 215           | 207            | 96.2%         |
| Harrisburg     | 441           | 331            | 75.0%         |
| Joliet         | 487           | 444            | 91.1%         |
| Kewanee        | 107           | 93             | 86.0%         |
| Murphysboro    | 208           | 193            | 82.7%         |
| Père-Marquette | 81            | 59             | 72.8%         |
| St. Charles    | 454           | 436            | 96.0%         |
| Warrenville    | 107           | 98             | 91.5%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>2,100</b>  | <b>1,861</b>   | <b>88.61%</b> |



**JUVENILE CASES REVIEWED  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

|                                      |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Parole Hearing Reviews               | 2,100        |
| Paroles Granted                      | 1,861        |
| <b>Rate</b>                          | <b>88.6%</b> |
| Discharge Reviews                    | 502          |
| Discharges Granted                   | 475          |
| <b>Rate</b>                          | <b>94.6%</b> |
| Parole Revocation Hearings           | 1,327        |
| Paroles Revoked                      | 1,044        |
| <b>Rate</b>                          | <b>78.6%</b> |
| Good Conduct Revocations             | 0            |
| Good Conduct Approved                | 0            |
| <b>Rate</b>                          | <b>0%</b>    |
| Good Conduct Restoration             | 2            |
| Good Conduct Restoration<br>Approved | 2            |
| <b>Rate</b>                          | <b>100%</b>  |
| Annual Reviews                       | 370          |

**JUVENILE GOOD CONDUCT CREDITS  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Revocations  | 0 |
| Restorations | 2 |

**JUVENILE RELEASE REVIEWS**  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2004

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Mandatory Supervised Release Reviews | 44 |
|--------------------------------------|----|

**EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY PETITIONS**

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Petitions Received      | 759 |
| Pardons/Expungement     | 1   |
| Commutation of Sentence | 0   |
| Petitions Denied        | 2   |
| Petitions Pending       | 756 |

## BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

**JORGE MONTES, CHAIR,** appointed in October 1994. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism in 1985 from Loyola University of Chicago and a Doctorate in jurisprudence in 1988 from the Loyola University School of Law. Mr. Montes served as a supervising litigation attorney for the Cook County State's Attorney's Office; as editor for **Passport**, an American Bar Association publication; and as a spokesperson for the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. Mr. Montes has and currently serves on various bar association and college boards and has hosted cable television and radio talk shows in Chicago. He is also a member of the Illinois Department of Corrections Board of Education and is a frequent speaker and guest on television and radio programs. He resides in Chicago.

**ERIC W. ALTHOFF, MEMBER,** appointed in May of 2003. He graduated from Lake Land College in Mattoon, Ill. in 1982 with a degree in Law Enforcement. He served as the elected Coroner of Effingham County from 1981 until 2003. He served as vice chairman of the Illinois Coroner's Association for one term. Mr. Althoff was one of the original recipients of the Lifesaving Partners Award from the Gift of Hope for his outstanding support to save and enhance the lives of others through organ and tissue donation. He was also given awards from the Regional Organ Bank of Illinois and the Lions Eye Donor Program for the same cause.

He served as a volunteer fire fighter for the city of Effingham for 20 years. He has served on many boards and councils including the Effingham County Drug Alert Council, Effingham County DUI Task Force, as well as other political, civic and social organizations in his community.

**NANCY L. BRIDGES-MICKELSON, MEMBER,** appointed January 2001. She has served state government in a variety of capacities over the past 20 years, including tenure with the Governor's Southern Illinois Office as a Liaison to the Deputy Chief of Staff, an Assistant Office Director for the Illinois Department of Conservation and a Legislative Administrative Assistant. She has also owned and operated her own business. She attended Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Over the years, she has been deeply involved in community-based projects from both a governmental and personal vantage point. She considers her work on the Board as one of her most important career and personal achievements.

**JAMES DONAHUE, MEMBER,** appointed in December 1993. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the National Institute of Corrections. He has served for thirty years as a law enforcement officer, 26 of those years as Sheriff of Tazewell County. He has served on the boards of numerous local criminal justice programs and as chairman for many of them. He has served as a member of the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and has served as a member of the U.S. Attorney's Law Enforcement Coordinating Commi-

tee. He has been active in many civic and professional organizations.

**ROBERT L. DUNNE, MEMBER**, appointed in April 1999. He served two years in the United States Army, receiving the Korean Service Ribbon. He attended the University of Notre Dame and Loyola University. He was a State Representative in the 1970's. He is the retired founder of R.L. Dunne & Co., Inc. Insurance & Benefits Consultants, for which he serves on the board of directors. He also served on the Board of the Illinois Insurance Exchange, several community association committees and veterans groups. Mr. Dunne and his wife, Jeanne, are lifelong residents of Cook County.

**CRAIG FINDLEY, MEMBER**, appointed in February 2001. Mr. Findley was Chairman of the Board from January 2003 to May 2004. A writer and businessman, Mr. Findley owned and published three Illinois weekly newspapers and served as President of Craig Findley Associates, a consulting firm. He served as Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Transportation, as an elected member of the Illinois House of Representatives and was a senior aide to Congressman Bob Michel. He has long been active in organizations that advocate adoption and promote the best interests of children. Mr. Findley is Chairman of the Lincoln Land Community College Board of Trustees, and member of the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra. He has served as President of the Jacksonville Public Library and as Chairman of the Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce. He is a graduate of Knox College.

**ANDREW FOX, MEMBER**, appointed in May 2004. He worked as an Assistant State's Attorney from 2000 until May of 2004 where he worked in the Appeals Division, the Traffic Division, the Juvenile Justice Bureau, and in the Child Advocacy Center, reviewing sex crimes. He served on the Hispanic Advisory Council to the Cook County State's Attorney. He worked for four years as a Teacher at Cooper Dual Language Academy where he worked as the Bilingual Lead Teacher, the Dual Language Coordinator, and was very involved with ESL and Citizenship classes for the parents at the school. He has volunteered at Casa Aztlan, a social service organization in Chicago, and serves on the board of directors. He went to law school in Chicago at night while he worked for the Chicago Public Schools. He obtained an undergraduate degree from Loyola University of Chicago and spent a year studying in Rome, Italy. After his undergraduate degree he served two years as a Jesuit International Volunteer in Cochabamba, Bolivia and Tacna, Peru.

**DAVID FRIER, MEMBER**, appointed in November 2002. He earned a B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. in Political Science from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He retired from Western Illinois University after serving as a Professor of Political Science for 20 years. He has also served as a visiting professor at various universities in Illinois, Pennsylvania and Canada and taught university level courses at the Menard Correctional Center in Chester, Illinois and the Marion, Illinois Federal Penitentiary.



**BARBARA M. HUBBARD, MEMBER**, appointed in June 1992. She attained a Bachelor's Degree from Sangamon State University, Springfield, Illinois, and an Master's Degree in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. She has diverse experience involving pre-delinquency and post-delinquency services for youth. As a 23-year veteran employee of the Illinois Department of Corrections, she was responsible for juvenile detention standards and compliance issues of all county juvenile detention statewide. She has developed resources, coordinated services and implemented programs for youth in 36 counties within Southern Illinois which includes securing foster home licenses, and managing group homes that accommodated troubled youth. She has also worked assessing and determining appropriate treatment programs for youth. She has served as a Juvenile Parole Agent.

**THOMAS L. JOHNSON, MEMBER**, appointed in May 2004. After finishing a tour of duty in Vietnam (U.S. Army '66-'68), he earned his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan and a Doctorate of Law from DePaul University. He served as an Assistant State's Attorney in DuPage County where he became Chief of the White Collar Crime Division. He was an instructor at the College of DuPage during this period as well teaching a course on crime scene investigations. He was a founding partner in the law firm of Johnson, Westra et. al. where he continued in the private practice of law until taking office as the State Representative for

the Illinois 50th District. He served ten years in the Illinois House where he chaired the House Judiciary Committee and was Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Illinois Prison Reform Committee. He has a passion for criminal justice reform so that the recidivism rates can be reduced. He has served on numerous boards, task forces, and community organizations. He remains a member of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Initiative.

**JESSE MADISON, MEMBER**, appointed in May 2004. He worked as a Special Assistant to Senate President Emil Jones, Jr. He was also the President and Chief Executive Officer of Abraham Lincoln Centre. He retired from the Centre in April 2001 after 11 years of service. Previously, he served in the Cabinet of former Chicago Mayor Harold Washington as Commissioner of Consumer Services. Later, Mayor Washington appointed Mr. Madison as General Superintendent of the Chicago Park District. He also served two terms in the Illinois Legislature as a State Representative. He is a native of Memphis, Tennessee where he grew up. He attended Roosevelt University where he earned a degree in Business Administration. Mr. Madison also did some graduate work in Finance and Management at Roosevelt.

**MILTON MAXWELL, MEMBER**, appointed in October 1993. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Arkansas in History and Political Science and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He earned a Master's Degree in Guidance and Education Psychology and






Criminology from Southern Illinois University in 1971. Mr. Maxwell worked in the First Judicial Circuit Probation System for 22 years prior to his Board appointment, the last five years as Chief Managing Officer. He is actively involved in local community affairs. He is Secretary of the Private Industrial Council for Service Delivery Area Number 25, a five-county Southern Illinois consortium for the implementation of JTPA programs and a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge F& AM of Illinois.

**JOHN STENSON, MEMBER,** appointed in May 2004. He is a retired Chief of Police and served 37 and a half years in law enforcement. He holds an Associates Degree in Police Science, Bachelor's Degree in the Administration of Justice, and numerous hours towards a Masters in Criminal Justice. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and he has taken several Police Executive courses. He has served on numerous law enforcement and criminal/juvenile justice, victims' rights boards and Committees. He resides in Peoria and is active in local community affairs.

**NORMAN M. SULA, MEMBER,** appointed in November 2000. He holds both a Bachelor's and Master's Degree of Science in Mathematics from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana (1964 and 1965). His first four years after college were spent teaching Junior High Mathematics in Country Club Hills, Ill.. He spent the next 30 years in manufacturing working as a Quality Assurance Engineer and Supervisor, nine years

for Allis-Chalmers in Aurora, Ill. and 21 years for AT&T in Montgomery, Ill. and Lucent Technologies in Naperville, Ill. He was a member of the DuPage Water Commission from 1998-2000. In addition, he served from 1989-2000 as an elected Trustee of the Lisle Township Board in DuPage County. For 13 years, 1986 – 1998, he was the Coordinator for the Lucent Technologies Salvation Army Bell Ringing Program in downtown Naperville.

**GERALDINE TYLER, MEMBER,** appointed in May 2004. She has over 25 years experience in the criminal justice field, including spending the last 13 years with the Cook County Adult Probation Department, where she was employed as a probation officer and Executive Assistant to the Chief Probation Officer. She also served as an Adjunct Professor at several colleges and universities, with the most recent being Lewis University, and Prairie State College. She earned a Master's Degree in Corrections/ Criminal Justice from Chicago State University in 1992. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and is active in local community affairs.



**Illinois Prisoner Review Board**  
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