



# Medical Parole/Commutation

## ( 1 ) Board of Parole Risk Tool

- Has been validated four time since it's creation for Iowa prison population

## ( 2 ) Last validation was 2003 and CJJP is in the process of re-validation.

- Our risk score is 2 – 9 (9 being the highest score) 135 from Dr. Deol list has a risk of 9, 68 risk of 7-8, 112 risk of 2-6 and all others risk not calculated. 2-6 risk (3 votes), 7-8 (4 votes) and 9 (all 5 votes) are needed for any release (see attachment)

***Risk are based on facts alone, the history of convictions, types of crime, time frame in between crimes ( This tool can not be manipulated, it is based on facts Alone!) The Board of Parole also review the LSIR when looking at rehabilitation progress and releases.***



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- ( 3 ) The board has a two tier system: First tier is annual paper reviews if offender is not serving mandatory or a life sentence. Second tier offender interviews based on paper review. Interviews do not guarantee a release
  
- ( 4 ) We review the crime, BOP risk (history), LSIR for rehabilitation when considering any release.
  - The BOP looks at 50 percent of the adjusted time for serious release of crimes of violence. Non-violent offenders (details of the crime) we review for a much earlier release. Sometimes as soon as 10 percent or earlier of the adjusted time.



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- Please be very mindful of the public safety issues that currently faces the state. The state has lost four or more court cases on special sentence cases on sex crimes due to the law not being written airtight, which opens up the law for the courts interpretation. We must not take any chances in the state of Iowa on public safety and the re-write of any laws should leave NO room for interpretation by the courts.
- Paroles outcomes are measured by paroles revocation hearings (see attachments) 2.7% of active paroles revoked each month in FY 11
- Offenders on work release are still inmate status and DOC can transferred to a more secure location if offenders violate rules.
- **The BOP suggest public meeting to address the publics concerns about medical/parole issues and get the publics feedback.**

IOWA BOARD OF PAROLE  
RISK ASSESSMENT MODEL  
January 2011

The risk assessment is based on juvenile and adult criminal information:

- a) convictions for all offenses except simple misdemeanors that are classified as non-property or non-violent; b) revocation of release status (probation, parole, work release).

Each offense and release violation is coded and scored according to the seriousness of the incident. Components of the model that impact the scoring system include the following:

- a) violent and escape-like offenses - these are more serious than other offenses and receive more weight or result in higher scores; b) "credit time" or time on the street - this reduces the weight of the scores if it is allowed to accrue for a certain time period, and c) multiple charges - these have limited severity in instances where an offender has no prior conviction or current release violation.

The Board's voting system is based on risk assessment scores which range from 2 – 9. Scores of 2 – 6 indicated a potential parole candidate is considered a low risk to society and requires three unanimous votes from board members for release, 7 – 8 indicate a medium risk and requires four unanimous votes, and a score of 9 indicates a high risk and requires unanimous votes from the full board.

## Risk Assessment

### April 2011

#### HISTORY

In 1981 the Iowa Board of Parole implemented the use of the Iowa Risk Assessment. An analytical tool designed by Daryl R. Fischer, M.S., Ph.D., Statistical Analysis Center, Iowa Office for Planning and Programming, to help increase paroles while maintaining a high degree of public safety while not delaying release of inmates who are good risks. The offenders risk assessment scores were originally generated by the Statistical Analysis Center – Iowa Office for Planning and Programming.

The 1987 implementation of the State of Iowa Reorganization Plan resulted in the transfer of the offender risk assessment program to the Iowa Board of Parole.

1990 the Toborg validation and review of the Iowa Board of Parole Risk Assessment, while very complimentary, suggested it could be improved further by merging the safety and violence scores. A review of this suggestion by Dr. Darrell Fischer, originator of the Iowa Model I Risk Assessment, resulted in the Iowa Model II Risk Assessment.

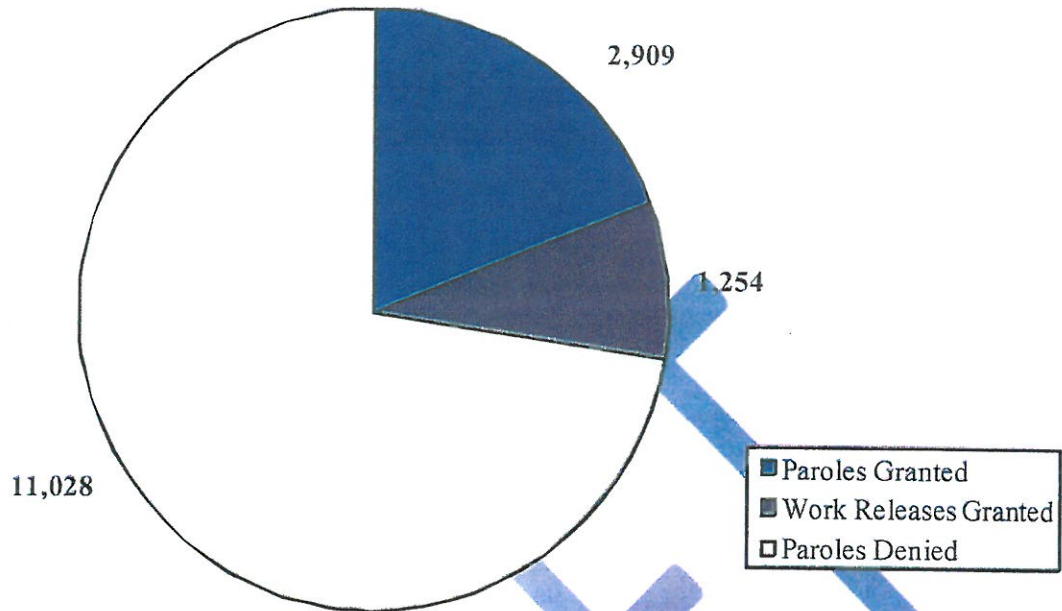
Effective July 1, 1990, the Board adopted a new offender risk assessment model designed to assess the potential risk posed to society upon the release of the criminal offender. Approval of the model was primarily based upon its effectiveness as a reliable tool in the Board's release decision-making-process. The Board also recognized the model's potential in relation to its technical compatibility with the Board's (then) current computer system that allowed for the implementation of an automated risk assessment instrument.

In Fiscal Year 1991 the Iowa Board of Parole implemented a new automated risk assessment instrument.

In October 1993 an instruction package called the Iowa Model of Parole Risk Assessment – An Overview was designed to give instructions on the data requirement and coding procedures for the Iowa Risk Assessment.

In 2003 the Board had the Risk Assessment tool validated by CJJP. The validation showed sufficient accuracy to be of a benefit to the Board in its deliberations.

### Board of Parole Decisions, FY2011



### Protecting the Public, FY2011

