



OKLAHOMA
Pardon and Parole Board

IS-25-050: Pardon and Parole Process

Agency Presentation

October 1, 2025

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PPB Presentation

- 01. Pardon Overview
- 02. Parole Overview
- 03. Commutation Overview
- 04. Capital Clemency Overview
- 05. Opportunities for Legislative Changes
- 06. Questions & Answers

Pardon Overview

- 01. ***Pardon Overview***
 - Current Practices
 - Major Changes, 2020-2025
 - Improvement Opportunities
- 02. Parole Overview
- 03. Commutation Overview
- 04. Capital Clemency Overview
- 05. Opportunities for Legislative Changes
- 06. Questions & Answers

Pardons – Current Practice

- **PPB's Authority: Recommendation only (OK Constitution, Art. VI, sec. 10)**
- **Eligibility: Set Forth in Administrative Rules (Title 515, Chapter 20)**
- **Procedure: Set Forth in Administrative Rules and PPB Policy**
- **Docket Size: 25-30 Applications Per Month**
- **FY2025 Recommendation Rate: 91.3%**

Pardons – Major Changes, 2020-2025

- **Eligibility:**
 - Expanded eligibility to include indefinite parole or probationary sentences, and
 - Added five-year waiting period to apply for pardon
- **Procedure:**
 - Transitioned from paper applications to an online application system,
 - Brought pre-pardon investigations back in-house, and
 - Contracted with University of Oklahoma for tracking of pardon data, beginning FY 2022

Pardons – Improvement Opportunities

- **Integration With ICON for increased automation**
- **Increase Efficiencies in Pardon Process to Reduce Timeline**
- **Expedited Review Process Based Upon Criteria**

Parole Overview

01. Pardon Overview

02. ***Parole Overview***

- Current Practices
- Changes, 2020-2025
- Improvement Opportunities

03. Commutation Overview

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05. Opportunities for Legislative Changes

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Parole – Current Practice

- **PPB's Authority:** Recommendation only for violent crimes; Parole-granting authority for nonviolent crimes (OK Constitution, Art. VI, sec. 10)
- **Eligibility:** Set Forth in Statute (Title 57, Chapter 7)
- **Procedure:** Primarily Set Forth in Statute (57 O.S. § 332.7)
- **Docket Size:** 350-400 paroles docketed per month (408 in September 2025)
- **FY2024 Recommendation Rates:**
 - **Violent:** 7.4%
 - **Nonviolent:** 19.4%

Parole – Major Changes, 2020-2025

- **Eligibility:**
 - Administrative parole expanded following 2022 law change
- **Procedure:**
 - Transition to ICON offender management and reporting system
 - Contracted with University of Oklahoma for tracking of parole data
- **Docket Sizes:**
 - Increase from 3,315 in FY 2020 to 4882 in FY 2025

Parole – Improvement Opportunities

- Enhancements to ICON regarding data management and collation, and automation
- Collaboration with DOC for improvements to investigative and Board review process
- Modernize victim notification practices through technological and statutory changes

Commutation Overview

01. Pardon Overview

02. Parole Overview

03. ***Commutation Overview***

- Current Practices
- Changes, 2020-2025
- Improvement Opportunities

04. Capital Clemency Overview

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Commutation – Current Practice

- **PPB's Authority: Recommendation only (OK Constitution, Art. VI, sec. 10)**
- **Eligibility: Set Forth in Administrative Rules (Title 515, Chapter 15)**
- **Procedure: Set Forth in Statute (57 O.S. § 332.2), Administrative Rules, and PPB Policy**
- **Docket Size: 25-30 Applications Per Month**
- **FY2024 Recommendation Rate: 7.8%**

Commutation – Major Changes, 2020-2025

- **Eligibility:**
 - Adopted rule for a waiting period for commutation eligibility
 - Shorter of five years, or 1/3 of total length of sentence(s)
- **Procedure:**
 - Transitioned from paper review to online application review system, with automated notification to stakeholders
 - Contracted with University of Oklahoma for tracking of commutation data, FY2022
- **Docket Sizes:**
 - Decrease from 2,168 in FY 2020 to 358 in FY 2024

Commutation – Improvement Opportunities

- Increased integration with ICON for application review and automation
- Linking victim notifications with application review system

Capital Clemency Overview

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- 02. Parole Overview
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- 04. ***Capital Clemency Overview***
 - Current Practices
 - Changes, 2020-2025
 - Improvement Opportunities
- 05. Opportunities for Legislative Changes
- 06. Questions & Answers



Capital Clemency – Current Practice

- **PPB's Authority: Recommendation only (OK Constitution, Art. VI, sec. 10)**
- **Eligibility: Set Forth in OK Constitution**
- **Procedure: Set Forth in Administrative Rules (Title 515, Chapter 10)**
- **20 clemency hearings held since the resumption of executions in 2021**
- **5 recommendations for clemency**

Capital Clemency – Major Changes, 2020-2025

- **Procedure:**
 - Clemency packets submitted electronically
 - Hearings available to watch via ZOOM
- **Resumption of Clemency Hearings:**
 - Average of four hearings held per year since resumption of execution

Capital Clemency – Improvement Opportunities

- Reduction of litigation risk through changes to policy and procedure

Opportunities for Legislative Changes

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- 05. ***Opportunities for Legislative Changes***
 - Victim Notifications
 - Board Member Salaries
 - Collaboration to Advance State's Policy Objectives
- 06. Questions & Answers



Opportunities for Legislative Changes

- **Victim Notifications:**
 - Board is required by statute to provide various notifications by mail (57 O.S. § 332.2)
 - Allowing electronic notification would improve victims' awareness and produce cost savings for the Board
- **Board Member Salaries:**
 - Board member salaries are set by statute (57 O.S. § 332.4) and have not been adjusted since 2002
 - Over same time, Board member workloads continue to increase year-over-year
 - Stability of Board membership advances Constitutional mandate more effectively
- **Collaboration With Legislature to Advance State's Policy Objectives:**
 - Board's executive team takes a collective approach to working with policymakers and stakeholders to align agency practices with Oklahoma's policy objectives

Q&A

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Thank you!

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