

STATE OF ALABAMA  
BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

**PAROLE GUIDELINES**

*RELEASED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT 12-17-2015*

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Pursuant to Alabama Code Sections 15-22-26 and 37(b)(4), the Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles (“the Board”) must establish actuarially based guidelines and procedures (“parole guidelines”). The guidelines retain the Board’s discretion in individual parole release cases while assisting the Board in determining fitness of offenders for parole to allocate prison space for the most violent and greatest risk offenders. Such guidelines shall include the use of a current, validated risk and needs assessment, as defined in Section 12-25-32, and weigh other factors (both scored and non-scored) related to a parole candidate’s likelihood of reoffending in the future, including:

- Reentry plan progress by the offender and the Alabama Department of Corrections (“ADOC”);
- Input from the victim, family of the victim, prosecutors, and law enforcement;
- Participation in risk-reduction programming in the ADOC and completion thereof;
- Institutional behavior or misconduct;
- Severity of present offense; and
- Past criminal history.

The parole guideline “score” provides evaluative information as part of the comprehensive, discretionary, parole decision-making process on all cases considered by the Board. **Importantly, the guideline score creates no right or expectation for parole under Alabama law; the paroling decision is case specific and completely at the discretion of the Board. § 15-22-26.**

**IMPLEMENTATION NOTE:**

The Board’s parole guidelines become **effective January 30, 2016**. The Board intends to implement use of the guidelines in phases to account for the ongoing development of risk-reducing programming by the ADOC. Accordingly, the following parole guidelines will be used in Phase I and will not produce an ultimate parole release recommendation score. The Phase I guidelines will, however, substantially assist the Board in exercising professional judgment in compliance with Alabama law to the full extent possible at this time; Phase II guidelines will be developed, released for public comment, and implemented conditioned upon ADOC program development and implementation. The Board’s Phase II guidelines will produce an overall score to guide the Board’s parole release decision.

**PUBLIC COMMENT NOTE:**

Pursuant to Section 15-22-26, the Board invites written, public comment for a period of thirty days, ending at 5:00 PM CT on Friday January 15, 2016. Please submit written comments to the Board’s Executive Director, Phil Bryant, electronically at [Phil.Bryant@paroles.alabama.gov](mailto:Phil.Bryant@paroles.alabama.gov) or mail hard copies to the following address: P.O. Box 302405, Montgomery, AL 36130-2405.

**PAROLE GUIDELINES (PHASE I)**

NAME:

AIS#:

**BASELINE PAROLE WEIGHTED FACTORS**

**I. SEVERITY OF OFFENSE OF CONVICTION:**

- LOW  +0
- MODERATE  +1
- HIGH  +2

*\*IF SERVING MULTIPLE CASES, USE THE CONTROLLING CASE*

SCORE

**II. ACTUARIAL ASSESSMENTS:**

**OHIO RISK ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (ORAS)**

ORAS SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE ADMINISTERED: \_\_\_\_\_  
 VERSION USED: \_\_\_\_\_

- VERY HIGH RISK:  +5
- HIGH RISK:  +3
- MODERATE RISK:  +2
- LOW RISK:  +0

*\*IF GRANTED PAROLE, SPECIAL CONDITION TO PARTICIPATE IN MRT*

SCORE

**III. INSTITUTIONAL BEHAVIOR:**

**DISCIPLINARY**

- 0 DISCIPLINARIES WITHIN LAST 12 MONTHS  +0
- 1 DISCIPLINARY INVOLVING VIOLENCE W/IN LAST 12 MONTHS  +2
- 2 OR MORE DISCIPLINARIES INVOLVING VIOLENCE W/IN LAST 12 MONTHS  +3
- 1- 2 NON-VIOLENT DISCIPLINARIES W/IN 6 MONTHS  +1
- 3 OR MORE NON-VIOLENT DISCIPLINARIES W/IN LAST 12 MONTHS  +2

*\*ONLY GRADE HIGHEST SEVERITY*

SCORE

**IV. RISK-REDUCING PROGRAM/TREATMENT REFERRAL/CONDITION SETTING:**

- SUBSTANCE ABUSE ASSESSMENT REFERRAL & TREATMENT IF ASSESSED TO NEED
- MORAL RECONATION THERAPY (MRT) PROGRAM REFERRAL

**BASELINE PAROLE NON-WEIGHTED FACTORS**

**I. STAKEHOLDER INPUT:**

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
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**II. REENTRY PROGRESS:**

COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
 STAFF MEMBER'S NAME AND POSITION (PRINTED)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 STAFF MEMBER'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE