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Sec. 54-125b-1. Criteria and procedures for release of inmates without parole hearing

A person may be allowed to go on parole in accordance with Section 54-125a of the General Statutes, section 54-125g of the General Statutes, and any other applicable statute, without a parole hearing being conducted by a panel of the Board of Parole under the following conditions:

(a) An employee of the Board of Parole must have reviewed the inmate's case and recommended that parole be granted to such inmate, only after advance notice has been given to any victim, if the victim has requested such notice and provided a current address. Testimony of such crime victim may occur as defined in Connecticut General Statutes section 54-126a.

(b) The Board of Parole employee who conducts such review and makes such recommendation must have been designated to do so, in writing, by the Chairman of the Board of Parole or the Chairman's designee. Such designation may be in general or for a particular case, only at the discretion of the Chairman or the Chairman's designee.

(c) The person designated to conduct such review and make such recommendation shall be an employee of the Board of Parole, who has training, experience or education in law, criminal justice, parole matters, or other related fields for consideration of matters before the Board.

(d) The person who makes such evaluation and recommendation shall use the following criteria in doing so:

(1) The nature and circumstances of the inmate's offense and his or her current attitude about the offense(s) and changes he or she has made that will reduce the likelihood of future criminal offense.

(2) The inmate's prior criminal record and his or her community release adjustment, if he or she has been previously released, including and prior history with community release, probation or parole.

(3) The inmate's attitude toward family members, the victim, and authority in general, including reducing the likelihood of ever coming into contact with the victim(s) of his or her crime.

(4) The inmate's institutional adjustment, including his or her participation and progress in the areas of the institutional program(s) relevant to his or her self-improvement and positive programming.

(5) The inmate's employment history, occupational skills, and employment stability to form the basis for becoming self-supporting and independent, reducing the likelihood of future criminal behavior.

(6) The inmate's physical, mental and emotional health evaluations, as documented in the inmate's records.

(7) The inmate's insight into the cause of his or her past criminal conduct.

(8) The inmate's effort(s) and understanding of how to find solutions to his or her personal problems including, but not limited to, addiction to narcotics, excessive use of alcohol, the need for academic and vocational education, and his or her use of the available resources related to such issues within the institutional program(s).

(9) The inmate's parole plan shall include, but not be limited to, verification and approval by the Board of Parole of the environment to which the inmate plans to return, those with whom he or she plans to be associated, and the adequacy of his or her residence and employment.

(e) The person making such review and recommendation shall examine or consider such documents as he or she deems applicable to the above criteria.

(f) No recommendation in favor of parole shall result in parole unless such recommendation has been approved by at least two members of a panel of the Board of Parole. Such members shall be appointed in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (b) of this section.

(g) No inmate may be released pursuant to the provisions of this section if he or she has been convicted of a violation of Section 53a-55, 53a-55a, 53a-56, 53a-56a, 53a-56b, 53a-57, 53a-58, 53a-59, 53a-59a, 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-92, 53a-92a, 53a-134, 53a-196a, or has more than three years remaining on his or her sentence or is otherwise prohibited from being granted parole for any reason.

(Adopted effective July 30, 1997; amended November 2, 2001)