Rebecca Wasserman Office of Legislative Counsel March 9, 2021 Corrections Definitions

28 V.S.A. § 3:

§ 3. GENERAL DEFINITIONS

As used in this title:

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(10) "Correctional officer" means any person who is an employee of the Department of Corrections whose official duties or job classification includes the supervision or monitoring of a person on parole, probation, or serving any sentence of incarceration whether inside or outside a correctional facility, and who has received training, as approved by the Commissioner of Corrections, as provided in section 551a of this title.

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28 V.S.A. § 201:

§ 201. DEFINITIONS

Whenever used in this chapter, unless a different meaning plainly is required, "probation" means a procedure under which a respondent, found guilty of a crime upon verdict or plea, is released by the court, without confinement, subject to conditions imposed by the court and subject to the supervision of the Commissioner.

28 V.S.A. § 402:

§ 402. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Parole" means the release of an inmate to the community by the Parole Board before the end of the inmate's sentence subject to conditions imposed by the Board and subject to the supervision and control of the Commissioner. If a court or other authority files a warrant or Rebecca Wasserman

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detainer against an inmate, the Board may release him or her on parole to answer the warrant and serve any subsequent sentences.

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28 V.S.A. § 551a:

§ 551A. LAW ENFORCEMENT POWERS OF CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS; TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The Commissioner of Corrections shall establish training requirements necessary for a correctional officer to be authorized to exercise the power to arrest a person on probation under section 301 of this title, to arrest a person serving supervised community sentence under section 363 of this title, or to arrest a person on parole under section 551 of this title. The required training shall include training in search and seizure, criminal law, authority to arrest, use of force, reporting and record keeping, and liability for actions and conduct.
- (b) The Commissioner may also authorize and designate any correctional officer as defined in subdivision 3(10) of this title to become certified by the Vermont Criminal Justice Council as a law enforcement officer pursuant to the provisions of 20 V.S.A. chapter 151. The Commissioner and the Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Council shall develop curriculum subject to the approval of the Council. The Commissioner by Department policy may prescribe the use of those law enforcement powers consistent with the official duties and job descriptions of the correctional officer, and may direct that the correctional officer not carry any weapon while on duty. Any person hereby certified shall be sworn by the Commissioner.