

Department of Corrections

Justice Reinvestment Implementation

Report the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee

June 3, 2021

Justice Reinvestment Goals

Decrease

Decrease returns to prison for people on community supervision related to technical violations

Increase

Increase consistency in the use of sanctions

Increase

Increase use of parole supervision

Strategies to Accomplish JR Goals



Created Community
Supervision
Furlough (CSF) Legal
status



Rescinded Conditional
Re-entry, Reintegration
Furlough, Home
Confinement



Revised contact
standards to be
based on risk
versus legal status



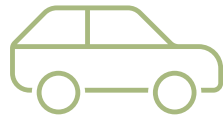
Revised conditions of supervision
for all furlough statuses
Fewer standard conditions of
supervision
Special Conditions related to risk
and behavior

Strategies to Accomplish JR Goals



Revised housing requirement for release from incarceration to decrease lack of housing population.

808(f) release to unauthorize housing repealed



Confirmed practice to allow people to drive if they are legally able and it is not a risk to public safety



Requires all offenders to have a supervision contract or case plan



Expands the use telephone reporting for low-risk offenders

Strategies to Accomplish JR Goals Violations and Sanctions

GOAL: Reduce use of incarceration for behaviors that can be managed in the community and do not pose a risk to public and victim safety

Eliminated short term sanctions

Created standard to meet the threshold in Act 148 for return to incarceration

Supervision conditions to reduce over supervision resulting in violations

Violations



Technical Level Violations

- The violation of a condition of supervision in which there is an absence of public safety issues and will not result in a short term incarcerative response
- A violation that does not involve a violent/listed/felony criminal charge or absconsion



Risk Level Violations

- Violation of a condition of supervision in which there is a direct public safety risk
- An offender's specific criminogenic risks will be taken into consideration when determining level of risk to the public and our response

Technical Level Sanctions



Level 1

Lowest level
Focus is on communicating about negative behavior and first step to address.



Level 2

Moderate level
Focus on stronger supervision requirements and/or requirements for offenders to complete tasks



Level 3

Higher level
Focus on stronger supervision requirements and/or punitive activities placed on the offender



Level 4

Highest level
Focus on stronger supervision requirements and/or punitive activities placed on the offender

Risk Level Sanctions



A significant violation is defined as:

1. An arrest or citation for a new felony or listed offense;
2. Offender's behavior directly threatens or harms an identifiable person/individual;
3. Evidence of behavior(s) that pose a direct risk to public safety;
4. When an offender is arrested on a commissioner warrant for absconding;
5. A documented pattern of risk related behavior where previous interventions have failed to mitigate the risk;
6. A documented pattern or history of behavior that continues after the exhaustion of lower-level sanctions have failed to gain offender compliance.

The violation of a condition of supervision in which the offender engaged in non-compliant behavior that is risk related or serious repetitive non-compliant behavior that may result in a furlough revocation.

JR Strategy: Parole

- Revised DOC directive on Parole Review and Recommendation
- Integrate presumptive parole eligibility process
- Establish new timelines to begin reviewing cases for Parole
- Established process for cases when DOC wants to refute presumptive parole
- Revised parole recommendation criteria to encourage increase use of parole as the preferred supervision mechanism
- Revised contact standards creating one system based on risk versus legal status
- Continued collaboration with Parole Board to improve processes and information sharing

Strategies to Accomplish JR Goals Earned Good Time



Filed Emergency
and Permanent
Rule



Held 8 hours of
public comment
hearings

Victim
Notification

Outpouring of
comments



Extensive
contacts to
Victim Services
Unit



Creating automated
system to track who is
eligible for EGT award
each month

Notification to offenders
Information to victims

Sub-Award Funding



\$298,226

Training to reinforce the philosophy and goals of JR such as using evidence-based risk assessment and screening to inform decisions; and understanding of the Risk, Need, and Responsivity Model, and collaboration and information sharing.



\$118,950

Database enhancements (benefiting DOC and Parole Board)



\$12,096

Administrative supplies and computer monitors (benefiting DOC and Parole Board)

Ongoing Efforts

2021 Legislation

DOC Lead Initiatives

Data Monitoring

- Act 14: Establishes a pilot project to inform felony probation conditions.
 - Project team has its first meeting on June 4th
- Act 24: Modifies the midterm probation process with the goal of moving more people off probation early. This goes into effect July 1, 2021.
- Act 12: Modified the earned time program. 202 individuals who had been eligible to earn time are no longer eligible based on the changes.
- Focused deterrence project.
- Complex community case pilot project.
- AHS wide team meetings on shared cases.
- Regular reports with CSG on implementation, data monitoring, and subaward planning.