



Governor's Re-entry Council, Steering Committee Minutes – Meeting #23 – October 6, 2010

Steering Committee Members Attending: Paula Bauer, Cindy D. Booth, Martin Burrows, Val Conley, Debra Giard, Ginger Martin, Tom McClellan, Scott Taylor, Patrick Vance

Guests: Paul Solomon, Megan Churchill

Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions		
Review of Minutes from the August 4, 2010 Meeting		Copies were distributed for review via e-mail. Members were asked to send corrections/revisions to Denise Taylor. None were received. Minutes were approved as submitted and will be posted to the Re-entry Council webpage.
Announcements and Updates from Members	<p>Ginger Martin reminded the members about the up-coming Out4Life Conference taking place on October 25-27 in Portland. The Governor's Re-entry Council, the Department of Corrections, ROAR and Washington County Re-entry Council are co-sponsoring this major conference on re-entry with the national faith-based organization, Prison Fellowship. The conferences are very broad in the scope of topics addressed. Several of these conferences have taken place around the country, with the Oregon conference being the 5th or 6th. The goal being to engage many more people in helping others to be successful re-entering the community. Max Williams will be one featured speaker.</p> <p>Ms Martin also wanted to give an update on the latest DOC budget reduction plan. The position the director is taking is that we not eliminate all the things we do to help people be successful when they leave. DOC is closing the Oregon State Penitentiary Minimum facility, which is currently housing men in a drug and alcohol treatment program. In the Transitional Services Division, the position Cindy Booth has held is being eliminated. Cindy will move into the position of Administrator of Transition and Release left vacant by Heidi Steward's previous promotion. Education programs and cognitive programs were not impacted.</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>Scott Taylor wanted to thank the steering committee members for attending the Multnomah County Re-entry Council meeting. A grant has been awarded to Multnomah County for jail re-entry.</p> <p>Ms. Martin reported that we were awarded the 2nd Chance Act Grant that DOC had applied for that will benefit 4 county jurisdictions: Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas and Lane Counties. About 70 beds of housing will be established. The required matching funds from the counties will be in the form of services. This grant actually puts into action the steering committee's housing workgroup recommendation.</p> <p>Paul Solomon reported the awarding of a mentoring grant worth \$300,000 for two years.</p> <p>Paula Bauer was asked to explain the impact of the budget reduction at OYA. Ms. Bauer said they have been given some extra time before implementing major changes. They are looking at a significant reduction in closed custody beds and because of this are fast-tracking their grant process to smooth the transition of those leaving custody.</p>	
Next Steps: State Identification Documents for Inmates	Tom McClellan said the full report on this subject was presented to the Re-entry Council at their last meeting. The next steps identified by the Council are detailed in the attached document distributed to the steering committee members. OYA inmates being housed at DOC facilities will be included in the process to obtain Social Security Cards and birth certificates.	
Sex Offenders and Re-entry: Review of Presentation for Council	<p>Ms. Martin distributed copies of a draft sex offender information report developed for the council, which was reviewed for clarity, missing information. etc. More information can be obtained from the Sex Offender Supervision Network (SOSN). A member of Ms. Martin's staff will be attending their upcoming meeting.</p> <p>Cindy Booth suggested adding age statistics of sex offenders. There are barriers with both youthful and elderly sex offenders. Scott Taylor pointed out that the total percentage of sex offenders in the prison population does not match up with the percentage of releases (32% vs. 19%), which highlights the impact of the length of sentence. Many of the myths and misconceptions need better messaging to portray an accurate picture of sex offenders which would enable an easier transition to the community. Paul Solomon pointed out that there are relatively few drug offenders in the state prison system and the general public does not understand this. One of the major sex offender housing issues is caused as some counties provide housing for sex offenders; some do not. Mr. Solomon pointed out that there is a large body of evidence that the geographical restrictions imposed on sex offenders do not keep the public safer. Mr. Taylor suggested a stronger explanation of how Oregon comes to designate sex offenders as predatory. Ms. Martin will include more detail about sex offender registration and where changes should be made.</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
Legislative Concepts Update and Analysis	<p>Cindy Booth reported that the intern Judge McShane graciously loaned to the committee, did research around employment and housing barriers and found 81 restricted licenses based on criminal history. Anne O'Malley met with Senators Burdick and Shields and Representative Cameron to discuss the possible sponsorship of legislative concepts to address barriers to employment and housing. They are willing to consider sponsoring bills with some language changes, specifically to avoid confusion with discrimination and/or protected class (immutable rights). There is little optimism that these issues will be resolved this legislative session, but getting them out on the table and open to discussion on another level is considered progress in this economic climate. Other states working on this issue are being closely watched by the State of New York's Legal Action Center. Our workgroup is in contact with them and keeping up-to-date on successes and barriers.</p> <p>Two other items that the workgroup is addressing are the Certificate of Relief, which would be an option available to people who are new on supervision and a Certificate of Rehabilitation, which would be earned over a longer period of time, with the person demonstrating more completely a change in lifestyle and, hopefully would be given by a court or a parole and probation office. This is a piece of the work that will need a great deal more attention, but has been accomplished in other states.</p> <p>The Department of Housing and Community Services has recognized the transition class' housing curriculum that DOC makes available to inmates preparing for release as qualifying for the certificate which will provide landlords with funding to cover those who don't pay rent or who damage rentals. Additional criteria for other programs are being researched.</p> <p>Ms. Booth reported on the progress in the General Assistance Initiative (attached) presented to the Steering Committee and the Council. The authors of the initiative, John Mullin and Stephanie Tama-Sweet met with Bruce Goldberg and James Toews at DHS, who have agreed to work with the workgroup. Mr. Mullin and Ms. Tama-Sweet have also met with Representative Carolyn Tomei, who has agreed to be the bill carrier. The inmates impacted by the initiative are those who are most needy of medical and mental health care benefits.</p>	
Implementation Tasks Progress Report and Plan for Remaining Goals	<p>Ms. Martin distributed a report on the implementation tasks and a copy of the form used to document the work history verification and the inmate performance review. Both are attached. She briefly reviewed each item. There was not enough meeting time remaining to discuss and establish a plan for the remaining goals. Ms. Martin will contact the workgroup chairmen and staff (Cindy Booth) to reassess the implementation tasks and decide if any need further work or if they are complete.</p>	

Next Steps: Re-entry in the Juvenile Justice System	The steering committee will move forward on the issues the Council directed us to focus on this year. Sex offenders' re-entry was the first one and is being addressed. The next is re-entry in the juvenile justice system. We will bring together the county juvenile directors and OYA folks to talk about the juvenile system generally, issues around re-entry and after becoming informed, decide what's next.	
Next Meeting	The next meeting is scheduled for November 10 th . The December 1st meeting is cancelled because the Council will be meeting on that date. The schedule for 2011 will be discussed at the November meeting.	

Photo ID for Offenders

The Department of Corrections (DOC) and the ODOT Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) are taking the following steps to increase the number offenders released from state prisons who possess state-issued photo ID at the time of release or shortly after release.

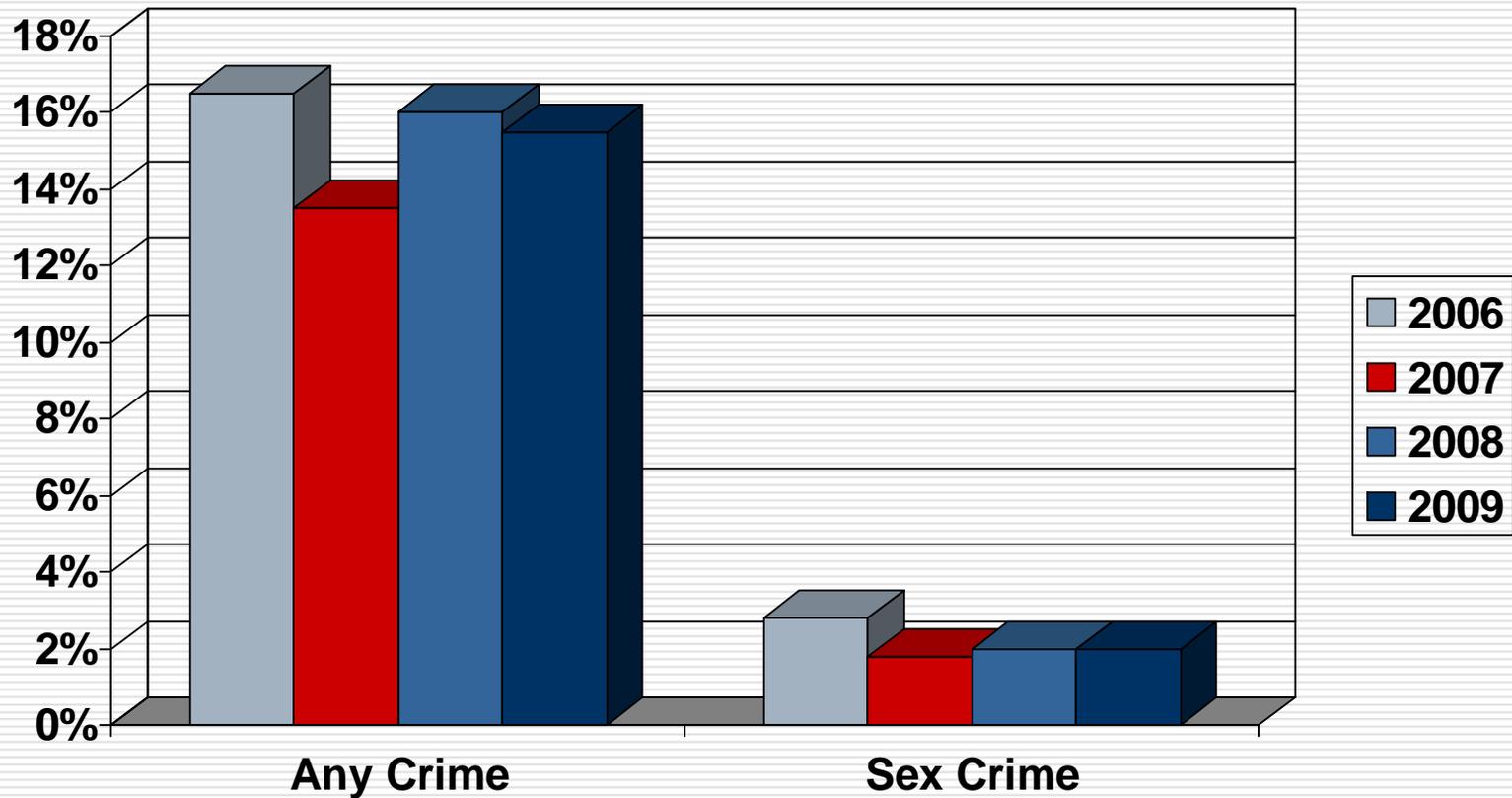
1. **Intake Procedures** – The Department of Corrections will change its policy of sending driver licenses and ID cards to the person's home or family at intake. By retaining the person's driver license or ID card with other personal effects, the number of offenders released from prison with photo ID will increase. It is likely that the DMV-issued photo ID will be added to the central files for each inmate, which includes the SSN/birth certificates that DOC obtains on the person's behalf.
2. **SSN / Birth Certificate Advice** – DMV provides information to the general public on how to obtain certified copies of birth certificates and replacement SSN cards. This doesn't include filling out the forms for people, but DMV phone agents know what is required from different states/counties and where to send the application materials. DMV expertise and resources can be made more accessible to offenders, counselors, and others supporting the reentry process.
3. **Valid With Previous Photo (VWPP)** – DMV is forming an implementation team to determine what is required to enable this option for inmates, which includes rulemaking to expand the current eligibility for this type of issuance. This will require some active engagement from DOC managers and technical staff to determine the best way to handle these requests between the two agencies.
4. **Replicate North Salem Model in Central/Eastern Oregon** – DMV has issued up to ten ID Cards per month to offenders from OSP/Minimum Security for over a year. A different Salem-area prison will be enabled for this process due to the prison closure in October. DMV has agreed to replicate this model to provide monthly in-person ID card issuances for offenders nearing release in either Madras or Baker City. This service is offered before the field office opens to the general public, and requires prequalification steps prior to the visit.
5. **Reinstatement Assistance / DMV Reference Materials** – This service is provided today with about 150 requests for assistance each month. DMV has agreed to provide reference materials (driver manuals, forms, etc.) for release centers and institution library/resource areas. DMV and DOC will review these procedures for opportunities to complete the process more efficiently, but also to ensure that everyone that may need it is taking advantage of this service prior to release.

Introduction to Sex Offender Supervision and Re-entry

Facts and Figures

- Percent prison population
 - 4,459 inmates
 - 32% of total prison population
 - Percent community population
 - 4,422 offenders
 - 14% of total supervised population
 - Prison releases in the next 12 months
 - 790 people
 - 19% of releases
-

Sex Offender Recidivism Rates



Myths About Sex Offenders

- "Most sexual assaults are committed by strangers"
 - "The majority of sex offenders are caught, convicted, and in prison"
 - "Most sex offenders re-offend"
 - "Sexual offense rates are higher than ever and continue to climb"
 - "All sex offenders are male"
-

Myths About Sex Offenders

- ❑ "Sex offenders commit sexual crimes because they are under the influence of alcohol"
 - ❑ "Children who are sexually assaulted will sexually assault others when they grow up"
 - ❑ "Treatment for sex offenders is ineffective"
 - ❑ "The cost of treating and managing sex offenders in the community is too high—they belong behind bars"
-

Conditions of Supervision

- Board of Parole/PPS Special Conditions
 - Report address to law enforcement
 - No use of intoxicating beverages
 - Search of computer and electronics
 - Permission to form intimate relationship
 - Curfew
 - No contact with children or being where children congregate
 - Sex offender treatment
 - Polygraph and plethysmograph testing
 - No contact with victim
 - No sexually stimulating visual or auditory materials
 - Maintenance of a driving log
 - No use of a post-office box
 - May not reside with other sex offenders
 - Geographic restrictions
 - Electronic monitoring
-

Sex Offender Supervision

- ❑ Specialized caseloads
 - ❑ Multi-disciplinary teams: PO, treatment provider, polygrapher
 - ❑ Specialized risk assessment for sexual crimes: static and dynamic risk factors
 - ❑ Case plans individually tailored to the risk and criminal risk factors of the individual
-

Sex Offender Supervision

- ❑ Full disclosure polygraph for sexual history which then drives supervision conditions
 - ❑ Compliance polygraph every 6 months
 - ❑ Complete an approved sex offender treatment program
-

Barriers to Re-entry

- ❑ Employment
 - ❑ Lack of identification
 - ❑ Financial: fines, costs of treatment and polygraph, child support
 - ❑ "One size fits all" approaches to sex offenders
-

Barriers to Re-entry: Restrictions

- Housing restrictions
 - Social support: restrictions on new relationships and community support such as library or church
 - Restrictions on internet use
 - Predatory designation is lifetime
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General Assistance Coalition
Concept Paper for a pilot General Assistance Program
Providing a bridge for the "Poorest of the Poor" Returning to the Community
April 28, 2010

Concept: Helping inmates with disabilities in prisons and local jails to successfully adjust to life in the community through a targeted General Assistance Program

Background - States have long had general assistance programs, and the origins can be traced back to "Relief" programs from the Depression era. With some variation, states fund programs that serve people with disabling conditions who are not receiving federal disability benefits, and who are not otherwise eligible for workers compensation or unemployment insurance. The recipients are very low income individuals or childless couples with very few assets. Although state funded, states may claim reimbursement of the cash assistance paid to clients when recipients qualify for federal disability benefits. This is an incentive to encourage states to maintain GA programs.

Oregon's Program – GA was a flexible program before the establishment of the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program in 1974, and for sometime thereafter, although it was never very well funded, and was often offered up as a potential program elimination to balance the budget of the Department of Human Services (DHS.) A person could qualify for GA: on a temporary basis (e.g., a day laborer with a broken arm); on an ongoing basis (e.g., a client in long term care); or on the basis of meeting impairment and financial eligibility criteria and agreeing to apply for federal disability benefits.

By 2002, GA was essentially limited to the last category, and was structured as a pre-federal benefit program. Clients had to have no more than \$1,500 in assets, of which only \$50 could be liquid assets, have little to no income, and had to be unable to work for a year or more. Advocates often referred to this population as the "poorest of the poor." The statewide caseload was about 2,500 people. The program had three basic features: cash assistance (\$314/month); Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Plus eligibility; and case management assistance to help the clients qualify for SSI and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI.)

GA was eliminated January 31, 2003, and then re-opened in November of 2003 as a program for those people assessed as likely to qualify for SSI. Anyone with work history that might qualify for SSDI was excluded. This very limited program continued until September 30, 2005, and has been closed since that time. ORS 411.710 to 411.730 is still on the books, and the statutes are very "general" indeed.

Attempts to restore the program – Advocates worked to restore full GA funding in the 2007 and 2009 legislative sessions. Although very well received, unanimously supported, and passed by the House Human Services Committee, the bills never emerged from the budget writing Ways and Means committee.

New Concept – establish a Pilot Project in the 2011 session – We recognize that in this economic climate, any program with a fiscal impact will be difficult to move. Given this reality, advocates have been looking at a smaller, targeted pilot project to serve a limited number of high needs people with disabilities and highlight the potential cost-savings to the State. Advocates remain committed to full restoration when economic conditions improve.

We know that very low-income, vulnerable people with disabilities are at great risk of homelessness and incarceration, ultimately costing all of us in human service and public safety expenditures. The proposed pilot project would provide case management to people with disabilities who are leaving the Oregon prison system. In addition, a parallel program would be created in one urban and one rural county to work with the jail population. Our belief is that a targeted GA program would help reduce recidivism rates, potentially saving money while providing a critical service for an at-risk population.

How the Pilot Project would work – SB 913, passed in the 2005 session, mandated the suspension of Medicaid and disability benefits at the time of incarceration. To ensure that benefits are reinstated or newly established, the State Department of Corrections (DOC) and the Department of Human Services, (DHS) are working collaboratively to screen for benefits for inmates with mental health disabilities prior to release. According to DHS, 5-8 inmates are approved for Presumptive Medicaid through the pre-release process, and approximately one third of this group have been awarded SSI and/or SSDI benefits. Another third have been previously denied for technical reasons, and the final third do not have pending applications. In other words, 2/3 of those released could benefit from advocacy and assistance to obtain benefits. Also, those who are qualified for SSI and or SSDI have an average wait of 42 days before receiving disability benefits. There is an income gap for those people.

Intensive case management and limited case assistance would help stabilize those with disabilities released into the community. This would be coordinated with community partners, including corrections, acute and mental health providers, the local SPD/Area Agency on Aging office. Housing, SNAP (formerly Food Stamps), and other services would be secured. While SB 913 did not identify those with physical disabilities, this pilot project proposes to work with this population as well. Further, two county jails would be identified to run a parallel program. The features of the pilot are envisioned as follows:

- One case manager to work with all inmates with severe disabilities leaving the State's prison system (state staff)
- One case manager to work with inmates in local jails (an urban and a rural county would be selected to participate in the pilot; staff functions would potentially be contracted out)
- A cash assistance grant would be established as a bridge until the first disability check is received. A representative payee or money management volunteer would

be identified, as needed, to handle the GA cash grant to pay for housing and other necessary services

- A local team would be established, consisting of the case manager, corrections staff, and a lead local social service agency
- Every effort would be made to ensure that the former inmates would connect with their OHP physical health care and mental health providers
- Client outcomes will be tracked over time

Next Steps/Followup – As we move forward, the following information would be needed:

- Information on the non SB 913 population – i.e., inmates with physical disabilities (information needed from DOC, to be requested)
- Establishing potential caseload size and costs (Advocates and SPD)

In addition, these would be items of follow-up:

- Hearing before the September 2010 Human Services Interim Committee (Advocates)
- Approaching a university and/or foundation to seek support for evaluating the pilot project (Advocates)
- Seeking support - we met with the Continuity of Care Work Group on April 19, 2010. We are submitting this revised concept, seeking initial approval of the Re-Entry Council Steering Committee and the Department of Human Services. A joint policy option package could be developed. Advocates would proceed with a bill in any case, since even with agency support, there would be no guarantee this project would be in the Governor's Recommended Budget (All)
- Work to identify an urban and rural county interested to participate (Advocates)
- 2011 session follow-up (Advocates)

Further Discussion and Information – In an April 25, 2010 Statesman Journal article (“Prisons to adapt to Mental Illnesses”) it was noted that 6,797 prisoners, or nearly half of the total prison population, are mentally ill. The article describes changes in procedures and alternate hospital placements, but these numbers also underscore the need for successful re-integration back in the community. We have also been working with the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington DC. While tracking information goes back to 2006, and there is limited current information, it is clear that most states (38) had some form of General Assistance programs at the time of the study. Again, advocates will continue to work to restore a full program in future years, but we are committed to a modest pilot project for a very costly and at-risk subset of the population in need.

**Governor's Reentry Council
Implementation Tasks Update
October 2010**

State issued photo ID at release

- Following the DMV feasibility study which made a thorough analysis of options and costs for a more system-wide approach to issuing state photo ID prior to release, the DOC and DMV agreed to move the following strategies forward:
 - DOC will change the policy of returning all personal effects and ensure that they retain the inmates' DL/ID cards when inmates enter prison with a photo ID.
 - DOC and DMV could work together to intensify efforts to obtain the SSN/birth certificate for offenders while they are incarcerated. DMV can offer ombudsman assistance and/or advice as needed to aid in this process.
 - DMV will expand the Valid with Previous Photo (VWPP) option as outlined in the feasibility study. Currently, DMV is preparing a more detailed fiscal analysis of how this process could be modified to work for inmates (pre-release) who have a photo on file with DMV from prior driver license or ID card issuances. DOC would photocopy the identification documents and a recent photo and send these to DMV. DMV would issue an ID card using the identity documentation and the photo on file.
 - DMV and DOC will work together to expand the current program of issuing DL/ID to inmates by transporting inmates with proper ID directly to a DMV office at one east side and one valley location.

Strategy to increase transitional housing

A shared investment strategy has been developed and approved by the Council. The DOC in partnership with four large counties applied for and will receive federal Second Chance Act funds to support the investment strategy designed by the Council.

Pilot multi-service sites

\$1.5 million in federal funds have invested in three pilot multi-service sites in Multnomah, Lane, and Klamath Counties in 2009-2011 and programs are operating at each site.

Verification of work skills

- A format for reviewing soft skills has been developed and piloted. The form has just been approved for automation. Once the format is available to all staff, agency policy will be written to provide guidance to work supervisors in how to use it.

- Release counselors are assisting inmates with the verification of work history required in statute.

In-prison job search resources

Bring career development and job hunting resources available on the internet from Work Source Oregon Centers inside the prisons.

- Information system experts from Employment and DOC conducted a successful pilot of internet access to Work Source Oregon Center and other transition resource internet sites. Access is now being extended to all reentry prisons contingent on locating the necessary hardware and having it installed.

Continuity of care

Offenders with serious health and/or behavioral health needs will leave custody with an appointment with a community provider, a transition plan that addresses health and/or behavioral health issues including prosocial support systems, and records will be accessible to health care providers in the community.

- DOC and representatives from the mental health director's association and the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors have drafted and will sign a memorandum of understanding defining the protocol for transition planning for people releasing from prison with mental illness.

Proposals for Legislation

The Steering Committee is reviewing barriers to reentry that require a legislative solution.

- Several areas identified to date have been to prevent criminal history from being a part of a job application for a public entity, providing some level of limited liability to employers and landlords of people with criminal histories, and the concept of a "certificate of rehabilitation."

Messaging

A strategy discussion about developing a reentry message identified a four step process:

1. Develop values statements guided by research on public opinion and perception
2. Test the values statements and concepts with a representative audience
3. Create a communication plan
4. Conduct the campaign to engage the public and potential stakeholders in supporting successful reentry

Funding is needed to pay for the opinion research and testing. DOC and OHCS are working together to develop resources from non-government sources.

Oregon Department of Corrections Work History Verification

Name:

SID:

Office/Classroom

- Clerk
- Office Helper
- Recreation Aide
- Secretary
- Teachers Aide
- Tutor
- Other: _____

Sewing

- Mending
- Alterations
- Tailor
- Other: _____

Kitchen

- Cook
- Cook's Assistant
- Butcher
- Baker
- Kitchen Helper
- Other: _____

Trades

- Barber/Stylist
- Carpenter
- Cement/Masonry
- Clothing Assembly
- Construction Worker
- Decontamination
- Electrician
- Fire Fighter/Forest Worker
- Furniture Designer
- Furniture Maker
- Heating/Air Tech
- Laundry Worker
- Machinist
- Mechanic
- Millwright
- Painter
- Photographer
- Plumber
- Warehouseman
- Welder
- Other: _____

Building/Grounds Keeper

- Farmer
- Gardner
- Landscaper
- Maintenance
- Orderly/Janitor/Cleaner
- Other: _____

Other

- Audio/Visual Technician
- Boiler House Mechanic
- Computer Operator
- Dog Groomer
- Fine Arts Painter
- Garbage Collector
- Highway Maintenance
- Interpreter
- Laborer
- Library Assistant
- Light Duty
- Mattress Maker
- Outside Work Crew
- Paralegal
- Radio Repairer
- Recording Mixer
- Residential Treatment
- Shoe Repairer
- Sign Designer
- Silk Screener
- Stock Control Worker
- Telephone Solicitor
- Waste Water Treatment
- OTHER:
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

INMATE WORK PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Initial 30 Day Trial Service	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meets Expectations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Terminate
12 - 16 points = Very good worker	
07 - 11 points = Moderate worker	
00 - 06 points = Needs improvement	



Regular Review Types	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual Review
<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Months to Release
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exit Review
Inmate Received	Y: <input type="checkbox"/>
Copy of Review	N: <input type="checkbox"/>

Inmate's Name: _____

SID Number: _____ Department/Position: _____

		SCORE
1.	Attendance, adherence to work policies, takes responsibility, acceptable work habits 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
2.	Pays attention to detail and quality 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
3.	Works at a favorable pace and skill level 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
4.	Communicates well with staff and follows directions, brings problems forward 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
5.	Works well with other inmates 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
6.	Asks questions, shows initiative, accepts responsibility and strives to improve 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
7.	Exhibits favorable safety practices, understands basic maintenance and sanitation 0=Needs improvement 1=Acceptable 2=Exceeds	_____
8.	Training, education, certification participation 0=No interest 1=Participating 2=Certificated	_____
TOTAL SCORE		0
Comments:		

Reviewer: _____ Date: _____