

§ 2.73

this paragraph may be authorized only if the Commission finds good cause based upon a written request setting forth the nature of the information to be discussed. See § 2.22.

(e) A full and complete recording of every parole hearing shall be retained by the Commission. Upon a request pursuant to § 2.56, the Commission shall make available to any eligible prisoner such record as the Commission has retained of the hearing.

(f) Because parole decisions must be reached through a record-based hearing and voting process, no contacts shall be permitted between any person attempting to influence the Commission's decision-making process, and the examiners and Commissioners of the Commission, except as expressly provided in this subpart.

[65 FR 45888, July 26, 2000, as amended at 68 FR 41530, July 14, 2003; 69 FR 5274, Feb. 4, 2004]

§ 2.73 Parole suitability criteria.

(a) In accordance with D.C. Code 24-404(a), the Commission shall be authorized to release a prisoner on parole in its discretion after the prisoner has served the minimum term of the sentence imposed, if the following criteria are met:

(1) The prisoner has substantially observed the rules of the institution;

(2) There is a reasonable probability that the prisoner will live and remain at liberty without violating the law; and

(3) In the opinion of the Commission, the prisoner's release is not incompatible with the welfare of society.

(b) It is the policy of the Commission with respect to District of Columbia Code offenders that the minimum term imposed by the sentencing court presumptively satisfies the need for punishment for the crime of which the prisoner has been convicted, and that the responsibility of the Commission is to account for the degree and the seriousness of the risk that the release of the prisoner would entail. This responsibility is carried out by reference to the Salient Factor Score and the Point Assignment Table at § 2.80. However, there may be exceptional cases in which the gravity of the offense is suf-

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ficient to warrant an upward departure from § 2.80 and denial of parole.

[65 FR 45888, July 26, 2000, as amended at 68 FR 41530, July 14, 2003]

§ 2.74 Decision of the Commission.

(a) Following each initial or subsequent hearing, the Commission shall render a decision granting or denying parole, and shall provide the prisoner with a notice of action that includes an explanation of the reasons for the decision. The decision shall ordinarily be issued within 21 days of the hearing, excluding weekends and holidays.

(b) Whenever a decision is rendered within the applicable guideline established in this subpart, it will be deemed a sufficient explanation of the Commission's decision for the notice of action to set forth how the guideline was calculated. If the decision is a departure from the guidelines, the notice of action shall include the reasons for such departure.

(c) The Commission shall resolve relevant issues of fact in accordance with § 2.19(c). Decisions granting or denying parole shall be based on the concurrence of two Commissioners, except that three Commissioner votes shall be required if the decision differs from the decision recommended by the examiner panel by more than six months. A decision releasing a parolee from active supervision shall also be based on the concurrence of two Commissioners. All other decisions, including decisions on revocation and reparole made pursuant to § 2.105(c), shall be based on the vote of one Commissioner, except as otherwise provided in this subpart.

[65 FR 45888, July 26, 2000, as amended at 69 FR 68792, Nov. 26, 2004]

§ 2.75 Reconsideration proceedings.

(a)(1) Following an initial or subsequent hearing, the Commission may—

(i) Set an effective date of parole within nine months of the date of the hearing;

(ii) Set a presumptive parole date at least ten months but not more than three years from the date of the hearing;

(iii) Continue the prisoner to the expiration of sentence if the prisoner's