



**Greg Gianforte, Governor | Brian M. Gootkin, Director**

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#### Program 4 – Board of Pardons & Parole

As set forth in 17-7-111(3)(C), The Board of Pardons and Parole is to provide a statement of goals and objectives. A goal is the bigger picture of the Board of Pardons and Parole while Objectives set forth specific steps.

#### Goals:

1. Administer the release of eligible offenders before the completion of their sentences based on parole decision-making guidelines and professional judgment.
2. Consider public safety when making parole or executive clemency decisions.
3. Ensure that offenders complete risk reducing treatment and programming that addresses their criminogenic risks and needs.
4. Provide the necessary resources and training for Board members to make appropriate release and revocation decisions based on evidence-based practices and sound professional judgment.
5. Maintain and strengthen relationships with the public, victims, criminal justice colleagues, family members, media, and other agencies.

#### Objectives:

Through strategic planning, the Board of Pardons and Parole had to investigate the past and honestly assess what was achieved and identify what has needs to be done in the future. In FY 2022, the Board focused on operations and customer service. The Board identified deficits with information on website, and not interfacing information with the Montana Department of Corrections to better service the public and prison population. This was critical for all the correctional professionals who are part of the parole and executive clemency process. The Board migrated all hearing information in February 2022 to Offender Management Information System (OMIS) in concert with implementing document imaging. This was and is imperative so that all correctional stake holders can view Board hearing information and offender documents related to parole. With the assistance of Department of Corrections, the Board was able to go back the past 5 years and update appearances before the Board. Further, monthly meetings occur with all DOC units to ensure that the Board can stay on task with the goals set forth. In FY 2023 the Board of Pardons and Parole continues to improve, and now has quality control mechanisms in place as it relates to decision making, training, monthly staffing, and public transparency.

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