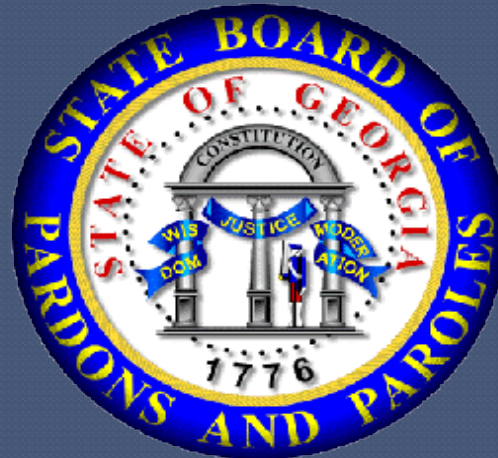


# GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

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## Overview of Re-Entry Services

Erika Johnson, LPC, Mental Health Program Specialist

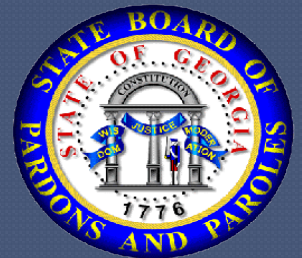
[Erika.Johnson@pap.ga.gov](mailto:Erika.Johnson@pap.ga.gov)

404-783-0313

# Board Members

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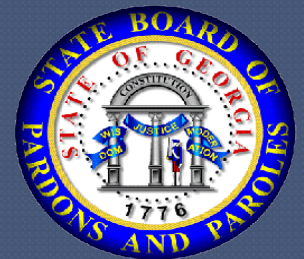
- ❖ Terry E. Barnard, Chairman
- ❖ James W. Mills, Vice Chairman
- ❖ Albert R. Murray
- ❖ Braxton Cotton
- ❖ James E. Donald



# PAP FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION LEADERSHIP

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- DAVID MORRISON, DIRECTOR, FIELD OPERATIONS
- JAMES “BUBBA” WILLIAMS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FIELD OPERATIONS
- PATRICK HOLSEY – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FIELD OPERATIONS, WARRANTS AND VIOLATIONS UNIT



## REENTRY SERVICES UNIT STAFF

- ❖ **Marta Daniell, Unit Coordinator**

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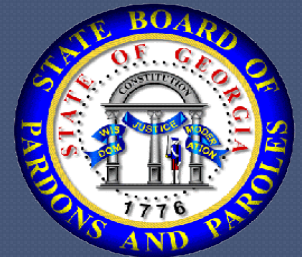
- ❖ **Erin Anderson, Program Specialist – Re-entry Partnership Housing**
- ❖ **George Braucht, LPC, Program Specialist – Substance Abuse Programming; Evidenced-Based Practices (EBP)**
- ❖ **Sherri Bloodworth, Program Specialist – Transitional Housing Offender Re-entry (THOR); Veteran Services; Substance Abuse Aftercare Services**
- ❖ **Harris Childers, Program Specialist – Grants; Research and Re-entry**
- ❖ **Lisa Brown, Program Specialist – Faith Based Services; Education; Employment**
- ❖ **Erika Johnson, LPC, Program Specialist – Mental Health Programming; Field & Board MH Consultant**



# PAP Housing Initiatives

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- ❖ Re-entry Partnership Housing (RPH)
- ❖ Transitional Housing Offender Re-entry (THOR)



# REENTRY PARTNERSHIP HOUSING

- ❖ Collaboration between Pardons & Parole, Department of Corrections, and the Department of Community Affairs
- ❖ Works with a network of 30 pre-approved housing providers throughout Georgia
- ❖ Provides housing assistance to Problem Residence Inmates



# WHO ARE PROBLEM RESIDENCE INMATES?

- ❖ Inmates who have reached their Tentative Parole Month (TPM) but do not have a valid residence
- ❖ Approximately 900 offenders
  - ❖ 2/3 of Problem Residence inmates are registerable sex offenders
  - ❖ Offenders with moderate to severe mental illness



# WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR RPH?

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- ❖ Must have a clean disciplinary record and no pending charges. Register-able sex offenders are not eligible
- ❖ Inmates are offered housing under the RPH program, which pays \$600 per month for their first three months' rent and food





## REENTRY PARTNERSHIP HOUSING

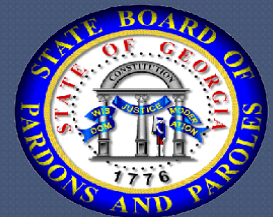
- ❖ From FY2011 – FY2013, RPH has saved the state \$20.9 million in supervision costs
- ❖ 87% of parolees released through RPH have either successfully completed parole or are still on active parole
- ❖ RPH only pays for housing and food
- ❖ Inmates with mental health needs require more services
  - ❑ For inmates with moderate to severe mental illnesses, RPH pays \$675 per month for 4 months



# THOR

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- ❖ An online directory of transitional homes and recovery residences throughout the state accessible by Parole, Probation, and Department of Corrections
- ❖ All THOR residences have met the State Board of Pardons and Paroles' standards regarding safety, communication with agency staff, programming, and employment



# THOR

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3 types of THOR residences:

- ❖ Structured housing: all programming (substance abuse, employment, etc.) is optional
- ❖ Standard Recovery Residence: 1 or more hours of substance abuse counseling per week are required
- ❖ Intensive Recovery Residence: 5 or more hours of SAC per week are required



# MENTAL HEALTH INMATES RELEASED IN FY 2013

TOTAL NUMBER OF INMATES RELEASED IN FY 2013:  
- 6,022

TOTAL NUMBER RELEASED WITH MH LEVELS  
2-4:

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
LEVEL 2	1,039	376	1,415 (23.50%)
LEVEL 3	227	16	243 (4.04%)
LEVEL 4	9	4	13 (0.22%)

*Source: Georgia Department of Corrections Mental Health Inmate  
Release Statistical Profile (2013).*



## MENTAL HEALTH CLASSIFICATION LEVELS DEFINED

**Level II- Outpatient Services.** Receiving services in the general population due to a mental disorder of mild impairment; needs monitoring due to a recent discontinuation of psychotropic medication

**Level III- Supportive Living Unit.** Ability to function in general population moderately impaired due to mental illness and/or mental retardation; easily overwhelmed by everyday institutional demands resulting in one or more of the following: impulsive behavior, deterioration in emotional controls, delusional thinking and/or hallucinations.

**Level IV-Supportive Living Unit.** Ability to function in general population is severely impaired due to mental illness and/or mental retardation. Level reflects active symptoms of a major mental illness. Unable to attend most treatment or recreational groups and requires ancillary services (i.e. activity therapy, escort assistance to the cafeteria and sick call).

**SOURCE:** Georgia Department of Corrections, MH/MR Services Policies & Procedures, Reference No. VG01-0010, March 12, 1996.



# PAROLE MENTAL HEALTH POPULATION AS OF: JULY 1, 2014

- ❖ Monthly Average of Parolees Supervised with Moderate to Severe Mental Health Enrolled in Mental Health Programs = 554
- ❖ Monthly Average of Parolees with Mental Health receiving Medication Only = 206
- ❖ Average Number of Inmates with Mental Health Granted Parole on Problem Placement List (excluding Sex Offenders):
  - Level 3 - 45
  - Level 4 - 14



# PAROLE POST-RELEASE SPECIALIZED SUPERVISION

- ❖ Specialized Officers (SPO) are assigned to supervise and provide case management to higher risk parolees (i.e. parolees with mental health disorders; sex offenders)
  
- ❖ Specialized Officers:
  - ❑ Provide instruction for compliance with post-release conditions
  - ❑ Assess community needs identified in re-entry plan and assist with appropriate case management
  - ❑ Liaison with family and/or residential provider to ensure stability of housing
  - ❑ Provide supportive assistance to community mental health providers in the event of non-compliance with treatment/programming



# PARDONS & PAROLES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

## PARTNERSHIP OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Enhance the re-entry success of mental health Level III and IV parolees
- ❖ Obtain expanded regional resources
- ❖ Establish dedicated mental health re-entry processes for immediate availability of appropriate services





# PARDONS & PAROLES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

Provide for:

- ❖ Pre-release assessment and immediate access to community supports for appropriate reintegration and long-term stability
- ❖ Reduced no-show rates of initial assessment and psychiatrist appointments
  - ❑ Effects of failure to attend initial post-release assessment appointments include Parolee loss of residential placement, Re-hospitalization, and Re-incarceration
- ❖ Access to long-term housing via RPH for inmates paroled with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) with no other housing options
- ❖ Post-release access and seamless linkage to wrap-around services
- ❖ Ongoing support and assistance for program compliance through Parole and community supervision



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**Housing + Services =  
Best Chance for Success**



# Questions?



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Mental Health Program Specialist  
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