



**COLORADO**  
Department of Corrections  
Office of the Executive Director

Mr. Steve Allen  
Principal Legislative Analyst  
Joint Budget Committee  
200 East 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Denver, CO 80203

November 2, 2015

Dear Mr. Allen:

The Department of Corrections (DOC) respectfully requests that the General Assembly retain the current caseload funding level for the Division of Adult Parole for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17. The August 2015 Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) FY 2016-17 interim projection reflects an increase in the parole population from current levels. The forecasted increase was influenced by the recent significant downward trend in parole revocations, specifically in the area of technical violations. The projections were significantly modified upward by the enactment of Senate Bill 15-124, *Reduce Parole Violations for Technical Violations*, which impacts the decline in revocations by providing for the consistent application and increased use of intermediate sanctions prior to revocation. The Division of Adult Parole is linking the Colorado Violation Decision Making Process (CVDMP) to the parole complaint program to better track the use of intermediate sanctions and revocations. The Division has also implemented the Sure and Swift program to quickly address violations with short-term jail stays in lieu of revocation to ensure that offender stability is not interrupted. The DCJ projected FY 2016-17 population is comparable to DCJ's December 2013 parole population forecast on which our current caseload funding is based.

The Department continues its work for the continued success of programs funded through House Bill 14-1355, *Reentry Initiatives for Successful Reintegration of Adult Offenders into the Community*. The recent reduction reported in recidivism is a reflection of the dedication and hard work of all DOC staff including officers and re-entry staff in the Division of Adult Parole. HB 14-1355 funded critical programs for the Department including but not limited to additional case managers, facility-based community parole officers, specialized training for parole staff, and grants to community-based organizations. Maintaining the current staffing levels will provide stability to the Division of Adult Parole as we continue to implement initiatives that are focused on successful re-entry of offenders as they return to their communities.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I appreciate the opportunity to provide this additional information on the positive improvements within the Division of Adult Parole.

Thank you,

Rick Raemisch  
Executive Director  
Department of Corrections



Cc: Mr. Henry Sobenet, Director, Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting  
Mr. Erick Scheminske, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting  
Ms. Melissa Bloom, Budget Analyst, Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting  
Mr. John Ziegler, Staff Director, Joint Budget Committee

