

Dok 61

**Annual Report  
(Parole Board)  
2019**

A brief synopsis of actions taken by the Parole Board during the last year, number of meetings held, together with a list of attendance of members/chair for same meetings and other relevant remarks that might need to be included in this report.

*List of contents*

- 1. A brief synopsis of actions taken by the Parole Board during the last year*
- 2. Number of meetings held*
- 3. list of attendance of members/chair for same meetings*
- 4. Other relevant remarks that might need to be included in this report*

*A brief Introduction*

It is to be noted that as specified in Art 11 (1) of the Parole Board regulations, the Parole Board holds its meetings in the Correctional Facility.

The Parole Board regulates its own procedures, and examines and discusses the cases brought before it until it reaches a decision as to whether to grant or not a parole license following the application filed by inmate to be considered for parole. The Parole Board shall examine the Parole Recommendation Report presented by the Offenders Assessment Board, as well as the various documents contained in the Parole dossier. The Board receives a report at least every two months from the Parole Officer who supervises the progress of the parolees.

In line with Article 16 of the Restorative Justice Act, when granting parole to a prisoner, the Parole Board imposes any conditions as may be deemed necessary. In case an infringement of any of the conditions, is reported to the Board by the said Parole Officer or otherwise. The Board as provided in the same Article may amend, suspend or revoke the relative parole license.



MALTA

Parole Board

1. A brief synopsis of actions taken by the Parole Board during the last year

*a) Number of Cases discussed and concluded by the Parole Board in the year 2019*

A total number of fifty-eight (58) cases were brought before the Board and discussed and concluded by the said Board in the year 2019.

*b) Number of Parole licences issued by the Parole Board in the year 2019*

Twenty (20) parole licences were issued by the Parole Board in the year 2019.

*c) Number of Parole licences denied by the Parole Board in the year 2019*

Thirty eight (38) applications for parole licences were denied by the Parole Board in the year 2019.

Statistics

| <i>Cases (Total number: 58 cases) in 2019</i> | <i>Percentages (out of these cases)</i> |
|---|---|
| <b>No of inmates granted Parole: (20)</b>     | 34%                                     |
| <b>No of inmates denied Parole: (38)</b>      | 66%                                     |

- From 2019 to 2018, there was a small decrease in the number of parole licences issued by the Parole Board. In 2018, 39% of the cases brought before it, were granted parole licence, while in 2019, 34% were granted parole licence. However, unlike the previous year, where 46 cases were discussed by the Parole Board, in 2019 there were more cases which appeared before the Parole Board, in fact the OAB prepared 58 reports.*

*Termination of parole licence period successfully*

In 2019, fourteen (14) parolees terminated their parole license successfully and the opportune certificates were duly issued.

*Number of parole licences which were amended, suspended and revoked during the year 2019 and reasons thereof:*

Unlike the previous year where in 2018 there were no parole licences which were amended, suspended or revoked; in 2019, three parole licences were suspended. Two of these parole licences were then revoked. In addition, there were other three parole licences which were immediately revoked.

This shows that in all, in 2019 a total of five parole licences were revoked and another parole licence suspended.

These steps were taken in line with Article 16 (1) of the Restorative Justice Act, *'The Parole Board may amend, suspend or revoke a parole licence if it is reported to the Parole Board, by the Director or his representative, or any public authority including the Commissioner of Police and the Attorney General that the parolee: (a) has not complied with any of the parole conditions; or (b) presents, to the parole officer of parole officers or police officials, reasonable suspicion that he might commit a further crime or (c) is charged with committing a further crime.'*

In addition, Article 16 (2) of the Restorative Justice Act states that *'Upon revocation or suspension of the parole licence, the parolee shall immediately be returned to the Correctional Facility to serve the rest of his sentence and will not be re-eligible for parole during the course of the sentence being served:*

Article 10 of the Parole Board regulations furthermore explains that *'When a parole licence is revoked, the parolee shall be immediately recommitted to prison to serve the remaining period of his original sentence, including the time during which he had benefitted from parole'.*

Other information

In 2019, there was an inmate who was granted parole licence. However, he was admitted back to Corradino Correctional Agency while he was on this parole licence after he was sentenced to another prison sentence.

2. Number of meetings held

Total number: Twelve (12) meetings in 2019

Dates:

|    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 1  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> January, 2019   |
| 2  | 27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2019  |
| 3  | 27 <sup>th</sup> March, 2019     |
| 4  | 29 <sup>th</sup> April, 2019     |
| 5  | 29 <sup>th</sup> May, 2019       |
| 6  | 19 <sup>th</sup> June, 2019      |
| 7  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> July, 2019      |
| 8  | 27 <sup>th</sup> August, 2019    |
| 9  | 30 <sup>th</sup> September, 2019 |
| 10 | 30 <sup>th</sup> October, 2019   |
| 11 | 28 <sup>th</sup> November, 2019  |
| 12 | 17 <sup>th</sup> December, 2019  |

3. List of attendance of members/chair for same meetings

| <i>Position</i>                     | <i>Name</i>                      | <i>Percentage of Attendance</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Chairperson</i>                  | Judge Franco Depasquale          | 100%                            |
| <i>Secretary</i>                    | Dr. Joseph Daniel Borg           | 92%                             |
| <i>Members</i>                      | Dr. Kevin Sammut                 | 100%                            |
|                                     | Dr. Anna Maria Vella             | 83%                             |
|                                     | Dr. Charles Cassar               | 92%                             |
|                                     | Ms. Miriam Sevasta               | 83%                             |
|                                     | Dr. Philip Galea Farrugia        | 0%                              |
|                                     | Dr. Anna Grech                   | 67%                             |
|                                     | Dr. Justine Scerri Herrera       | 75%                             |
|                                     | Dr. Marta Sant                   | 83%                             |
| <i>Senior Parole Clerk</i>          | Mr. Christian Rizzo              | 100%                            |
| <i>Care and Re-integration Unit</i> | Mr. Saviour Lia <sup>1</sup>     | 58%                             |
|                                     | Lt. Roderick Mifsud <sup>2</sup> | 42%                             |

<sup>1</sup> Attending the sittings till August, 2019

<sup>2</sup> Attending the sittings from August, 2019

**4. Other relevant remarks that might need to be included in this report**

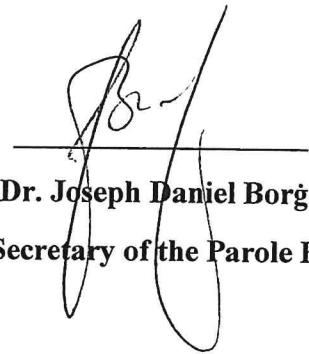
**Any matters effecting the operation of the Parole Board in the fulfilment of its functions and duties excluding any administrative issues.**

Cooperation between one department and another is crucial in order to gather sufficient information once a parole application has been lodged. The Board closely follows the regular bimonthly reports of the Parole Officer to make sure the conditions set are being adhered to. This also includes all possible details regarding those parole applicants who would be still undergoing other criminal proceedings once they apply for parole or those who have other pending cases on appeal. This information is crucial during the compilation of parole reports or when assessments are carried out for the purposes of a parole application.

In 2019, there was an inmate who was granted parole licence with certain conditions, including an electronic tag. This was the first case in which a similar condition was imposed.



**Judge Franco Depasquale**  
**Chairperson of the Parole Board**



**Dr. Joseph Daniel Borg**  
**Secretary of the Parole Board**

27/3/2020

**Date**