

**A RESOLUTION**

Providing for the conduct of parole interviews by videoconference when personal attendance by a decision maker is not practicable.

**RESOLVED**, parole interviews will be conducted by videoconference in cases where personal attendance by a decision maker is not practicable.

**REASONS FOR ADOPTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Board is an independent administrative board of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that is responsible for the administration of the probation and parole laws of this Commonwealth, 61 Pa.C.S. § 6111(a);

**WHEREAS**, parole may not be granted, or an application for parole dismissed, unless a Board Member, Hearing Examiner, or other person designated by the Board has seen and heard an inmate in person in regard thereto within six months prior to the granting or dismissal thereof; 61 Pa.C.S. § 6139(a)(6);

**WHEREAS**, Board procedure provides that all inmates who are considered for parole are interviewed by institutional parole agents or supervisors, prior to being interviewed by decision makers;

**WHEREAS**, the Board prefers to conduct parole interviews with a decision maker physically present with inmates, and does so whenever practicable;

**WHEREAS**, from time to time, decision makers are unable to travel to designated locations for parole interviews because of unexpected and unpredictable occurrences, such as illness, inclement weather, and the like;

**WHEREAS**, the inability of a decision maker to be physically present at a parole interview has historically resulted in postponement of parole interviews;

**WHEREAS**, videoconference technology has progressed to the point where decision makers can participate in parole interviews without being physically present; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of videoconference technology by decision makers to conduct parole interviews, in cases where interviews would otherwise be postponed because a decision maker cannot be physically present, will increase efficiency, reduce costs, and foster the timely issuance of paroling decisions.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board resolves to conduct parole interviews by videoconference in cases where personal attendance by a decision maker is not practicable.

[Signature]

Mark Koch

Ed Brumelo

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Paul H. Allen

ATTESTED

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BOARD SECRETARY

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Craig R. McKay

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