

## Department of Justice

## § 2.15

seven years, every eighteen months (until released);

(ii) In the case of a prisoner with a maximum term or terms of seven years or more, every twenty-four months (until released);

(iii) In the case of a prisoner with an unsatisfied minimum term, the first interim hearing shall be scheduled under paragraphs (a)(1)(i) or (ii) of this section, or on the docket of hearings that is nine months prior to the month of parole eligibility, whichever is later.

(2) Following an interim hearing, the Commission may:

(i) Order no change in the previous decision;

(ii) Advance a presumptive release date, or the date of a fifteen year reconsideration hearing. However, it shall be the policy of the Commission that once set, a presumptive release date or the date of a fifteen year reconsideration hearing shall be advanced only:

(1) For superior program achievement under the provisions of § 2.60; or

(2) For other clearly exceptional circumstances.

(iii) Retard or rescind a presumptive parole date for reason of disciplinary infractions. In a case in which disciplinary infractions have occurred, the interim hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures of § 2.34(c) through (f). (Prior to each interim hearing, prisoners shall be notified on the progress report furnished by the Bureau of Prisons that any finding of misconduct by the Discipline Hearing Officer since the previous hearing will be considered for possible action under this paragraph);

(iv) If a presumptive date falls within nine months after the date of an interim hearing, the Commission may treat the interim hearing as a prerelease review in lieu of the record review required by paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Pre-release reviews.* The purpose of a pre-release review shall be to determine whether the conditions of a presumptive release date by parole have been satisfied.

(1) At least sixty days prior to a presumptive parole date, the case shall be reviewed on the record, including a current institutional progress report.

(2) Following review, the Regional Commissioner may:

(i) Approve the parole date;

(ii) Advance or retard the parole date for purpose of release planning as provided by § 2.28(e);

(iii) Retard the parole date or commence rescission proceedings as provided by § 2.34;

(iv) Advance the parole date for superior program achievement under the provisions of § 2.60.

(3) A pre-release review pursuant to this section shall not be required if an in-person hearing has been held within nine months of the parole date.

(4) Where:

(i) There has been no finding of misconduct by an Institutional Disciplinary Committee nor any allegation of criminal conduct since the last hearing; and

(ii) No other modification of the release date appears warranted, the Executive Hearing Examiner may act for the Regional Commissioner under paragraph (b)(2) of this section to approve conversion of the presumptive parole date to an effective date of parole.

(c) *Fifteen year reconsideration hearings.* A fifteen year reconsideration hearing shall be a full reassessment of the case pursuant to the procedures at § 2.13.

(1) A fifteen year reconsideration hearing shall be ordered following initial hearing in any case in which a release date is not set.

(2) Following a fifteen year reconsideration hearing, the Commission may take any one of the actions authorized by § 2.12(b).

[46 FR 39136, July 31, 1981; 47 FR 25735, June 15, 1982, as amended at 48 FR 9247, Mar. 4, 1983; 48 FR 44525, Sept. 29, 1983; 49 FR 34208, Aug. 29, 1984; 55 FR 290, Jan. 4, 1990; 60 FR 51350, Oct. 2, 1995; 68 FR 41529, July 14, 2003]

### § 2.15 Petition for consideration of parole prior to date set at hearing.

When a prisoner has served the minimum term of imprisonment required by law, the Bureau of Prisons may petition the responsible Regional Commissioner for reopening the case under § 2.28(a) and consideration for parole prior to the date set by the Commission at the initial or review hearing. The petition must show cause why it

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should be granted, i.e., an emergency, hardship, or the existence of other extraordinary circumstances that would warrant consideration of early parole.

[42 FR 39809, Aug. 5, 1977, as amended at 44 FR 3407, Jan. 16, 1979]

### § 2.16 Parole of prisoner in state, local, or territorial institution.

(a) Any person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment for any offense against the United States, but who is confined therefor in a state reformatory or other state or territorial institution, shall be eligible for parole by the Commission on the same terms and conditions, by the same authority, and subject to recommittal for the violation of such parole, as though he were confined in a Federal penitentiary, reformatory, or other correctional institution.

(b) Federal prisoners serving concurrent state and Federal sentences in state, local, or territorial institutions shall be furnished upon request parole application forms. Upon receipt of the application and any supplementary classification material submitted by the institution, parole consideration shall be made by an examiner panel of the appropriate region on the record only. If such prisoner is released from his state sentence prior to a Federal grant of parole, he shall be given a personal hearing as soon as feasible after receipt at a Federal institution.

(c) Prisoners who are serving Federal sentences exclusively but who are being boarded in State, local, or territorial institutions may be provided hearings at such facilities or may be transferred by the Bureau of Prisons to Federal Institutions for hearings by examiner panels of the Commission.

(18 U.S.C. 4203, 4204)

[42 FR 39809, Aug. 5, 1977, as amended at 45 FR 44924, July 2, 1980; 50 FR 36424, Sept. 6, 1985]

### § 2.17 Original jurisdiction cases.

(a) Following any hearing conducted pursuant to these rules, the Regional Commissioner may designate that a case should be decided as an original jurisdiction case. If the Regional Commissioner makes such a designation, the Regional Commissioner shall vote

on the case and then refer the case to the other Commissioners for their votes. The decision in an original jurisdiction case shall be made on the basis of a majority vote of Commissioners holding office at the time of the decision.

(b) The following criteria will be used in designating cases as original jurisdiction cases:

(1) Prisoners who have committed serious crimes against the security of the Nation, e.g., espionage or aggravated subversive activity.

(2) Prisoners whose offense behavior:

(i) Involved an unusual degree of sophistication or planning, or

(ii) Was part of a large scale criminal conspiracy or a continuing criminal enterprise.

(3) Prisoners who have received national or unusual attention because of the nature of the crime, arrest, trial, or prisoner status, or because of the community status of the offender or his victim.

(4) *Long-term sentences.* Prisoners sentenced to a maximum term of forty-five years (or more) or prisoners serving life sentences.

(c)(1) Any case designated for the original jurisdiction of the Commission shall remain an original jurisdiction case unless designation is removed pursuant to this subsection.

(2) A case found to be inappropriately designated for the Commission's original jurisdiction, or to no longer warrant such designation, may be removed from original jurisdiction under the procedures specified in paragraph (a) of this section following a regularly scheduled hearing or the reopening of the case pursuant to § 2.28. Removal from original jurisdiction may also occur by majority vote of the Commission considering a petition for reconsideration pursuant to § 2.27. Where the circumstances warrant, a case may be redesignated as original jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

[42 FR 39809, Aug. 5, 1977, as amended at 42 FR 44234, Sept. 2, 1977; 48 FR 53409, Nov. 28, 1983; 61 FR 13763, Mar. 28, 1996; 61 FR 55743, Oct. 29, 1996; 68 FR 41529, July 14, 2003]