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Purpose and Function of Probation and Parole	ACA Standards: 4-APPFS-2A-01, 4-APPFS-3D-01		
T. Hastings Siegfried, Chair Oklahoma Board of Corrections		Signature on File	

Purpose and Function of Probation and Parole

It is the policy of the Oklahoma Board of Corrections (BOC) that the purpose and function of Probation and Parole is to facilitate the pro-social adjustment of offenders under supervision to prevent further criminal behavior and to ensure successful compliance with the terms and conditions of probation as determined by the courts, or of parole as determined by the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board, the governor or the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC). (4-APPFS-3D-01)

Persons on community supervision will be appropriately classified and supervised as authorized by state law and consistent with the best interests of the public, the employees and the offenders. It is the policy of the ODOC that all offenders under community supervision are supervised in a manner that optimizes the opportunity for the offender to engage in pro-social behavior. (4-APPFS-2A-01)

I. Agency Director’s Authority

The agency director or designee will commission probation and parole officers and will determine how the peace officer authority of probation and parole officers will be exercised within the scope of employment and the mission of the agency.

II. Peace Officer Authority

It is the policy of the BOC that the agency director or designee will commission eligible and qualified persons as probation and parole officers.

III. Responsibility of Probation and Parole

A. Probation and parole officers will perform duties as prescribed by the agency director and set forth in their job description as approved by the Human Capital Division of Office Management and Enterprise Services (OMES). It is the responsibility of probation and parole officers to protect the public, the employees and the offenders entrusted in their supervision and custody. This is accomplished through effective utilization of a continuum of supervision strategies and interventions. Staff will assess and review all offenders on community supervision in accordance with the needs of the offender and the best interest of the community.

B. The ODOC will:

1. Utilize a risk-based classification system that classifies offenders based on criminogenic risk and needs, and establish supervision strategies that address those needs. The classification system will provide supervision, which can decrease as the offender resolves identified needs, or may increase as new needs are identified.
2. Ensure offender assessment procedures are developed and implemented which identify an offender's criminogenic risk factors and needs.
3. Ensure transition plans are developed to assist offenders in addressing those needs.

IV. Operations Memoranda

The agency director is authorized and is responsible for the adoption of operational procedures, which ensure compliance with this policy. The procedure will specifically outline the scope of authority and employment of probation and parole officers in the performance of duties and responsibilities in meeting the mission of the agency.

V. References

22 O.S. 991a

57 O.S. § 515

57 O.S. § 512

VI. Action

The agency director is responsible for compliance with this policy.

The agency director is responsible for the annual review and revisions.

Any exceptions to this policy will require prior written approval of the Board of Corrections.

This policy statement is effective as indicated.

Replaced: Policy Statement No. P-160100 entitled "Purpose and Function of Probation and Parole" dated January 27, 2020

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