

Number of Wyoming Inmates Recommended For Commutations to the Governor By The Board of Parole

1 2 3 4 5
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By Mark Farnham
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2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
8	4	1	5	5	1	0	0	3	6

Note: Between 2012 and 2013 there were 12 commutations recommended to the Governor.⁶

Note: Between 2017 and 2019 there was 1 commutation recommended to the Governor

Summation: There is no meaningful exit plan for release of reformed long term inmates in the Wyoming system. With the Board of Parole recommending in some years one or zero annual recommendations for commutations, there is no way for the rehabilitated long termers to exit the system.

Even recommending 5 annually are disheartening as it would take future Wyoming Governors 104 years to review the 520 inmates with life sentences or virtual life sentences, by which time all the inmates would be dead and thousands of additional inmates will have been added to this ever-growing list of warehoused prisoners.

¹ For Years: 2012-2013 Sources for Information: Wy. Board of Parole Strategic Plan 2017-2018, pg 3

² For Years: 2014-2017 Sources for Information: Wy. Board of Parole Strategic Plan 2019-2020, pg 3

³ For Years: 2015-2019 Sources for Information: Wyoming Board of Parole Strategic Plan 2020, Pg 3

⁴ For 2020 the source is a letter dated April 15, 2021 from James Michael Causey, Executive Director of the Board to Mark Farnham.

⁵ Casper Star Tribune January 9, 2022 page C2 *Gordon following commutations trend* By Joan Barron

⁶ Casper Star Tribune Feb.11, 2013 A-1 *Wyo waylays 31-year fugitive ..Family man loses job, house, retirement* Joe Welch's attorney, Geoffrey Phillips **applied directly to Gov. Mead for a commutation for Welch.** "It was a long shot – Mead is renowned for his tough stance on crime. Up until this point, the former federal prosecutor denied every request for commutation. The Wyoming Board of Parole has recommended 17 [commutation requests] since 2011."