



## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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July 1, 2002  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Three New Appointments Made to Board of Pardons and Paroles**

(Pierre) - Three new members take their place on the South Dakota Board of Pardons and Paroles July 1st.

Dennis Kaemingk of Mitchell, Thomas Cihak of Yankton and Mark Marshall of Sioux Falls are the newest appointees to the Board. They join current Board members James Sheridan of Huron, Theodore Pins, Jr. of Wentworth, Robert Hofer of Pierre, Jerome Lammers of Madison, Tim Bjorkman of Canistota and Cheryl Laurenz-Bogue of Dupree.

Previously, the Board consisted of six members, with the Governor, Attorney General and South Dakota Supreme Court each appointing two members. The 2002 state legislature passed and the Governor signed into law Senate Bill 48, which expanded the Board to nine members. The appointing authorities now name three members each; with at least one of the members appointed by each authority required to be an attorney.

Parole Board members are confirmed by the State Senate and serve four-year terms.

The Board is administered under the jurisdiction and direction of the Department of Corrections but retains quasi-judicial, quasi-legislative, advisory and other non-administrative functions independent of the Department of Corrections. The Board in South Dakota is part-time, meeting two days a month at prison facilities in Sioux Falls, Pierre and Springfield.

The Board was last expanded in 1991, from three to six members. At the time of the 1991 expansion, there were 1,371 adult inmates in the state prison system. There are now 2,884 adult inmates in the state prison system. Changes made to state laws governing parole in 1996 also increased the time required for parole hearings.