



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES
1600 N. Drive, P.O. Box 5911
Sioux Falls, SD 57117 - 5911

Ed Ligtenberg, *Director*

Kay F. Nikolas, Chair

Keith Bonenberger, Vice Chair

Members

Debra Flute – Dave Nelson - Jack Hieb - Kenneth Albers

Don Holloway - William Grode - Thomas Simmons

February 8, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kay Nikolas elected Chair of Board of Pardons and Paroles

(Sioux Falls, S.D.)- Kay Nikolas of Sisseton was elected to serve as chair of the Board of Pardons and Paroles (Board) during the Board's meeting in January.

Keith Bonenberger of Kadoka was elected to serve as vice-chair.

Nikolas replaces Dave Nelson of Sioux Falls as chair, a position Nelson held for two years.

"I want to thank Dave Nelson for his leadership of the Parole Board over the past two years and his continued service on the Board," said Secretary of Corrections Denny Kaemingk. "Dave represented the Board on the Criminal Justice Initiative work group and will provide valuable insight to other Board members as changes to the parole system take shape."

The Board consists of nine members, with the Governor, Chief Justice of the South Dakota Supreme Court and the Attorney General each appointing three members. One of the appointees by each authority must be an attorney.

Nikolas was appointed to the Board by the Chief Justice in 2009. Bonenberger was a 2008 appointment by the Attorney General.

The Board conducts hearings and takes action on inmate petitions for parole and makes recommendations to the Governor on requests for clemency. 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.