



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
State House, Room 224
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
401-222-2080

2011 NOV 29 AM 9:26
SECRETARY OF STATE
TJ

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER

11-10

November 29, 2011

PRISONER REENTRY

WHEREAS, more than 4,000 sentenced offenders were released from prison by the State of Rhode Island in 2010; and

WHEREAS, there are 31 inmates serving life sentences without parole today, which means that more than 99% of offenders sentenced to the Adult Correctional Institutions in Rhode Island (the "ACI") will eventually be released back into the community; and

WHEREAS, based on recent studies by the Department of Corrections of inmates released from the ACI, over 50% of these inmates were either incarcerated or under community supervision within three years of discharge, with 32% of them subject to correctional oversight within the first year of discharge; and

WHEREAS, this recidivism poses a serious risk to public safety and is a major contributor to the size and cost of our state's prison populations; and

WHEREAS, there is strong interest nationally in the development of successful models of reentry among other private and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections has designed a reentry philosophy for the incarcerated population and those offenders released to community supervision; and

WHEREAS, community-based support in the form of reentry councils, coordinated access to life skills and job training, housing, education, medical and mental health services, and substance abuse treatment has a positive impact on reducing the likelihood of recidivism; and

WHEREAS, post-release supervision by probation and parole officers, working in conjunction with law enforcement agencies and not-for-profit service providers, is essential to successful reintegration of offenders into the community; and

WHEREAS, collaboration, partnerships and shared resources are essential to effective prisoner reentry.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, by virtue of the power vested in me as Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby order as follows:

1. The Governor's Steering Committee on Prisoner Reentry, established by Executive Order 04-02, is hereby reactivated to continue an integrated plan and systemic approach to promoting reentry strategies for all offenders prior to release from incarceration, with continued support from parole and probation officers, law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations and community reentry councils after release.
2. The Steering Committee shall:
 - a. Ensure agreement on overall policy direction;
 - b. Provide ongoing coordination at the executive level of reentry initiatives across the state;
 - c. Address policies and practices that impede successful reentry;
 - d. Assign senior staff from departments, agencies and offices involved to implement priorities; and
 - e. Promote information sharing among agencies whose activities have an impact on reentry in order to enhance successful reentry outcomes and measure the success of reentry initiatives.
3. The Governor shall select the chairperson of the Steering Committee. Steering Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and shall include the following (or their designees): Director, Department of Corrections; Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; Director, Department of Children, Youth and Families; Director, Department of Labor and Training; Director, Department of Health; Commissioner, Board of Governors for Higher Education; Commissioner, Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education; Director, Department of Human Services; Director, Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals; Chair, Parole Board; Executive Director, Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation; Mayor, City of Providence; Superintendent, State Police; President, Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association; and a representative of the Governor's office.

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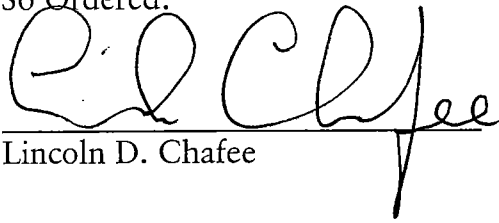
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4. All executive state departments, agencies and offices shall support the efforts and goals of the Steering Committee.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

So Ordered:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. D. Chafee", written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and stylized.

Lincoln D. Chafee