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**MINNESOTA BOARD OF PARDONS
ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**

February 14, 1997

Submitted by Jean M. Whitney, Secretary
Minnesota Board of Pardons

LEGISLATIVE REPORT MINNESOTA BOARD OF PARDONS

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §638.075 (1996), the Board of Pardons is required to file a written report with the legislature summarizing actions it took during the previous year.

The Minnesota Board of Pardons is made up of the Governor, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Attorney General. The board is authorized to grant the following types of extraordinary relief to persons who have been convicted of crimes:

- ▶ pardon - an act of forgiveness which exempts the convicted person from the punishment imposed by the law.
- ▶ commutation - the substitution of a lesser or different type of punishment for the original sentence.
- ▶ pardon extraordinary- statutorily created relief granted after the applicant has served the sentence. When a pardon extraordinary is granted, the court issues an order to set aside the conviction and the person is no longer required to report the conviction, however, the conviction remains in the criminal history record.

1996 ACTIVITIES

During 1996, staff of the Board of Pardons, sent out 98 applications for pardon extraordinary and 13 for pardon commutation. When anyone calls to request an application, staff carefully explain the eligibility requirements and make every effort to determine whether the interested individual is eligible before an application is sent. This careful screening appears to be accomplishing its purpose because the number of applications returned due to ineligibility remains very low.

The Board granted 21 pardons extraordinary during 1996. Of that number, two were for individuals who had applied previously and were told by the Board to reapply after several more years. Although the eligibility requirement for non-violent offenses is five years, the Board did not grant a pardon extraordinary to anyone with less than seven years of law-abiding conduct since the completion of the sentence.

During 1996, the staff of the Board of Pardons created a new database for information on applicants. This has enabled us to do record checks for local law enforcement agencies on the computer which has saved a considerable amount of time. In 1996, we checked for records on 671 police academy and gun permit applicants. Staff also responded to written correspondence sent directly to the Board of Pardons or referred by the Governor's office, the Commissioner of Corrections, and responded to 412 phone calls.

A summary of the past year's activities is also provided in chart form. The charts provide more detailed information about the pardons extraordinary that were granted, including the crimes(s) for which the applicant was convicted, the year of the conviction and the age of the applicant at the time of the conviction.

For additional information about the Board of Pardons, feel free to contact Jean Whitney, Secretary, at (612) 642-0284.

The total cost of salaries, printing and supplies incurred in development and preparation of this report was \$50 (reported as required by Minn. Stat. § 3.197).

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND ACTION TAKEN IN 1996

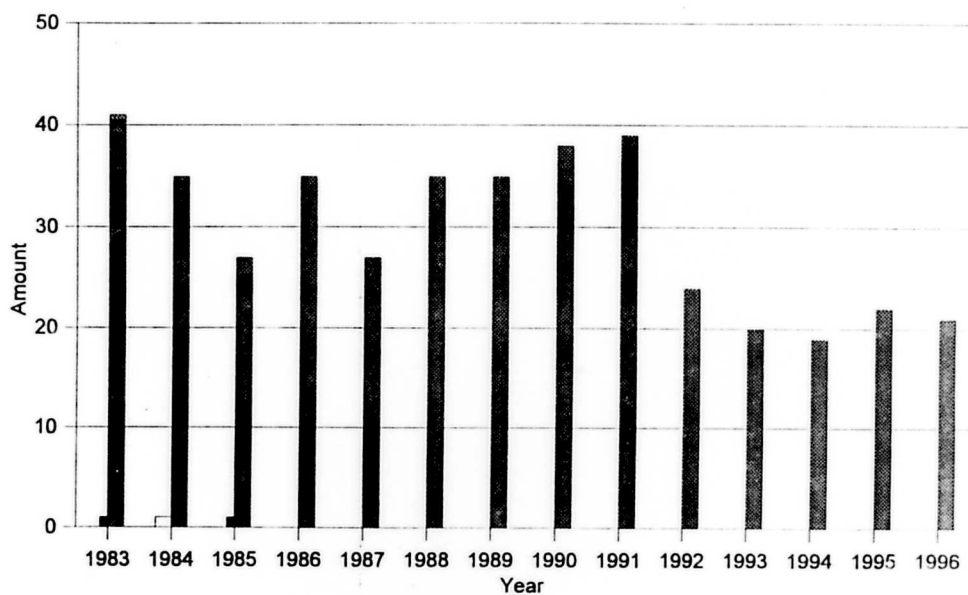
	<u>No. of Appl. Submitted</u>	<u>No. of Appl. Returned/ Not Eligible</u>	<u>No. Granted</u>
Pardons	3	0	0
Commutations	1	0	0
Pardons Extraordinary	27	5	21

PARDONS EXTRAORDINARY GRANTED IN 1996

<u>APPLICANT AGE AT TIME OF CONVICTION APRIL 16, 1996</u>	<u>YR. OF CONVICTION</u>	<u>CRIME(S)</u>
Abrahamson, Curtis 21	1969	Theft by Check
Albert, Monica E. 20	1969	Aggravated Assault
*Beissel, William P. 21	1968	Felony Theft
Borseth, Thomas O. 33	1977	Aggravated Forgery
Camp, Ray B. 19-28	1958 1967	Burglary Burglary
Cooper, Kenneth J. 23	1982	Uttering a Forged Instrument Burglary
*Kennedy, Richard J. 46	1978	Sale of unregistered securities; theft by swindle; fraud in sale of securities.
*Kilbo, Erik J. 23	1989	Financial Transaction Card Fraud
Meckel, Loretta J. 20	1970	Forgery
*Nelson, Christopher 35	1982	Theft

*Nielsen, Mary T. 21	1981	Arson-Third Degree
Schwertel, David J. 20	1976	Felony Theft
Soderberg, Eldon S. 18	1970	Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle
Weinmann, Nona C. 44	1987	Theft by Check
SEPTEMBER 23, 1996		
Bjork, William Floyd	1989	Criminal Damage to 21 Property
*Brunette, Leonard Lee 36	1985	Engaging in Prostitution
Dahman, Sherry Lee 30	1984 1984	Theft Possession of Stolen Property, Possession of Controlled Substance.
Johnson, Michelle Jane 20	1986	Theft by Swindle
Ronneng, Leo James 20	1970	Unauthorized use of motor vehicle
Eustice, Gary D. 35	1986	Felony Theft
*Savannah Russell 33	1981	Promotion of Prostitution
*Represented by Attorney		

Y E A R	Total P/C Appl. Sent	PARDONS				COMMUTATIONS				PARDONS EXTRAORDINARY				
		Appl. Submitted	Appl. Ret'n/ Not Elig.	Appl. Accepted	Granted	Appl. Submitted	Appl. Ret'n/ Not Elig.	Appl. Accepted	Granted	Total PE Appl. Sent	Appl. Submitted	Appl. Ret'n/ Not Elig.	Appl. Accepted	Granted
1983	25								1		48			41
1984	27				1						45			35
1985	27								1		27			27
1986	28										37			35
1987	21										29			27
1988	18										45			35
1989	20										41			35
1990	29										51			38
1991	7										53			39
1992	23	8	0	8		15	0	15			114	52	62	24
1993	12	4	0	4		8	0	8			41	11	30	20
1994	20	8	1	7		12	4	8			29	8	21	19
1995	13					13	2	11			38	4	34	22
1996	5 Comm. 8 Pardon	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	98	27	5	22	21



Accepted & Granted

