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Minnesota Board of Pardons

Annual Report to the Legislature -- 1997 Activity

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1997 LEGISLATIVE REPORT
MINNESOTA BOARD OF PARDONS

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §638.075 (1996), the Board of Pardons is required to file a written report by February 1st each year 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.

Applications Requested

During 1997, staff of the Board of Pardons, sent out 104 applications for pardon extraordinary and 19 for pardon/ commutation. When anyone calls to request an application, staff 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.

Decisions

Due to the flooding situation in northern Minnesota this year, the April meeting had to be cancelled and all of the applications were considered at the October meeting. The Board granted 19 pardons extraordinary during 1997. 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. The Board accepted the recommendations of staff on all applicants for pardon and commutation and denied all of them.

Other Activities

The database for information on applicants, which was completed in 1996, has enabled staff to do record checks for local law enforcement agencies on the computer. In 1997, staff checked for records on 1142 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 or the Commissioner of Corrections, and responded to over 1500 phone calls. A summary of the 1997 activities is also provided in the attached charts, which provide more detailed information.

For additional information about the Board of Pardons, feel free to contact Jean Whitney, Secretary, at (612) 642-0297.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND ACTION TAKEN IN 1997

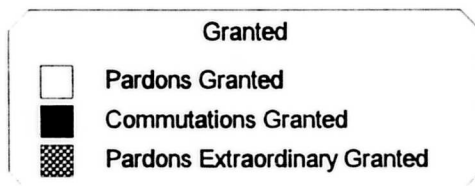
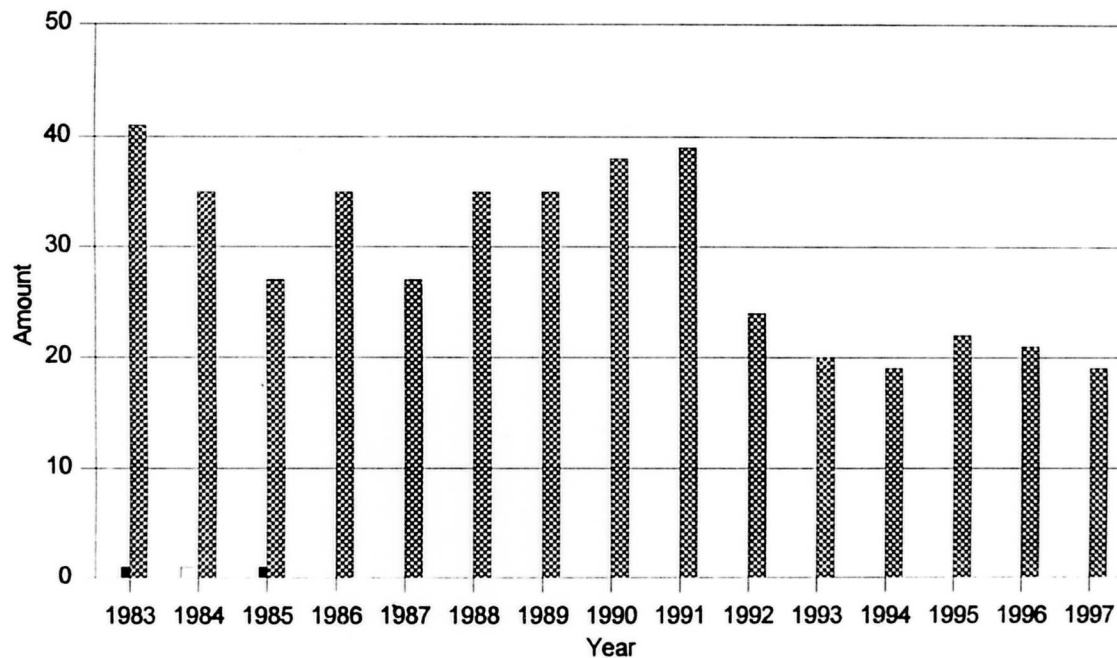
	<u>No. of Appl. Considered</u>	<u>No. of Appl. Not Eligible/Denied</u>	<u>No. Granted</u>
Pardons	5	3 Not Eligible/2 Denied	0
Commutations	3	2 Not Eligible/1 Denied	0
Pardons Extraordinary	29	5 Not Eligible/5 Denied	19

PARDONS EXTRAORDINARY GRANTED IN 1997

<u>APPLICANT</u> (AGE AT TIME OF CONVICTION)	<u>YR. OF CONVICTION</u>	<u>CRIME(S)</u>
Clark, Richard C. (24)	1977	Simple Assault - Family (Misdemeanor)
Egersdorf, Steven (28)	1982	Theft
Haugen, Kenneth L. (23)	1985	Criminal Sexual Conduct, 3rd Degree (Gross Misdemeanor)
Hinkle, Grindle D. (24)	1972	Aggravated Assault
Johnson, Gregory E. (24)	1971	Possession of a Controlled Substance
Moe, Terry Ann (29)	1985	Misd. Reckless Handling of Firearm
Schmit, Gerald E. (27)	1985	Arson First Degree; Defrauding Insurer; False Reporting of Crime; Theft by False Representation; Aggravated Forgery
Stoltz, William J. (27)	1976	Sale of a Controlled Substance
Weihe, Douglas R. (19)	1985	Shoplifting
Duffney, Larry (19-22)	1979-82	Theft; Theft, 2 Counts

Ellis, Shannon A. (20)	1988	Theft of Food Stamps. Misdemeanor
George, Timothy J. (20)	1977	Burglary with Tools, 3 Counts
Hollstadt, Jodi A. (19)	1988	Check Forgery, Gross Misdemeanor
Jones, Angela M. (20)	1984	Aggravated Forgery
Lovelette, John C. (39)	1989	Assault in the 5th Degree, Misdemeanor
Medlock, Kimberly L. (21-26)	1983-88	Wrongfully Obtaining Public Assistance; Theft; Theft; Theft, 2 Counts; Theft
Nixon, Kim K. (24-32)	1977-85	Sale of Schedule I Controlled Substance; Attempted Procuring Schedule II Narcotics
Skjei, James K. (20)	1956	Burglary, 3rd degree
Walli-Purcell, Nancy A. (21)	1981	Felony Theft

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
1997	5 Comm. 14 Pardon	5	3	2	0	3	2	1	0	104	29	5	24	19



Accepted & Granted

