

# **REPORT OF THE STUDY COMMISSION ON PAROLE**

**DECEMBER 1996**

**James W. Holzapfel**

**Chair**

**Robert L. Clifford**

**Vice Chair**



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
GOVERNOR'S STUDY COMMISSION ON PAROLE  
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CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN  
GOVERNOR

ASSEMBLYMAN JAMES W. HOLZAPFEL  
CHAIR

ROBERT L. CLIFFORD  
VICE CHAIR

December 23, 1996

Honorable Christine Todd Whitman, Governor  
State House  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625


Dear Governor Whitman:

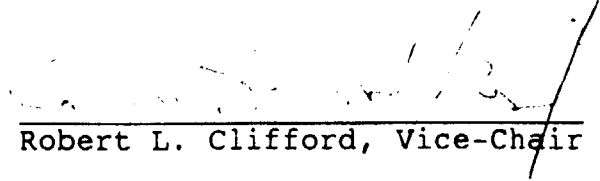
We are pleased to submit the Final Report of the Study Commission on Parole. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 39, the Commission carefully examined a wide range of issues confronting New Jersey's parole system. We solicited input from many experts and witnesses, including a number of crime victims, who recounted their personal experiences in dealing with New Jersey's parole process.

Our goal in drafting the Final Report was to compile a comprehensive set of recommendations that are specific, realistic, and balanced. The Report calls for significant reform of New Jersey's parole laws and practices. We recommend, for example, specific changes to several laws that unduly restrict the discretion of the Parole Board to deny parole and thus hamper the ability of the Board to protect the public. We also encourage the continuation of several reforms that were recently initiated by the Department of Corrections and the Parole Board, and we strongly endorse your ongoing efforts to revise the Interstate Compact for the Supervision of Parolees and Probationers.

On behalf of all of the members of the Commission, we thank you for the opportunity to report on how New Jersey can address the problems facing its parole system.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James W. Holzapfel, Chair

  
Robert L. Clifford, Vice-Chair

cc. Members of the Study Commission on Parole

Enclosure

# **GOVERNOR'S STUDY COMMISSION ON PAROLE**

## **Commission Members**

### **Chair**

**James W. Holzapfel, Assemblyman**

### **Vice Chair**

**Robert L. Clifford, Retired Justice, New Jersey Supreme Court**

**William H. Fauver, Jr., Commissioner of Corrections**

**Robert D. Lipscher, Administrative Office of the Courts**

**Peter Verniero, Attorney General**

**Ronald S. Fava, Passaic County Prosecutor**

**Stephen G. Raymond, Burlington County Prosecutor**

**Andrew B. Consovoy, State Parole Board Member**

**Captain Linda W. Vestal, Crime Victim/Citizen**

**Mario Paparozzi, Senate Public Member**

**Keith Durrell Moore, Senate Public Member**

**M. James Maley, Jr., Esq., Senate Public Member**

**Karl Weidel, Assembly Public Member**

**Anthony Sgro, Assembly Public Member**

**John Arthur Thomas, Assembly Public Member**

**Secretary to the Commission: Ronald Susswein, Assistant Attorney General**