

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
PAROLE DIVISION**



**POLICY AND
OPERATING PROCEDURE**

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SUPERSEDES: 03/08/00

SUBJECT: SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR GANG MEMBERS – PRE-RELEASE

AUTHORITY: TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §§ 508.1141; 508.227

PURPOSE: To outline procedures that will assist the Parole Division in identifying and responding to releasees who are confirmed members of gangs, hate groups, or other security threat groups.

PROCEDURE:

- I. Gangs and other security threat groups exist both in the institutional setting and in the community. A gang is an ongoing association or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, where one of the primary activities is the commission or promotion of criminal conduct by its members. A gang generally has a common name or common identifying sign or symbol, and its members will have individually or collectively engaged in a pattern of criminal gang activity. When offenders under Parole Division supervision are identified as confirmed gang members (pre-release), staff shall take steps to ensure increased surveillance of the offenders in accordance with PD/POP-3.2.33 *Special Procedures for District Parole Officer and Parole Office Concerning Gang Members*, regardless of the date of offense or the date of parole or mandatory release.
- II. Pre-Release Procedures
 - A. Correctional Institutions Division (CID) staff will, on an ongoing basis, identify gangs and other security threat groups and identify offenders who are confirmed to be members of these groups.
 - B. When a confirmed gang member is identified through confirmation received through TDCJ-CID mainframe or Parole Case Summary, Central Office Review and Release Processing staff shall perform the following actions:
 1. When requesting a pre-release investigation, specifically alert the applicable district parole office that the investigation needs to be handled by a special gang-trained officer by indicating on the Parole Plan Update screen that the offender is a confirmed gang member.

2. Determine whether referral to the SISP Review Panel is merited based on gang-related criteria. An offender who would not normally meet SISP criteria shall be referred for possible SISP placement if he or she has been identified as a confirmed member of one of the 12 organized prison gangs as identified in PD/POP-3.15.1 *Super-Intensive Supervision Program (SISP) – Administrative Guidelines* and meets any of the following criteria:
 - a. The offender has received a disciplinary hearing related to gang activity including, but not limited to, drug trafficking, assault on another offender, or possession of contraband.
 - b. The offender is a ranking or influential member of the identified gang.
 - c. The offender has been involved in gang recruitment or activity as evidenced by correspondence.

3. Upon certificate issuance, utilize the special condition O.08 – Gang Member Special Conditions (Crip, Mexican Mafia, etc.), if imposed by the Board of Pardons and Paroles (Board), or submit a transmittal to the Board requesting special condition O.08 Gang Member be imposed if a confirmed gang member to include the following:
 - a. No affiliation with any gang and no participation in any gang activity.
 - b. No contact or attempted contact with [name] or any other gang or gang member. Should there be any inadvertent contact with said individual/gang or any other gang member(s), the releasee shall immediately leave and not threaten, assault, or verbally abuse them.
 - c. No gang-affiliated confrontation, communications, gestures, clothing, and exhibition.
 - d. No possession of contraband in home, vehicle, or on the offender's person, including but not limited to: prohibited or illegal weapons, controlled substances, or illegal drugs.

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