



U.S. Parole Commission (USPC)

FY 2015 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2014 Enacted:	\$12.6 million (85 positions; 7 attorneys)
Current Services Adjustments:	+\$708,000
Program Changes:	+\$0
FY 2015 Budget Request:	\$13.3 million (85 positions; 7 attorneys)
Change From FY 2014 Enacted:	+\$708,000 (+5.6%)

Mission:

The mission of the U.S. Parole Commission (USPC) is to promote public safety and strive for justice and fairness in the exercise of its authority to release and supervise offenders under its jurisdiction. USPC has jurisdiction over federal offenders who committed offenses before November 1, 1987; all District of Columbia offenders; Uniform Code of Military Justice offenders who are in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons; Transfer Treaty cases (United States citizens convicted in foreign countries, who have elected to serve their sentence in this country); and State probationers and Parolees in the Federal Witness Protection Program. USPC renders decisions on National Appeals Board cases and decides action on supervision, parole, or return to custody cases under its jurisdiction. Unless reauthorized, USPC will sunset on November 1, 2018.

Resources:

The FY 2015 budget request for USPC totals \$13.3 million, which is a 5.6% increase over the FY 2014 Enacted.

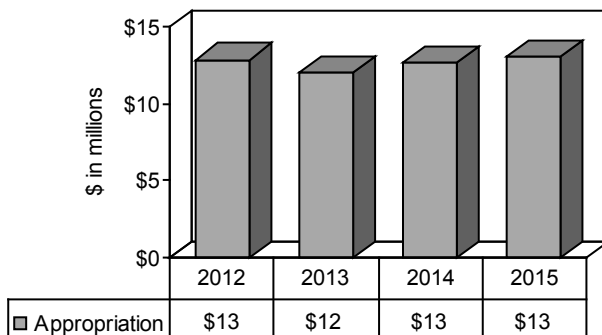
Organization:

USPC is managed by the USPC Chairman who, along with four other commissioners, is appointed by the President with the advice of the Senate. All USPC offices and staff are located in the District of Columbia. The staff carries out the USPC's operations and support functions.

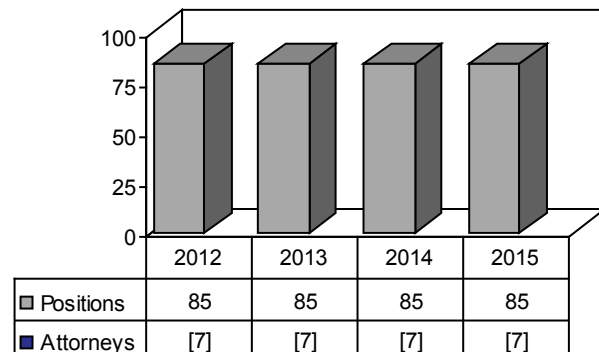
Personnel:

The USPC's direct positions for FY 2015 total 85 positions and is the same as FY 2014 Enacted. However, between January 2011 and December 2013, the number of USPC's onboard staff declined by 14 (2 attorneys and 12 support staff).

Funding (FY 2012 - 2015)



Personnel (FY 2012 - FY 2015)



FY 2015 Strategy:

In meeting its statutory requirements, USPC continues to face challenges that are complex and evolving. The major task before USPC is to take immediate action on violent offenders, while reducing recidivism rates for low-risk, non-violent offenders by implementing new revocation guidelines and establishing alternatives to re-incarceration. USPC policies and program strategies that are key to reducing recidivism rates include: appearance notices to encourage an offender under supervision in the community to appear at a revocation hearing; reprimand sanctions hearings to confront an offender to address non-compliant behavior and to make a commitment to make positive behavioral changes, thus complying with the conditions of release; drug treatment centers to address an offender's drug abuse problem, thereby reducing the chance of returning to prison; and mental health hearing dockets to increase the treatment engagement of mentally ill offenders to reduce their risk level in the community.

The FY 2015 strategy maintains the Commission's focus on returning low-risk non-violent offenders to parole or supervised release rather than prison when possible. However, USPC will continue to issue warrants for those that willfully violate the conditions of their release and for those with the most egregious behavior (typically tied to violence, child abuse, sex offenses, etc.). This approach keeps communities safe while returning low-risk offenders back to the community in a timely and cost efficient manner.

USPC currently projects a total prisoner and parolee population, including District of Columbia (D.C.) supervised releases, of 20,600 in FY 2015. The federal population is projected to be 3,600 and includes 1,200 federal prisoners and other offenders such as witness security, foreign treaty and military justice offenders, and 2,400 parolees. The D.C. population under USPC's jurisdiction is projected to be about 17,000, and includes 8,000 prisoners and 9,000 parolees and supervised releases.

The USPC is supportive of the Attorney General's "Smart on Crime" initiative. The FY 2015 budget will allow the USPC to fully fund its positions in case services, case operations, and research, thereby supporting initiatives dealing with alternatives to re-incarceration for low-risk offenders.

These alternatives would include increasing the number of offenders referred to the Secured Residential Treatment Program and the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program in D.C. Other alternatives include expanding the Reprimand Sanction Hearings Program to increase the number of offenders referred to the USPC for violating the administrative conditions of their release. Frequent and early intervention by the USPC through the Reprimand Sanction Hearing process has improved offender compliance in the community and reduced the need for re-incarceration. Furthermore, the expansion of the mental health dockets will increase the treatment engagement of mentally ill offenders to reduce their risk in the community, and reduce the cost of re-incarceration.

The USPC would also expand its Short-Term Intervention for Success (SIS) pilot program which is designed to provide for shorter periods of imprisonment for technical violators in exchange for potentially longer periods of incarceration. The pilot has lowered the re-arrest rates for those participating and has ultimately reduced overall prison costs.

FY 2015 Program Changes:

The budget request includes funds for current services for USPC. No program changes are requested.

U.S. Parole Commission
(Dollars in Thousands)

	U.S. Parole Commission		
	Pos	Est. FTE	Amount
2013 Appropriation	85	70	12,772
2013 Rescissions (1.877 % & 0.2%)	0	0	-265
2013 Sequester Cut	0	0	-646
2013 Enacted with Rescissions and Sequester	85	70	11,861
2014 Enacted	85	70	12,600
2015 Request	85	75	13,308
Change 2015 from 2014 Enacted	0	5	708
Technical Adjustments			
Total Technical Adjustments	0	0	0
Base Adjustments			
Pay & Benefits	0	0	206
Domestic Rent & Facilities	0	0	29
Other Adjustments	0	5	473
Total Base Adjustments	0	5	708
2015 Current Services	85	75	13,308
Program Changes			
Increases:			
Subtotal, Program Increases	0	0	0
Decreases:			
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	0
Total Program Changes	0	0	0
2015 Request	85	75	13,308

U.S. Parole Commission

(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2014 Enacted			2015 Current Services		
	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount
United States Parole Commission	85	70	12,600	85	75	13,308
Total	85	70	12,600	85	75	13,308
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	85	70	12,600	85	75	13,308

Comparison by activity and program	2015 Total Program Changes			2015 Request		
	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount	Perm Pos.	Est. FTE	Amount
United States Parole Commission	0	0	0	85	75	13,308
Total	0	0	0	85	75	13,308
Reimbursable FTE	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	85	75	13,308