



State of Tennessee

Justin P. Wilson, State Comptroller

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Board of Parole Audit Reveals Offenders Monitored After Their Deaths

The Comptroller released today an audit of the state Board of Parole that found, at a minimum, annual arrest checks were completed on behalf of 82 parolees who had been dead for varying lengths of time, ranging from less than six months to more than 19 years. At worst, officers documented contact indicating offenders were still alive.

The audit also noted that many files managed by probation and parole officers were not in compliance with all board supervision requirements and were not regularly reviewed by management. In some cases, officers failed to complete or document their attempts to complete all of the required face-to-face contacts with parolees. In other cases, officers did not perform required home visits of regular offenders. The audit also showed some sex offenders tracked by GPS equipment had not been properly monitored.

“Inadequate supervision of offenders results in increased public risks and jeopardizes public safety,” Comptroller Justin P. Wilson said. “If parole officers are supervising dead people, this is a waste of taxpayer dollars and makes us wonder about the supervision of parolees living in our communities.”

Auditors also found a number of other issues with the Board of Parole’s operations, including questionable practices for providing notice of hearing decisions and upcoming board meetings.

To view the report online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/repository/SA/pa12036.pdf>

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Media contact: Blake Fontenay, Communications Director, (615) 253-2668 or blake.fontenay@tn.gov