

Will I be able to talk directly to the Board?

If you are a victim or victim representative of a Victim Rights Act (VRA) crime as defined by C.R.S. §24-4.1-302.5, you may provide a separate oral statement to the Board at the time of the review. Please contact Arapahoe County Judicial Services at 720-874-3350 for details.

Victims of crimes not listed under the VRA, offenders or their representatives will not be able to personally address the Board. However, victims of crimes on any case and any offenders or their representatives may submit written comments to the Board.

Also, during a meeting, a Board member may ask a specific individual a question for clarification on any of the materials in the case. The individual being asked the question may respond with a brief and direct answer.

Where do I send written comments about a case being considered by the Board?

The Board will consider your comments if you submit them in writing. Your comments should relate specifically to answering the following questions:

- Would placing the offender into community corrections create a threat to public safety?
- Would the offender benefit from the treatment and supervision that community corrections offers?

Submit your written comments, prior to the date of the scheduled Board meeting, to:

Arapahoe County Community Corrections
Judicial Services Division
6984 South Lima Street, Suite A
Centennial, CO 80112
Fax: 720-874-3371
E-mail:
communitycorrectionsreferrals@co.arapahoe.co.us

If you submit additional information after the deadline, your comments will be handed out at the beginning of the scheduled meeting. However, this may delay the case to a later date if the Board determines more time is needed to review the material. The party submitting an application may withdraw it or request the case be tabled for any reason. Photos, video and audio recordings are not accepted.

Written comments will be included in the packets distributed to and read by all Board members prior to the Full Board meeting. Staff will distribute written comments on Review Committee cases to Board members at the time the case is presented to the Committee.

When will I know the outcome of the meeting?

The Board will vote during the same meeting the case is heard. All efforts are made to hear a case as scheduled, although there is no guarantee a case will be heard at that time, and you may not know this until the meeting is underway. There are various reasons, at the Board's discretion, which may delay a case to a later date, including an attorney's request.

For more information, please call 720-874-3350 or e-mail communitycorrectionsreferrals@co.arapahoe.co.us.

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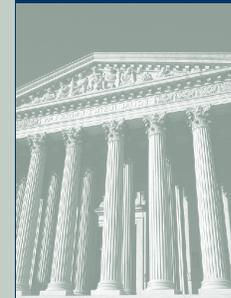
Judicial Services Division
6984 South Lima Street, Suite A
Centennial, Colorado 80112

Fast Facts:

Arapahoe County Community Corrections Board

*Understanding the role of the Board in
providing a sentencing or release alternative*

**Arapahoe County Community Corrections Board
serves the 18th Judicial District, which includes
Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties.**



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Judicial Services Division
6984 South Lima Street, Suite A
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www.co.arapahoe.co.us



This brochure offers you a brief overview about the Community Corrections Board's role regarding candidates who may be suitable for community corrections programs. The Board provides an alternative to the courts when considering sentencing offenders to the Department of Corrections (DOC) or when transitioning inmates back into the community. If you have further questions after reading this brochure, please call Arapahoe County Judicial Services Division at 720-874-3350.

Who is on the Community Corrections Board?

The Board is appointed annually by the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners and consists of up to 20 members representing agencies and citizens within the 18th Judicial District. Members include mental health professionals, citizens, law enforcement officers, a District Court judge, and a representative from the District Attorney's Office, Office of the Public Defender, Probation Department, the City of Aurora, the City of Littleton and the Arapahoe County Community Resources Department.

Who is eligible to be considered for community corrections?

The Board hears cases for offenders who are diversion or transition candidates. Diversion candidates are offenders who have not yet been sentenced or placed in DOC custody. Diversion candidates may also be offenders who violated probation and are to be re-sentenced. Transition candidates are inmates serving a sentence in the DOC and are awaiting the possibility for release into the community. When offenders or inmates are placed into a community corrections program, they are monitored and receive services—such as drug and alcohol treatment, anger management, basic living skills, and employment assistance—aimed at lowering the risk of re-offending.

How does the Community Corrections Board make its decision?

During a Board Meeting, the Board considers applications and determines if an offender or inmate is eligible for placement in a community corrections program. Acceptance means greater community supervision than regular probation or parole.

The Full Board reviews the most serious cases and meets the third Thursday of every month at 3:00 p.m. Notification of the location of Full Board meetings is posted in the Arapahoe County District Court main lobby, 7325 S. Potomac St., Centennial, CO 80112 and in the main lobby at the Arapahoe County Administration Building, 5334 S. Prince St., Littleton, CO 80166. You may contact Arapahoe County Judicial Services at 720-874-3350 for details.

The Review Committee, made up of 5 Board members, meets every Thursday at 12:15pm in the Judicial Services conference room, 6984 South Lima Street, Suite A, Centennial, CO 80112, to review less serious cases that the Board has determined do not require a vote by the Full Board. **On the 3rd Thursday of each month, the Review Committee meets at 1:30pm, prior to the Full Board.** Review Committee cases are presented to the Board by Judicial Services staff. Contact Judicial Services for the location.

Prior to a Full Board Meeting, the Board receives and reviews an information packet regarding each case. This packet includes details of the crime, offender background and conduct, victim impact statements and more.

At the meeting, the standard motion is for 'acceptance.' This allows the Board to vote 'yes' or 'no' on an applicant's request to participate in a community corrections program. The vote is based on a number of criteria, but most specifically, the Board tries to determine if placing an offender or inmate into the program will create a threat to public safety, as well as whether the offender or inmate will benefit from the treatment and supervision that community corrections offers.

If a diversion offender is approved for placement into a community corrections program, that information is provided to the courts at the time of sentencing. If a transition inmate is approved, that information is forwarded to the DOC and the inmate is put on a waiting list for transfer to a community corrections program.

Does a 'yes' vote guarantee an offender will be placed in community corrections?

No. The Board merely provides an alternative to sentencing or direct release into the community.

- In diversion cases, the judge or community corrections program facility can still deny the applicant for community corrections.
- In transition cases, a 'yes' vote means the Board recommends that the inmate should be highly supervised in a structured setting prior to being paroled or released unsupervised into the community. Community corrections provides a high level of supervision in the community to prepare the inmate for parole or sentence discharge.

The Board does NOT make sentencing decisions: that is the responsibility and jurisdiction of the courts.

How can the Board help me?

- If you are a victim of a crime or an offender (transition or diversion) being reviewed for community corrections placement and have information that relates specifically to the Board's decision-making criteria, you may provide this information in a written statement to be considered by the Board prior to the meeting (Please see the next section).
- If you are a victim of a Victim Rights Act (VRA) crime as defined by C.R.S. §24-4.1-302.5, you may provide a separate oral statement to the Board at the time of the review. (Please see the next section).
- If you are an offender facing sentencing and the Board finds you to be suitable for a community corrections program, the court then has a sentencing alternative.
- If you are a DOC inmate and are approved by the Board for community corrections, DOC is able to place you in a program prior to your parole, placement on ISP or sentence discharge.