

NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF NEW JERSEY State Parole Board

Phillip D. Murphy, Governor Sheila Y. Oliver, Lt. Governor Samuel J. Plumeri, Jr., Chairman

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For Immediate Release

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NEW JERSEY STATE PAROLE BOARD RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING INTERNS AS THEY COMPLETE SUMMER PROGRAM

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH CHANCE TO GAIN PAROLE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXPERIENCE

TRENTON, NJ, August 29, 2019 – During the New Jersey State Parole Board's monthly meeting, board members congratulated two of this summer's 14 interns who participated in the agency's internship program which is aimed at providing meaningful, real-world, work-learning experiences for qualified college students and graduates entering the job market.

This unique program not only benefits the intern but also the State Parole Board because it gives the agency the chance to engage with students to gain a stronger understanding of their interests in parole administration and law enforcement. Interns are given the opportunity to put theory into practice to gain a clear understanding of the New Jersey State Parole Board's role in the area of criminal justice and work side-by-side with agency staff while exploring potential career options.

"The New Jersey State Parole Board is committed to providing hands-on and educational experiences to interns and encourages them to explore parole careers," said State Parole Board Chairman Samuel J. Plumeri, Jr. "This agency has some of the most talented men and women who work in the field of criminal justice, and we are delighted to give our interns the chance to realize and experience the many opportunities that are involved in parole work."



New Jersey State Parole Board Intern Ekene Ezechi of Hamilton, NJ said, "having emigrated from Nigeria where parole does not exist, nor are there any reentry services, I found it fascinating to witness the entire parole process from the parole plan to the final two-member panel decision."

Since the New Jersey State Parole Board Internship Program began in 2011, 403 interns were placed for assignment at either the agency's central office in Trenton, one of the parole district offices throughout the state, or a parole office at a state prison.

Interns completing the summer session of the New Jersey State Parole Board Internship Program attend a variety of colleges and universities, including Rutgers University, Seton Hall University, Rowan University, The College of New Jersey, Delaware State University, Felician University, Marist College, Elizabethtown College, and Brookdale Community College. Referrals also come to the agency directly from professors who are aware of the program's immense value.

The New Jersey State Parole Board Internship Program has three sessions throughout the year: spring, summer, and fall. Those interested in learning more about the program are encouraged to visit the agency's website: <u>https://www.state.nj.us/parole/recruitment.html</u>. Below is a list of the New Jersey State Parole Board Summer Internship Program graduates, along with their schools and hometowns.

The New Jersey State Parole Board (SPB) is committed to promoting public safety, utilizing effective methods to aid supervised offenders in reentering society and to reduce the recidivism of offenders while addressing the needs of crime victims. As required by law, appointed parole board members and staff conduct approximately 13,500 hearings per year, solicit input from victims, and decide upon parole matters. Nearly 400 sworn SPB parole officers supervise more than 15,500 offenders and act as New Jersey's primary law enforcement agency responsible for sex offender supervision. Additionally, SPB officers are also active partners with a variety of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies and task forces. Finally, the SPB's Community Programs Unit partners with government, non-profit, and private agencies to connect former inmates with vocational, mental health, and related services.

Julie-Ann Antoine	Marist College	Union, NJ
Brielle Breheny	Seton Hall University	Hopatcong, NJ
Georgeanne Casper	Rutgers University	Matawan, NJ
Anthony Colabella	Brookdale Community College	Howell, NJ
Emilyann Colbert	Rowan University	Sicklerville, NJ
Matthew Englese	Rowan University	Garwood, NJ
Ekene Ezechi	Rutgers University	Hamilton, NJ
Rochelle Fuller	Rowan University	Collingswood, NJ
Ra'Deah Moore	Delaware State University	Paterson, NJ
Jimmy Nunez	Rutgers University	Avenel, NJ
Giovanna Paccillo	The College of New Jersey	Hamilton, NJ
Nicholas Peroni	George Washington University	New Egypt, NJ
Alyssa Scordo	Elizabethtown College	Allentown, NJ
Jake Thoden	Felician University	Hillsborough, NJ

Photo Captions:

Photo # 1: New Jersey State Parole Board Interns Emilyann Colbert (far left) and Ekene Ezechi (far right) with New Jersey State Parole Board Chairman Samuel J. Plumeri, Jr. after receiving their completion certificates.

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