May 1, 2020

ORDER OF CHAIRMAN CRAIG FINDLEY

In re: Rolling Clemency Docket for Incarcerated Persons

In light of the dangers and difficulties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly as they relate to filing, processing, and conducting hearings for requests for Commutations of Sentence, the Board will begin hearing Petitions involving incarcerated Petitioners on a rolling basis, effective immediately.

All Petitions for Commutation of Sentence will still be expected to conform with the Guidelines for filing as provided on the Board's website, insofar as is practical. Additionally, please note that the requirement that a notary public bear witness to the signature of the Petitioner or an attorney filing on the Petitioner's behalf has previously been suspended.

The Board will also ensure that the State's Attorney's Office and the Chief Circuit Judge of the county of conviction will be notified and provided with copies of the Petition, whereupon those parties will be afforded an opportunity to respond in writing to the Petition.

All victims registered with the Board will be provided notice by the Board and given at least 30 days to respond to the request for Commutation, prior to any hearing by the Board. Victim statements may be sent to the Board in writing or via other electronic means prior to the executive clemency hearing. Any victim statements received by the Board will be confidential and privileged, as provided by Illinois law.

Craig Findley
Chairman

Illinois Prisoner Review Board