



# North Carolina Department of Public Safety

## Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice

Pat McCrory, Governor  
Frank L. Perry, Secretary

W. David Guice, Commissioner

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairs of Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety  
Chairs of House Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety

FROM: Frank L. Perry, Secretary  
W. David Guice, Commissioner

RE: Reclassification of Vacant Positions for Community Corrections

DATE: March 1, 2016

*Pursuant to S.L. 2013-360 16C.13.(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to the approval of the Director of the Budget, the Secretary of Public Safety may reclassify vacant positions within the Department to create up to 30 new field services specialist or chief probation/parole officer positions in order to meet the increasing caseloads resulting from the implementation of the Justice Reinvestment Act of 2011, S.L. 2011-192, as amended. (b), The Department of Public Safety shall report to the Chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Justice and Public Safety by March 1, 2015, on the following:*

- (1) The position number, position type, salary, and position location of each new position created under the authority of this section.*
- (2) The position number, position type, fund code, and position location of each vacant position used to create new positions under the authority of this section.*

Session Law 2013-360 Section 16C.13.(a) gave the Secretary of Public Safety the authority to reclassify existing vacant positions within the Department to create new chief probation officer and field specialist positions in order to meet the increasing caseloads resulting from the implementation of the Justice Reinvestment Act.

The signing of the Justice Reinvestment Act into law (SL 2011-192) made a tremendous impact on field operations within Community Corrections. Along with the many benefits of the law came an increased need for resources. In 2013 the legislature funded/appropriated 175 new probation/parole officer positions to the agency. The positions were phased in with the first 75 created and hired in FY 13-14. The remaining 100 were created and hired in FY 14-15. The increased officer resources created a need for 24 additional chief probation/parole officers to bring the officer to chief ratio to 7:1. However, all positions which became vacant in FY 14-15 were needed at their current classification and were filled accordingly, preventing reallocation of existing positions. Community Corrections has been unable to address the increased resource need with the use of current positions. The agency will continue to examine positions as they become vacant to determine possible reallocation to chief probation/parole officers.

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