



## **Colorado Juvenile Parole Board Board Member Information**

**Dan Casey** of Thornton has been serving children with the Colorado Department of Human Services for 19 years. Since 2009 Dan has been a Manager for the Division of Child Welfare 24-Hour Licensing and Monitoring Unit. The 24-Hour Licensing and Monitoring Unit licenses, monitors, inspects, and evaluates all licensed residential child care programs in the State, to include; Child Placement Agencies and associated certified foster homes, Residential Child Care Facilities, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities, Specialized Group Facilities, Day Treatment Centers, and Secure Residential Treatment Facilities. Dan previously worked for the Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) from 1995-2009 as an Assistant Director at the Platte Valley Youth Services Center, Risk Management Coordinator in the DYC Office of Quality Assurance, and as a Correctional Youth Services Officer at Mt. View and Marvin W. Foote Youth Services Centers. Dan obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Metropolitan State College in 1994. Dan was appointed to the Board in December 2013.

**Candace Hawkins** of Thornton is a dispute resolution and policy specialist with the Colorado Department of Education's Exceptional Student Services Unit where she investigates and resolves disputes between families and school districts concerning special education programming and services. Candace serves as the Department's representative to the Board. Before joining CDE, Candace was a public interest lawyer representing low-income Minnesota and Colorado residents in the areas of family, health care, disability, housing, public benefits, and education law. Candace was appointed to the Board in 2013.

**Patricia Kelly** of Franktown served in higher education for over 10 years and as vice president of two colleges in Colorado and New Mexico. While at the National Endowment of the Humanities in Colorado, Pat introduced a Library of Congress essay contest at Platte Valley Youth Services Center where a 16-year-old youth at the Center won a Regional Award. As Executive Director of a youth mentoring organization for at-risk youth, Pat managed a One-on-One Mentoring, Restitution and Restorative Justice Program's serving 240 families. Founding a USTA NJTL (National Junior Tennis and Learning Chapter) in Adams 50 School District 3,600 at-risk students were introduced to tennis as a tool for mental, physical, behavioral and academic improvement. At I-News at Rocky Mountain PBS she worked on the launch of an 18-month report on gaps between Latinos, Blacks and Whites starting in the civil rights era and tracking trends to the present. Data was organized around education, infant mortality, poverty, graduation rates, and health, criminal justice, housing and quality of life issues. She created statewide partnerships with universities and libraries to host community engagement conversations and discussions resulting in action groups. Some other special projects include; the Denver World Trade Center, Metro Center of the Visual Arts, 5-Points Media Center and host of a public affairs radio show on KYGO while a Division Director at DRCOG. She is a citizen member of the board appointed in 2014.

**James A. Keown** of Thornton has been with the Colorado Department of Labor for 18 years. He has a Masters in Public Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Michigan State University and attended the University of Detroit Law School. He was appointed to the Board in 2010.

**Carmen Quinowski-Nelson** of Denver is a citizen member of the board. Since moving to Denver, 1992 Carmen has worked in a number of positions devoted to care of children from infants to young adults. From 1992 to 1995, she operated her own in-home daycare for infants and toddlers. In 1995 to 1997, she worked as a researcher and counselor for the University of Colorado Health & Sciences/Children's Hospital's "Home Visitation 2000" research project conducted in association with the Kempe Center that focused on pre- and post-natal health counseling to Denver area at-risk teen mothers. From 1997 to 2000, Carmen continued work with Children's Hospital at its Pediatric Dental Clinic, serving as a dental and operating room assistant. In 2007, Carmen joined the Colorado Women's Interfaith Group, where she currently serves as co-chair. She was appointed to the Board in 2011.

**Paula Ramaekers-Mattas** of Grand Junction, Colorado, fills the Western Slope citizen position on the Juvenile Parole Board. She has her Master's Degree with a Sociology emphasis from Regis University in Denver, as well as a Bachelor's Degree with a Psychology emphasis from the University of Northern Colorado. Paula has worked for a local non-profit organization, Mesa County Partners, Inc., for 17 years, working with and managing programs for juvenile offenders. She has also participated on various boards in her community, including the Juvenile Community Review Board, the HB1451 Project for Mesa County and the Underage Drinking Task Force. She has also developed and maintains three programs, Victim Offender Mediation, Victim Empathy classes and Life Skills classes, all of which are now sentencing/referral options used by D.A. Diversion program, the Courts and the Division of Youth Corrections. Paula represents the board on the Colorado Restorative Justice Council. She was appointed to the Board in 2011.

**David Owen Sleigh** of Grand Junction, Colorado is a citizen member of the board. After moving to Colorado in 1991 from Southern California he went to college at Mesa State and finished a Bachelors Degree. In 1995 he began working with at risk youth and spent 15 years as a Young Life volunteer. He spent 10 years working for the Colorado Judicial branch as a Probation Officer and Probation Supervisor for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District. In 2012 he felt it was time to set his priorities on his family and started his own landscaping business, but still had a desire to work with youth and make a difference in the lives of youth in the community in which he lives. He currently does work as youth mentor. He was appointed to the Board in December of 2013.

**Meg Williams** of Lakewood is the Manager of the Office of Adult and Juvenile Justice Assistance at the Division of Criminal Justice, Colorado Department of Public Safety. As such, she is the designated Juvenile Justice Specialist for the state and responsible for the management of many federal and state grant programs which seek to assist with and improve the adult criminal and juvenile justice systems. Meg has experience in the social services as well as adult and juvenile justice arenas in both Ohio and Colorado and understands the critical need for appropriate, timely responses to children, youth and their families especially those involved in the juvenile justice system. She is a member of Colorado's Restorative Justice Coordinating Council, the Colorado Children and Youth Information Sharing Initiative among other cross-disciplinary efforts and currently serves as the National Juvenile Justice Specialist for the Coalition for Juvenile Justice. She is a graduate of Kenyon College in Ohio with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and received a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado at Denver. She was appointed to the Board in 2012.

**Karen L.G. Wilmes** of Westminster is a citizen member on the Juvenile Parole Board. In 2012, Karen retired from Adams County School District 14 in Commerce City, Colorado after serving 28 years in elementary education. She was a bilingual elementary educator and instructional coach while teaching at the school. Karen received her Bachelor's degree in bilingual elementary education from Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO and her Master's degree in special education from Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, CO. She is a member of the International Reading Association and Phi Kappa Phi. She was appointed to the Board in 2013.