



State of Utah

Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

Tom Ross
Executive Director

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August 6, 2026

To Whom It May Concern

The Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) today is pleased to announce it has selected five candidates to recommend to Governor Spencer Cox to fill a vacancy on the Utah Board of Pardons Parole (BOPP) created by the resignation of Scott Stephenson.

In accordance with Utah Code 77-27-2(3), the Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) is required to recommend five candidates for each BOPP vacancy. CCJJ must consider the applicants' "knowledge of the criminal justice system, state and federal criminal law, judicial procedure, corrections policies and procedures, and behavioral sciences." Based on these criteria, the five recommended candidates are:

- **Lisa Crawford-Blanchard:** An attorney in private practice.
- **Meghann Mills:** A Prosecuting Attorney with the Utah County District Attorney's Office.
- **Nathaniel Thomas:** Division Chief with the Utah Department of Corrections, Adult Probation and Parole.
- **Brett Varoz:** Chief Hearing Officer with the Utah Board of Pardons and Parole.
- **Marcus Yockey:** Assistant Attorney General and Legal Counsel for the Utah Department of Public Safety.

Governor Cox will now review the recommendations and make an appointment to the Utah Board of Pardons and Parole.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Ross".

Tom Ross
Executive Director
Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice