

INFORMATION FROM THE SC DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PAROLE HEARING INFORMATION FOR VISITORS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Parole Hearings are generally held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and/or Thursdays at the South Carolina Department of Corrections. It is the inmate's responsibility to ensure that his/her visitors and representatives go to the correct location.

Effective August 08, 2023

The inmate's visitors and representatives will report to the Virtual Parole Facility (VPF) which is located at:
Watkins Office Park – 1700 St. Andrews Terrace Road, Columbia SC 29210

All visitors and representatives wanting to appear before the parole board to testify in support of parole for an inmate must register using the website: <https://waitwhile.com/book/parolehearings> and click on the link for the institution where the inmate is currently housed. (See the instructions below.)

Visitors and representatives must arrive at the correct location at 7:30 AM to be processed at this location. Actual processing may begin after 8:30 AM. The inmate who is being considered for parole by the Parole Board may have up to five (5) total persons appear to support him/her. Of the five, one (1) can be a minister/spiritual adviser, one (1) can be an attorney, and no more than three (3) can be family, friends, employers, etc. The attorney can report either to the Watkins Office Park or to the institution where the inmate is housed. If the inmate plans to have an attorney present at the parole hearing, it is the attorney's responsibility to notify the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services of such representation and to request, in writing, that the attorney be notified of the date of the parole hearing. Visitors and representatives may have the opportunity to speak to the Parole Board.

The parole hearing will be conducted by way of videoconference, which means that the Parole Board will review each case remotely on a television monitor. Inmates and their supporters will have the opportunity to communicate with the Board indirectly by way of the television monitor. The SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services will notify the inmate of the Board's decision.

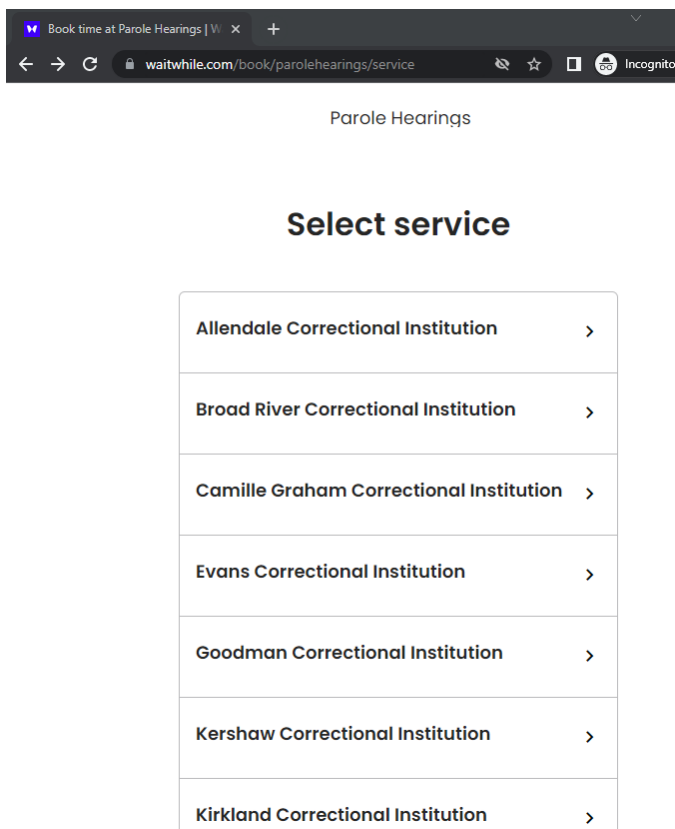
After confirmation of registration on the <https://waitwhile.com/book/parolehearings> site, all visitors and representatives appearing before the Parole Board must present a valid picture identification card (valid driver's license, valid ID card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, valid military ID, valid law enforcement ID) and may be subject to normal search procedures conducted by the employees of the South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) prior to being allowed to enter the (VPF). No weapons or pocketbooks/handbags are allowed to be taken into the VPF. All visitors must be dressed appropriately.

You may bring a credit card in the building to purchase snacks/drinks from the vending machine. The vending machine only accept credit cards.

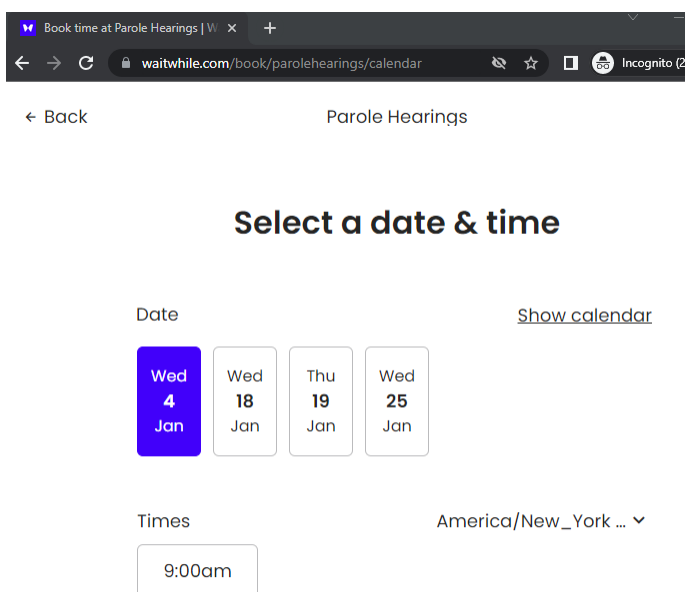
Visitors and representatives will be directed to a waiting area within the VPF. When the inmate's case is called, the visitors will be directed into the hearing room. After the hearing, the visitors must then immediately leave the facility. The inmate will be informed of the decision of the Board by the Parole Examiner SC Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. If parole is granted, the conditions of parole will be provided to the inmate. It is important to note that the inmate will not be released from confinement until all pre-release conditions of parole are met (employment, residence, etc.)

IF AN INMATE WISHES TO WAIVE HIS/HER RIGHT TO A PAROLE HEARING, HE/SHE MUST DO SO AT LEAST THREE WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO HIS/HER SCHEDULED DATE.

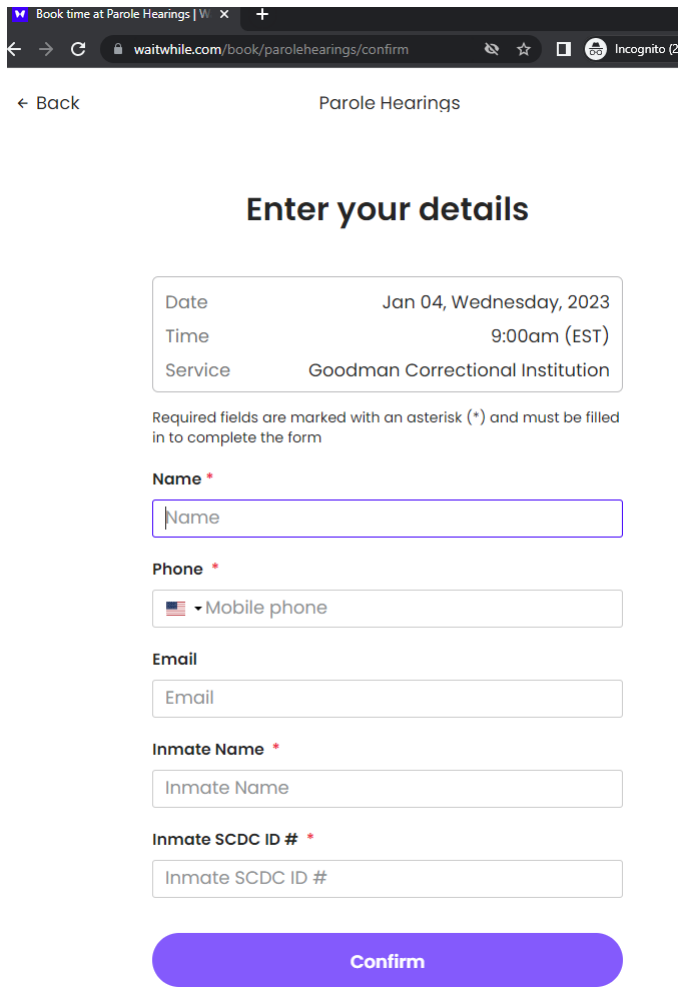
To register to appear before the parole board to speak in support of parole for an inmate, visit <https://waitwhile.com/book/parolehearings> and click on the link for the institution where the inmate is currently located.



Then select the hearing date and time. Currently, all hearings are scheduled to begin at 9am. Click on a date and time to continue.



Enter your name, the mobile number where you would like to receive notification when it is time to report to the waiting area, email address (optional), inmate name, and inmate number. Click confirm to complete the reservation process.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "waitwhile.com/book/parolehearings/confirm". The page title is "Parole Hearings". Below the browser window, there is a navigation bar with a "Back" button and the page title "Parole Hearings". The main heading is "Enter your details". Below this, there is a summary box showing the date as "Jan 04, Wednesday, 2023", the time as "9:00am (EST)", and the service as "Goodman Correctional Institution". A note states: "Required fields are marked with an asterisk (*) and must be filled in to complete the form". The form contains several input fields: "Name" (required), "Phone" (required, with a dropdown menu for "Mobile phone"), "Email", "Inmate Name" (required), and "Inmate SCDC ID #" (required). A large blue "Confirm" button is at the bottom of the form.

You will receive confirmation by txt message and email if an address was provided.

On the day of the hearing, please arrive at the parking lot by 7:30am and proceed to the waiting room. A txt notification will be sent when the parole board is ready to conduct hearings at the institution where the inmate is located.

Up to 3 supporters, 1 clergy member, and 1 attorney may provide a statement to the parole board. If more than one supporter is travelling in the same group, only one is required to register for notification.