

Issue Note – Profile of Convicted Murderers who Re-offend with a Similar Crime while under Supervision in the Community

BACKGROUND

- This research study was triggered by a Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) Board of Investigation recommendation following a murder committed by an offender on parole who had been previously sentenced for murder. The event took place in October 2006.
- Specifically, CSC Research Branch was asked to:
 - Compile a list of all homicide cases from the Offender Management System involving offenders from January 1, 1998, to January 1, 2008;
 - Inventory all first- and second- degree murder and manslaughter cases; and
 - o Identify all those offenders who had previously been sentenced for murder or manslaughter prior to this ten-year period.
- The objective was to determine whether there are indicators that could help parole offices establish a checklist for these types of cases.

Key Messages

- The study revealed that a small proportion of offenders that were arrested for murder were federal parolees, or had been sentenced for a similar crime.
- Over a ten-year period, 3,032 males were arrested, convicted and given a federal sentence for various types of homicides.
- Of this number 10 (0.3%) had previously been sentenced for a similar crime.