

SENTENCING COMMISSION

MINUTES

Committee:	SENTENCING COMMISSION
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Date:	Wednesday, Apr. 4, 2001	Time:	12:00 PM	Place:	Governor's Board Room
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Members Present	Camille Anthony, David Bateman, Chris Mitchell for Michael P. Chabries, Blake Chard, Mary S. Corporon, Rep. Greg Curtis, Dr. Judy Engen, Rep. Neal Hendrickson, John Hill, Steven B. Kelly, G. Fred Metos, Joel Millard, Michael Sibbett, Kirk Torgenson, Russ Van Vleet,
Members Absent	Judge Judith M. Billings, Paul Boyden, Chief Sam Dawson, Julie Holbrook, Judge David Mower, John T. Nielsen, Judge Sterling Sainsbury, Sen. Pete Suazo, Sen. John Valentine, Judge Robert S. Yeates
Staff	Cliff Butter, Marvin Dodge, Gary Franchina, Ron Gordon, Mike Haddon, Jo Lynn Kruse, Ed McConkie

Agenda Item:	Welcome and Approval of Minutes
Notes:	Ed McConkie welcomed all and excused Chair John T. Nielsen who is in Washington D.C. on business. Mike Sibbett motioned to accept the February minutes. Steve Kelly seconded and it passed unanimously .

Agenda Item:	General Items of Business
Notes:	<p>The Legislature through SB 10 has renewed the Sentencing Commission until 2012.</p> <p>The Sentencing Commission has 27 statutory members with a couple of them pending. A juvenile prosecutor needs to be replaced and Judge Medley had to resign. Twenty of the twenty-seven members are appointed. The other seven are mandated by the position, e.g., the attorney general or designee. Ed will be contacting the appointed members soon as to their status.</p> <p>We will only have about four or five full Commission meetings this year. Counting the April meeting, we will probably have another in the Summer and one or two in the Fall. <u>Tentative</u> dates for future meetings will be August 1, October 3, and December 5.</p> <p>Ed reiterated the statutory duties of the Sentencing Commission as follows with emphasis on number two below:</p> <p>The purpose of the commission shall be to develop guidelines and propose recommendations to the Legislature, the governor, and the Judicial council about the sentencing and release of juvenile and adult offenders in order to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. respond to public comment; 2. relate sentencing practices and correctional resources; 3. increase equity in criminal sentencing; 4. better define responsibility in criminal sentencing; and 5. enhance the discretion of sentencing judges while preserving the role of the Board of Pardons and Parole and the Youth Parole Authority.

	<p>Mission Statement</p> <p>The primary purposes of sentencing are to punish the offender, protect and compensate the victim and society, and reduce the likelihood of future crimes by the offender through rehabilitation or incapacitation.</p> <p>Position 4: Resource Sensitivity</p> <p>Sentencing approaches should take into account, without being controlled by, available sanctioning resources and their relative cost-benefits.</p>
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Agenda Item:	Joint Report from Department of Corrections & Sentencing Commission Research Divisions (Cliff Butter and Mike Haddon)
Notes:	<p>Cliff handed out the <i>2000 Report On Sentencing And Prison Admissions</i>. The report covered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Index Crimes/Inmate Counts Felons Sentenced To Prison Number Of Felons To Prison Drug Offenders In Prison Drug/Property Offenders Sentencing Guideline Analysis Probation Admissions to Prison Parole Returns to Prison New Crime Admissions Release Lengths Of Stay Drug Offenders Lengths Of Stay Current Counts of Mandatory Minimum Offenders In Prison By Offense <p>Discussion to each item ensued. Ed asked for recommendations as to what kind of follow-up research was wanted and what priorities should be passed on to the Guidelines Revision Subcommittee from the full Commission. Mike Sibbett expressed concern about the new federal law (Amy's Law) which allows one state to sue another state if a released prisoner from the first state goes and commits a violent crime in another state. Also, appropriate alternatives to prison should be considered for low level, non-violent drug offenders that are the fastest growing population at the prison as indicated by the report. The trend from the last several years of the Board of Pardons and Parole of increasing lengths of stay should also be reviewed by the Subcommittee.</p>

Agenda Item:	Juvenile Sentencing Guidelines Evaluation Update – Russ Van Vleet
Notes:	<p>The study funded by the National Institute of Justice and conducted by the Social Research Institute at the University of Utah has found that the guidelines are successful. By and large sentencing consistency rates with the Guidelines are promising with the exception of secure care. A copy will be available no later than May and put on the agenda for August. Earlier intervention is occurring with probation caseloads significantly down and more meaningful intervention happening at a younger age with juvenile offenders. However, the goal of 5% reduction in Youth Corrections placements has not yet happened.</p>

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 1, at noon, Governor's Board Room.

Minutes prepared by Jo Lynn Kruse
Executive Secretary CCJJ