



Utah Sentencing Commission

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Daniel Strong
Director

Utah State Capitol Complex
East Office Bldg Ste E330
Salt Lake City UT 84114
(801) 538-1031; FAX: (801) 538-1024
www.sentencing.utah.gov

December 20, 2022

Dear Members of the Public,

The Utah Sentencing Commission is pleased to present the 2023 version of the Utah Sentencing, Release, and Supervision Guidelines. This version combines and updates two prior documents: the Utah Sentencing & Release Guidelines and the Utah Supervision Length Guidelines. This version of the guidelines is intended to go into effect on April 1, 2023. Prior to that date, we are inviting public comment for a minimum of 30 days, ending January 30, 2023. Please send any comments or feedback to sentencingcommission@utah.gov.

This version of the guidelines includes a new format structured around three stages of the post-conviction process: Assessment, Behavior Management, and Supervision. Within each stage, we have included tools for practitioners and decision-makers in the sentencing, release, and supervision systems. Most of these tools were in previous versions of the guidelines, but we hope this new structure will clarify their intended purpose and increase their utility.

This version of the guidelines includes a number of changes related to legislation passed in 2022. All of the statutory references have been updated to reflect recodification changes. There is a new sentencing form recommending more severe sanctions for financial offenses with serious losses, consistent with 2022's House Bill 229. We have also included new aggravating and mitigating circumstances for Sexual Exploitation of Children offenses, as suggested in 2022's Senate Bill 167. Additionally, this version includes changes to supervision practices and supervision violation sanctions, in line with 2022's House Bill 28.

We hope that these updates and changes will improve the fairness and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Utah. Thank you for your interest in and support of the Utah Sentencing, Release, and Supervision Guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Strong".

Daniel Strong
Director
Utah Sentencing Commission