

# Task Force Introduction and Background

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## Task Force Membership

- Subject matter experts/stakeholders
- Criminal justice system stakeholders
- Geographic representation
- Connection to other relevant boards and initiatives





### Task Force Membership

- Staff compiles names of stakeholders and potential task force members
- Suggest names to Task Force Chairs and Commission Chair and Co-chair
- Commission Chair and Co-chair with the input of the task force chairs
  - decide group membership
    - based on person's expertise and role in the system
- Invitations issued
- First meeting date identified



## Roles and Responsibilities of Task Force Members

The Task Force shall conduct a thorough analysis of the issue(s) sent from the Commission.

- Spend time defining the problem
  - Do not assume we know the problem
  - Do not assume we know the solution
- Use data and evidence when available



## Roles and Responsibilities of Staff to the Task Force

- Division of Criminal Justice/Office of Research and Statistics—provides research and staff support to the Commission and its task forces
  - Minutes are posted on the Commission web site once approved
- Task Force support
  - in 5 list
  - Kim English
  - Germaine Miera
  - Christine Adams
  - Peg Flick
  - Laurence Lucero

### **Consultants**

--Richard Stroker



## Roles and Responsibilities of Staff to the Task Force

### Richard Stroker

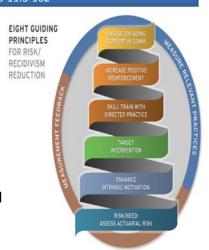
- Serves as consultant for the Commission
  - Plays an active role in strategic planning; facilitates most task force meetings; ties together the work of the task forces
- 25+ S.C. Department of Corrections
- 10+ years at Center for Effective Public Policy
  - Worked with dozens of policy groups in more than 40 states, in Indian Country, and dozens of local jurisdictions
  - Worked with Denver's Community Corrections Board Director of National Parole Resource Center
  - Worked with DOC's strategic planning group



### Mission of the Commission

C.R.S. 16-11.3-102

- Enhance public safety
- Ensure justice
- Ensure the protection of the rights of victims
- Focus on cost effective expenditure of funds
- Work with other stateestablished boards
- Establish advisory committees that make recommendations to the full Commission
- Focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction



Source: National Institute of Corrections



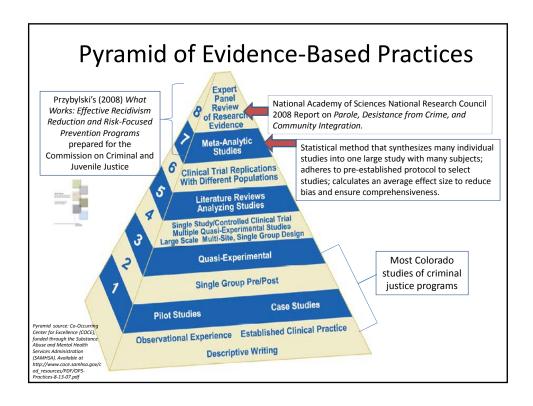
## **Guiding Principles**

- 1. Public safety should always be paramount in our thoughts.
- 2. It is important that we are inclusive of all represented perspectives and areas of expertise, and that we commit to nonpartisanship.
- 3. We agree to question our assumptions, maintain respect for differences and work towards common goals that meet the Commission's mandate.
- 4. We should seek outside help for areas where we are lacking in knowledge.
- 5. Because our decisions impact all Colorado, we should carefully consider the perspectives of the various regions and diverse populations of citizens, victims, and offenders across the state.



## **Guiding Principles**

- 6. To the best of our ability, our decisions should be straight forward and timely.
- 7. Our decisions are guided by data and should be aimed at crime prevention, reducing recidivism, achieving public safety through the most cost effective means, and achieving justice.
- 8. We should be mindful that a need for treatment is not an adequate reason for incarceration (other options should be available).





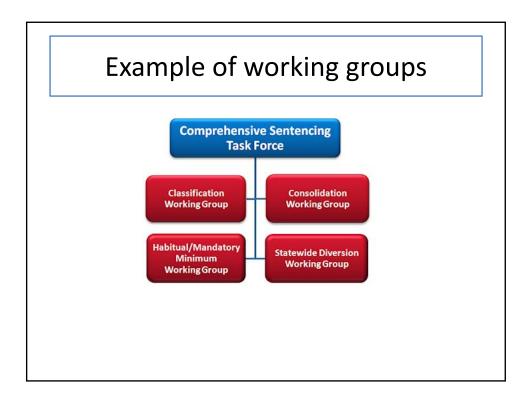
### **Task Force Process**

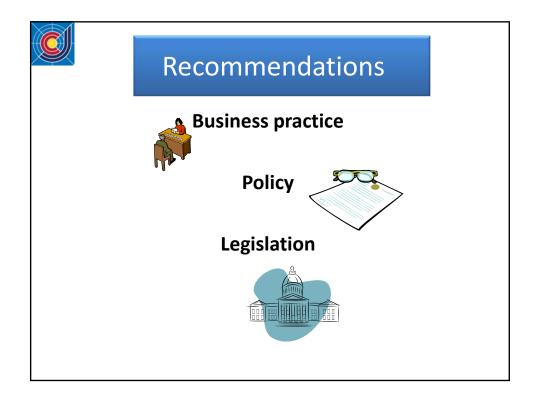
- Look at the Big Picture from multiple lenses
  - From a system's perspective
  - From a stakeholder perspective
  - Incorporating data/evidence
- Identify gaps/issues/problems
- Clarify gaps/issues/problems
- Prioritize issues for the Task Force to focus on
- Identify working groups to study issues

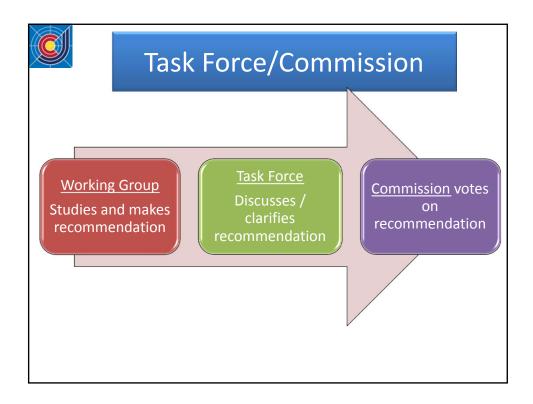


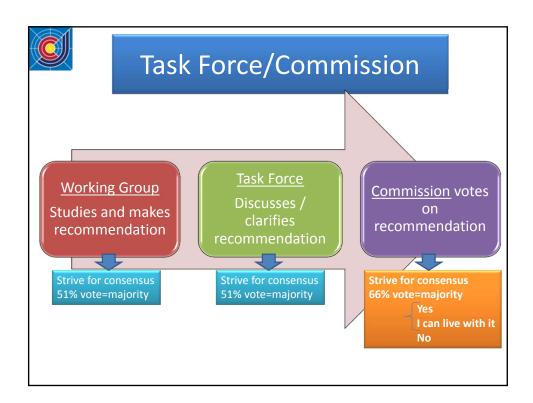
## **Working Groups**

- Receive direction from the Task Force
- Sometimes have chairs/co-chairs that are task force members
- Are not typically staffed by DCJ
- Include non-task force members
- Undertake careful study of an issue
- Report back monthly to Task Force
- Develop recommendations for Task Force review and consideration















## A few Commission accomplishments



### Colorado Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

### **EARLY REFORMS**

- Eliminate statutes that require mandatory revocation / suspension of driver's license for conviction of non-driving offenses (exclude child support enforcement) (2008)
  - HB09-1266:
    - In FY09, <u>10,746</u> lost license
    - In FY10, <u>1,055</u> lost license
- Clarify jail time credits/jail inmates awarded earned time (2008)
  - 7220 bed days saved annually in Arapahoe County alone (\$490,960/year)
- Mandate that parolees receive credit for time spent in jail pending a technical parole revocation (2008)
  - HB09-1263



- Increased the age of eligibility to 19 (at time of the crime) for individuals sentenced to the DOC's Youthful Offender System (2009)
  - HB09-1122
- Introduce a structured decision-making guide for use by the Colorado parole board (2009)
  - HB10-1374
  - Colorado Parole Board Release Guidelines Instrument
    - Use of actuarial risk scale
    - · Determination of readiness
  - Annual report of progress and findings
- Expand probation eligibility for those with multiple felony convictions (2009)
  - HB10-1338
  - Estimated to save \$2.5M in DOC costs
- Provide for sealing certain drug offenses (2010)
  - HB 11-1167



### Colorado Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

- Increase behavioral health treatment (2008)
- Increase treatment availability prior to restructuring drug laws (2009)
  - Increase in Persistent Drunk Driver Surcharge (\$550,000/year) (HB 10-1347)
  - Drug offender surcharge assessed doubled (HB10-1352)
  - \$1,545,409 for community corrections treatment beds (HB10-1360)
  - \$2,057,225 services for parolees (HB10-1360)
  - First \$2M in medical marijuana sales/use tax fund substance abuse treatment programs (HB10-1284)



### **Drug law reform** (2009/2012)

SB13-250: created new drug grid, DF1-DF4/DM1,2, petty

DRUG LEVEL	PRESUMPTIVE RANGE	AGGRAVATED RANGE	PAROLE	
DF 1	8 – 32 years	n/a	3 years	
DF 2	4 – 8 years	8 – 16 years	2 years	
DF 3	2 – 4 years	4 – 6 years	1 year	
DF 4	6 months – 1 year	1 – 2 years	1 year	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM		
DM 1	6 months, \$500 fine or both	18 months, \$5,000 fine or both		
DM 2	\$50 fine	12 months, \$750 fine or both		

- Allows a "wobbler"—Court may vacate the felony conviction and enter a
  misdemeanor conviction if defendant completes community based sentence
  (certain cases ineligible based on prior record)
- Effective October 2013



### Colorado Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

• Restructuring Theft statute (HB 13-1160)

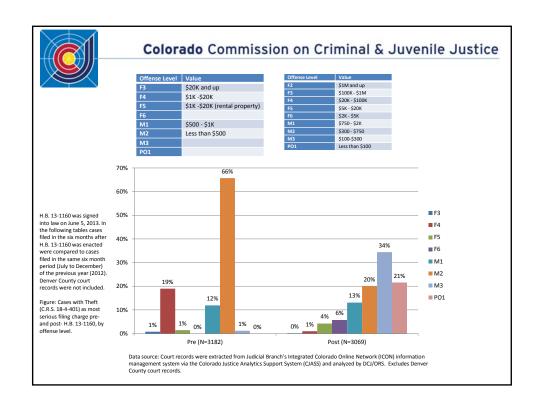
**BEFORE** 

AFTER

Offense Level	Value
F3	\$20K and up
F4	\$1K -\$20K
F5	\$1K -\$20K (rental
	property)
F6	
M1	\$500 - \$1K
M2	Less than \$500
M3	
PO1	

Value
\$1M and up
\$100K - \$1M
\$20K - \$100K
\$5K - \$20K
\$2K - \$5K
\$750 - \$2K
\$300 - \$750
\$100-\$300
Less than \$100

HB14-1266—thresholds applied to criminal mischief, fraud by check, defrauding a secured creditor, and unauthorized use of a financial transaction device, and computer crime





### **EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING**

- Bail reform (2012)
  - Implement evidence-based decision making practices
  - Discourage the use of financial bond for pretrial detainees
    - HB 13-1236

More than 10 counties are now using the Colorado Pretrial Assessment Tool (CPAT)



### **Recent Commission Bills**

**House Bill 15-1022** Created a petty ticket option for law enforcement as an alternative to initiating formal proceedings for youth.

**House Bill 15-1072** Made changes to the harassment statute to clarify cyberbullying behaviors.

**House Bill 15-1203** Retroactively provided earned time credit to certain individuals sentenced under the habitual criminal statute.

**House Bill 16-1215** Revised the purposes of parole to reflect a focus on successful outcomes

