



Sentencing Reform Task Force

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
September 9, 2020



Colorado Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

Sentencing Task Force

Welcome



Colorado Commission on Criminal & Juvenile Justice

Sentencing Reform Task Force

Members (CCJJ Members)

Michael Dougherty, Co-chair	Prosecution/ District Attorney's Office, 20th J.D.
Rick Kornfeld, Co-chair	Defense/ Private defense
Chris Bachmeyer	District Court Judge/ 1st Judicial District
Terri Carver	Legislature/ State House District 20
Valarie Finks	Victim Representative/ District Attorney's Office, 1st J.D.
Bob Gardner	Legislature/ State Senate District 12
Julie Gonzales	Legislature/ State Senate District 34
Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez	Legislature/ State House District 4
Kristen Hilkey	Parole Board/ Chair
Jessica Jones	Defense/ Private defense
Matt Lewis	Law Enforcement/ Mesa County Sheriff
Andrew Matson	Lived Experience/ Colorado CURE
Tom Raynes	Prosecution/ CO District Attorneys' Council
Dean Williams	Department of Corrections/ Executive Director
Taj Ashaheed	Lived Experience/ Second Chance Center
Maureen Cain	Defense/ State Public Defender's Office
Jeff Chostner	Prosecution/ District Attorney's Office, 10th J.D.
Christie Donner	Advocate/ CO Criminal Justice Reform Coalition
Kazi Houston	Victim Representative/ Rocky Mountain Victim Law Ctr.
Henry Jackson	Sentencing Disparity Expert/ Metro State University
Kara Martin	Pretrial/ Judicial Branch
Heather McClure	Lived Experience/ Adams County Criminal Justice Council
Dan Rubinstein	Prosecution/ District Attorney's Office, 21st J.D.
Lisa Wayne	Defense/ Private defense



CCJJ Task Force

Introduction and Background

Kim English, Research Director
Colorado Division of Criminal Justice
Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
September 9, 2020



Overview

- Commission Background
 - Mission
 - Guiding Principles
- What is a Task Force/Subcommittee?
 - Membership
 - Roles, responsibilities
- Process
- Staff

CCJJ

The Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice is a multidisciplinary 30-member entity that was established in 2007 by C.R.S. 16-11.3-101 to improve “the effective administration of justice” by undertaking a comprehensive examination of the criminal and juvenile justice systems and making recommendations for reform.





Guiding Principles

1. Public safety and recidivism reduction
2. Diversity of nonpartisan perspectives
3. Question assumptions, respect differences and work toward common goals
4. Seek external guidance
5. Clear, sound and timely decisions guided by data
6. Treatment need is not an adequate reason for incarceration



Task Force Membership

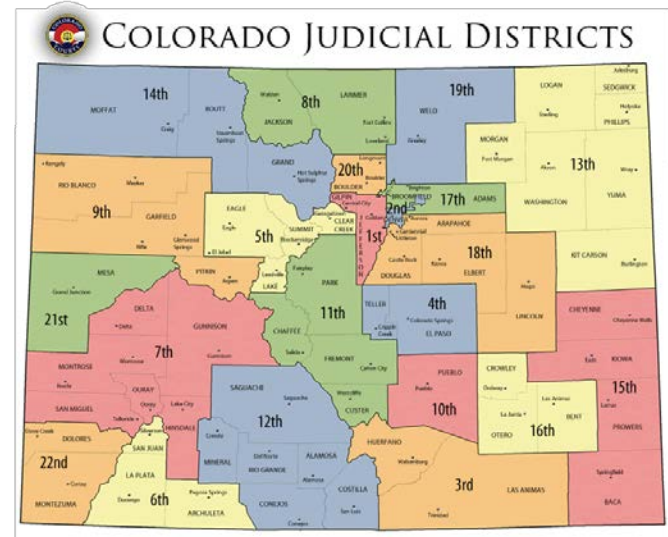
Membership considerations

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

Colorado Counties, 2018: Urban, Rural, & Frontier



Source: Colorado Rural Health Center





Member Roles and Responsibilities

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**



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 and, if necessary, seat Working Groups to study issues





Current Commission Committees

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

Legislative Subcommittee
As needed

Probation Purpose Subcommittee
TBD start

Sentencing Task Force
Sept 2020 start

Pretrial Release Task Force
Hiatus



Working Group

- Receives direction from the Task Force
- Has Leader/Co-leaders that are Task Force members
- Staffed by DCJ; coordinated with DCJ staff
- May include non-task force members
- Undertakes careful study of an issue
- Drafts materials (recommendations) for Task Force review and consideration
- DOES NOT VOTE (“IDs” priorities/options)
- Reports monthly to Task Force





Recommendations

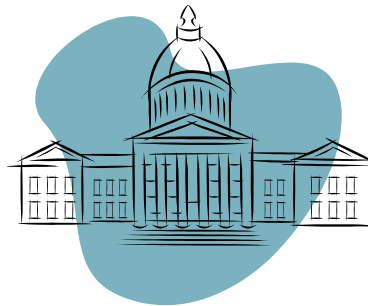


Business practice

Policy

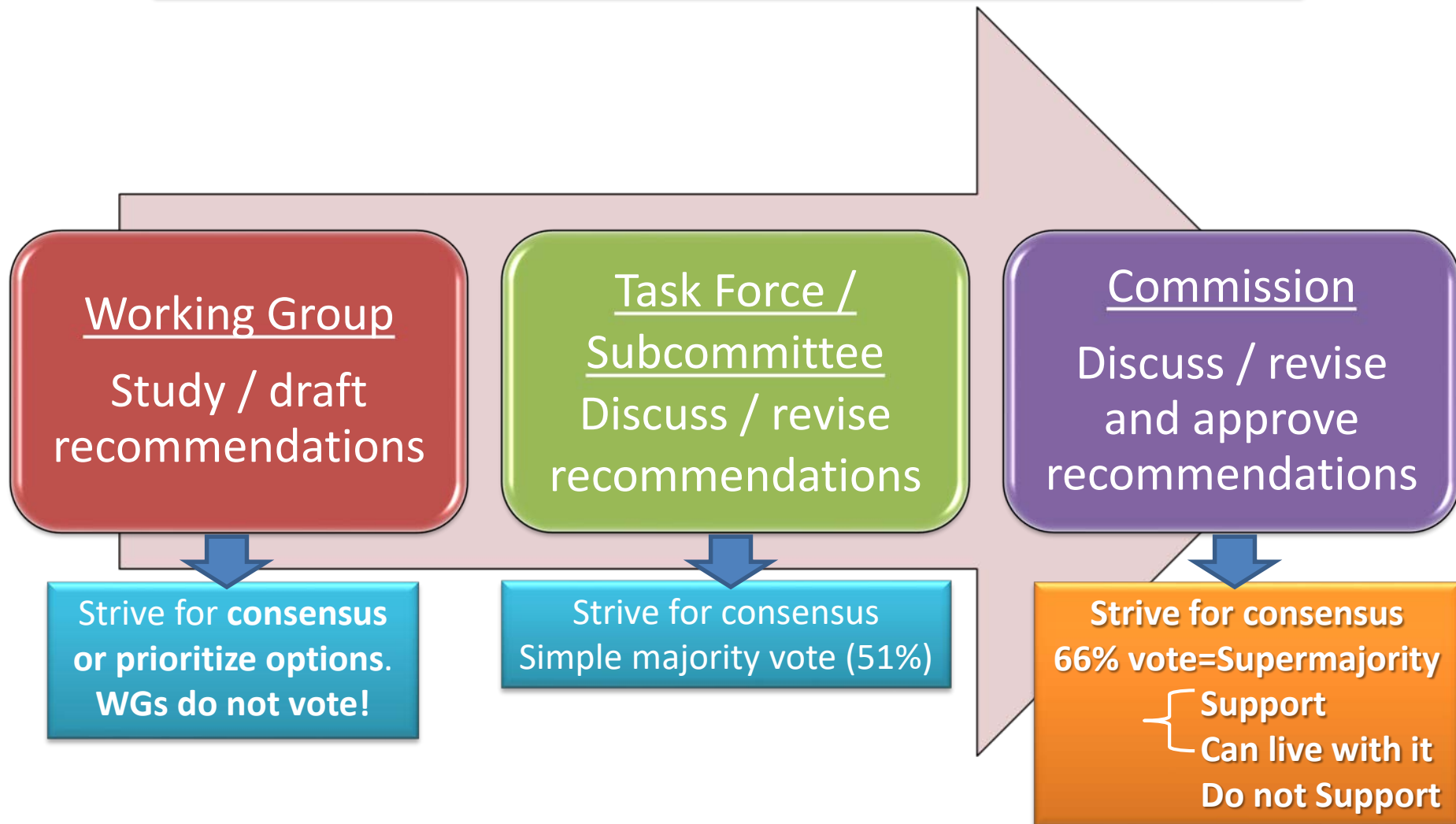


Legislation





Recommendations





Member Roles and Responsibilities

Regarding CCJJ recommendations

- CCJJ Approved recommendations
 - Members actively support or remain silent and agree not to actively oppose.
- CCJJ Rejected recommendations
 - Members are not constrained regarding recommendations that are rejected or for which there is no Commission vote.



Member Roles and Responsibilities

Regarding CCJJ recommendations (continued)

- If expressing an opposing view on a CCJJ recommendation is necessary, do not identify as speaking for the Commission
- If expressing views on “non-CCJJ bills,” do not speak on behalf of the Commission
- Non-compliance may result in consideration for removal



Staff

- **Division of Criminal Justice/Office of Research and Statistics**—provides research and staff support to the Commission and its task forces and working groups
 - Minutes are posted on the Commission web site once approved
- **Task Force Staff**
 - Kim English
 - Damien Angel
 - Laurence Lucero
 - Stéphané Waisenan
 - Peg Flick
 - Linda Harrison
- **Consultant**
 - Richard Stroker



Staff

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
- 15 years at Center for Effective Public Policy
 - Director of the National Parole Resource Center
 - Worked with dozens of policy groups in 50 states, in Indian Country, and dozens of local jurisdictions
 - Worked with Denver's Community Corrections Board
 - Worked with DOC's strategic planning group



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Enhancing public safety and justice through evidence-based recidivism reduction

Next Meeting

Fri., Sept. 11, 2020, 1-4pm
Virtual Meeting

Agenda: 

See [Meetings](#) for details and
public comment sign-up.

**Due to COVID-19, CCJJ activities are being
conducted virtually.**

Future meetings (2nd Fri.):
Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11...
See the [CCJJ Calendar](#).

Of Interest

[CCJJ 2019 Annual Report](#)

[Prosecutors, Reentry, and Public Safety \(2019\)](#)

[Are Metal Detectors Effective at Making Schools
Safer? \(2019\)](#)

[Report: Transforming the U.S. Justice System
\(2019\) \(Factsheet\)](#)

[Spotlight on CO: Best Practices and Next Steps in
the Opioid Epidemic \(2019\)](#)

[21 Principles for the 21st Century Prosecutor
\(2018\)](#)

[Colorado WACFS Research Institute Justice](#)

Scroll above or read more at:
[Reports & Readings](#)

Contact

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CCJJ Staff

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Division of Criminal Justice

EPIC Resource Center




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Sentencing Reform Task Force

The Sentencing Reform Task Force was seated by Commission with a start date on September 9, 2020. This task force will address the sentencing issues delineated in the [2020 Biennial Letter from Gov. Jared Polis](#) pursuant to House Bill 2018-1287.



▼ Upcoming Meetings

▼ Members

▼ Subgroups

▼ Materials

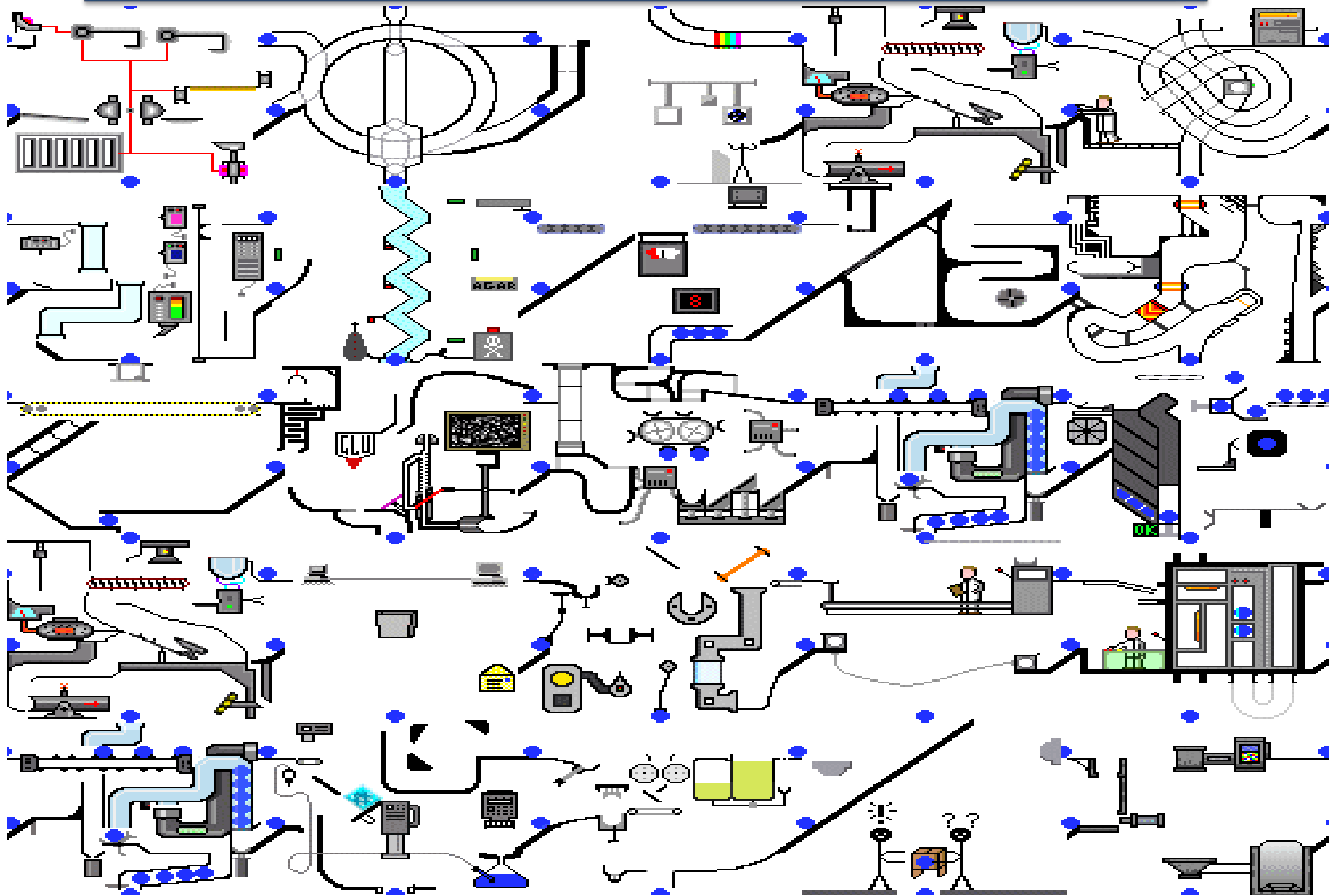
▼ Previous Meetings



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The Commission has a lot of moving parts...





Questions?
Regarding CCJJ or CCJJ process?