

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice
Sentencing Reform Task Force

Sentence Structure Working Group
MINUTES

June 7, 2022 / 3:00PM-5:00PM
Virtual Meeting

ATTENDEES

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Michael Dougherty, *Working Group Leader*, District Attorney/ 20th Judicial District (J.D.)
Valarie Finks, Crime Victim Compensation/ 1st J.D.
Jessica Jones, Defense Attorney

STAFF

Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant
Jack Reed, Division of Criminal Justice
Stephané Waisanen, Sentence Structure Working Group Staff, Division of Criminal Justice
Laurence Lucero, Sentencing Reform Task Force Staff, Division of Criminal Justice

ABSENT

Maureen Cain, Office of the State Public Defender
Christie Donner, Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition
Tom Raynes, Colorado District Attorneys' Council
Dan Rubinstein, District Attorney/ 21st J.D.
Lisa Wayne, Defense Attorney

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Welcome <i>Michael Dougherty</i> Working Group Leader</p>	<p>Michael welcomed members and stated he would offer quick updates on the Sentence Progression Working Group, the Sentence Structure Study Group, and a discussion with the Governor’s Office.</p>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Updates <i>Michael Dougherty</i></p>	<p>Michael reported that he and Rick Kornfeld continue to meet regularly with Kara Veitch, Chief Legal Counsel to the Governor’s Office who reiterated support for the work of CCJJ and the Sentencing Reform Task Force.</p> <p>Michael mentioned that Governor Polis signed <i>HB22-1131 – Reduce Justice Involvement for Young Children</i>, which created a new Task Force under the Colorado Department of Human Services. On the day of the bill signing, Governor Polis addressed a letter to the Colorado General Assembly in which he discussed the goals of the Pre-Adolescent Services Task Force [<i>See cdhs.colorado.gov/pre-adolescent-services-task-force</i>] and some concerns raised by stakeholders that the Task Force will be duplicative of the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ). Governor Polis reiterated support for the work of CCJJ and encouraged criminal justice reform policies to move through CCJJ.</p> <p>Michael met with Rick Kornfeld and Co-leaders Brian Mason, Emily Fleischmann, and Greg Mauro of the Sentence Progression WG to plan for the first WG meeting and overarching goal of the group.</p> <p>Jes asked whether the Sentence Progression WG will start with a new approach to the work or continue the work established before that WG was placed on hiatus in July 2021. Richard responded that it is expected that the group will first review information and data about the current system and existing community transition programs for incarcerated individuals in state prison, including the review of the work developed by the previous WG to identify the issues in existing prison “off-ramps” (transition-to-community options) and possibly examine the creation of alternative options.</p> <p>The Sentence Structure <i>Study Group</i> continues to meet regularly to review the crime severity chart and felony sentencing grids.</p>

Issue/Topic	Discussion
<p>Next Steps and Adjourn <i>Michael Dougherty</i></p>	<p>With no further discussion, Michael thanked the group and reminded members that the next Working Group meeting is Tuesday, July 5 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00pm.</p>

Next Meeting

Tuesday, July 5, 2022 / 3:00 – 5:00pm