

**Sentencing Reform Task Force  
MINUTES**

July 6, 2022 / 1:30PM-1:50PM  
Virtual Meeting

**THIS MEETING DID NOT ACHIEVE A QUORUM**

**ATTENDEES**

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Michael Dougherty, *Task Force Co-chair*, District Attorney/20th Judicial District (JD)  
Maureen Cain, Office of the State Public Defender  
Valerie Finks, Victim Compensation Program/DA Office, 1st JD  
Kazi Houston, Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center  
Jessica Jones, Defense Attorney  
Andrew Matson, Colorado CURE  
Greg Mauro, Denver Division of Community Corrections  
Tom Raynes, Colorado District Attorneys' Council  
Michael Rourke, District Attorney/19th JD  
Dean Williams, Colorado Department of Corrections

**STAFF**

Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant  
Jack Reed, Research Director, Division of Criminal Justice  
Kevin Ford, CCJJ Staff, Division of Criminal Justice  
Stephané Waisanen, CCJJ Staff, Division of Criminal Justice

**ABSENT**

Taj Ashaheed, Second Chance Center  
Terri Carver, State Representative/House District 20  
Christie Donner, Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition  
Bob Gardner, State Senator/Senate District 12  
Julie Gonzales, State Senator/Senate District 34  
Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez, State Representative/House District 4  
Justin (JR) Hall, Colorado State Board of Parole  
Henry Jackson, Metro State University  
Sarah Keck, Court Services/Judicial Branch  
Rick Kornfeld, *Task Force Co-chair*/Defense Attorney  
Brian Mason, District Attorney/17th JD  
Heather McClure, Adams County Division of Community Safety & Well-Being  
Dan Rubinstein, District Attorney/21<sup>st</sup> JD  
Glenn Tapia, Director, Div. of Probation Services/Judicial Branch  
Lisa Wayne, Defense Attorney

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| <p><b>Welcome &amp; Agenda</b><br/>                 Welcome, Approval of Minutes, and Agenda<br/> <i>Michael Dougherty, Task Force Co-chair</i></p> | <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Michael Dougherty, Task Force Co-chair welcomed attendees and noted that Co-chair Rick Kornfeld would be absent due to a work conflict. Michael reviewed the agenda and noted that, in the absence of a quorum, the approvals of the February 9, March 9, April 6, and June 8 minutes are postponed until the Task Force meeting on August 10.</p> |
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| <p><b>Issue/Topic</b><br/>                 Working Group Updates</p> | <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p><u>Sentencing Alternatives/Decisions &amp; Probation WG – Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant</u><br/>                 In the absence of Glenn Tapia, WG Leader, Richard Stroker offered an update on the progress of the WG. The WG is focused on probation sentence length and particularly on early termination for people on probation. At the June meeting, the group discussed the elements of a preliminary proposal that would address inconsistency across the judicial districts regarding the accessibility and policy of early termination. Glenn prepared a draft proposal and is prepared to obtain feedback from stakeholders to discuss at the next meeting in August. Richard expected a preliminary proposal will be presented to the Task Force later this summer.</p> <p>Maureen Cain asked whether the Working Group looked at data related to violations to establish appropriate lengths of supervision and whether a shorter period should be considered if there are no violations.</p> <p>Richard affirmed that the group is looking at violations as well as national perspectives and other jurisdictions’ practices related to sentence length and early termination. Richard added that the evidence shows that most violations happen early in supervision period and that extending the supervision period has little impact on improving public safety.</p> <p><u>Sentence Structure WG – Michael Dougherty, WG Leader</u><br/>                 The WG meets once a month but will resume meeting twice a month in the fall. The group met yesterday and will continue the review and analysis of the Enhanced Felony severity classification chart, felony sentencing grid, sentencing ranges, habitual sentence enhancers, mandatory consecutive sentences for crimes of violence, certainty in sentencing, and length of stay for felony offenses. The focus is on the crime severity chart which the Study Group sent the WG for review and feedback. Michael expected that the crime severity chart proposal will be presented to the Task Force in the coming weeks.</p> <p><u>Sentence Progression WG, Greg Mauro, Co-leader</u><br/>                 Greg reported that the WG held its first meeting on June 28. The WG consists of seventeen very engaged members, some of whom were members of the pre-hiatus Sentence Progression Working Group. At this first meeting, the members of the Working Group heard about the previous activities of the pre-hiatus Working Group, and received an overview of the current end-of-</p> |
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| <p><b>Issue/Topic</b><br/>Working Group Updates<br/>(continued)</p> | <p>sentence transition options (Community Corrections, Parole, and Intensive Supervision-Inmate [ISP-I] program).</p> <p>There was a discussion of the development of a work plan and the challenges faced by the pre-hiatus WG. At future meetings, the WG will look at the data previously examined by the WG and will identify other potential data/information needed. The timeline established by the group is to develop a proposal by the winter of 2022. Greg and Michael Rourke believed that one of the significant issues encountered by the previous WG was that the scope of work was too broad.</p> <p>Greg reiterated that the WG is awaiting further direction from the SRTF as it pertains to discretionary parole and on the interdependence of the work by the Sentence Structure WG.</p> <p>Maureen explained that the Sentence Structure WG will first focus on completing the crime severity chart, but additionally is working to gather data and information to address certainty in sentencing. Maureen anticipated a proposal regarding a structure that addresses certainty in sentencing will be developed in the coming months.</p> |
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| <p><b>Issue/Topic</b><br/>Public Comment<br/><i>Michael Dougherty,</i><br/><i>Task Force Co-chair</i></p> | <p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <p>A member of the public asked a question related to an individual criminal case. Michael and Maureen offered to discuss this with the member of the public after the meeting adjournment.</p> |
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| <p><b>Issue/Topic</b><br/><b>Adjourn</b><br/><i>Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant &amp;</i><br/><i>Michael Dougherty,</i><br/><i>Task Force Co-chair</i></p> | <p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>Richard reiterated that the Structure Working Group will continue its work on categorizing felony crimes by severity level and expect to develop a proposal in the coming weeks.</p> <p>The Sentencing Alternatives/Decisions &amp; Probation WG will continue discussing and developing a proposal on early termination and revocation. The group also expects to present a preliminary recommendation at the SRTF by late summer.</p> <p>The Sentence Progression WG will focus on prioritizing the scope of work and goals to develop a recommendation in the winter. The next Progression WG meeting will be held on July 26.</p> |
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**Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, August 10, 2022 / 1:30-4:00 pm**

If at least 50% of attendees RSVP to attend in person, a hybrid meeting will occur (Choice of In-person or Virtual attendance options will be offered). Otherwise, only the virtual option will be offered.

Meeting information will be emailed to members and posted at, [colorado.gov/ccjj/ccjj-meetings](http://colorado.gov/ccjj/ccjj-meetings).