

Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice



Background and Mandates

Staff to the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

November 2022



History

- The Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) was established by the Colorado Legislature, in HB07-1358, and signed into law on May 23, 2007.
- CCJJ's first meeting was held January 2008.
- The CCJJ was reauthorized in 2013 and again in 2018, with a current repeal date of July 1, 2023.



History

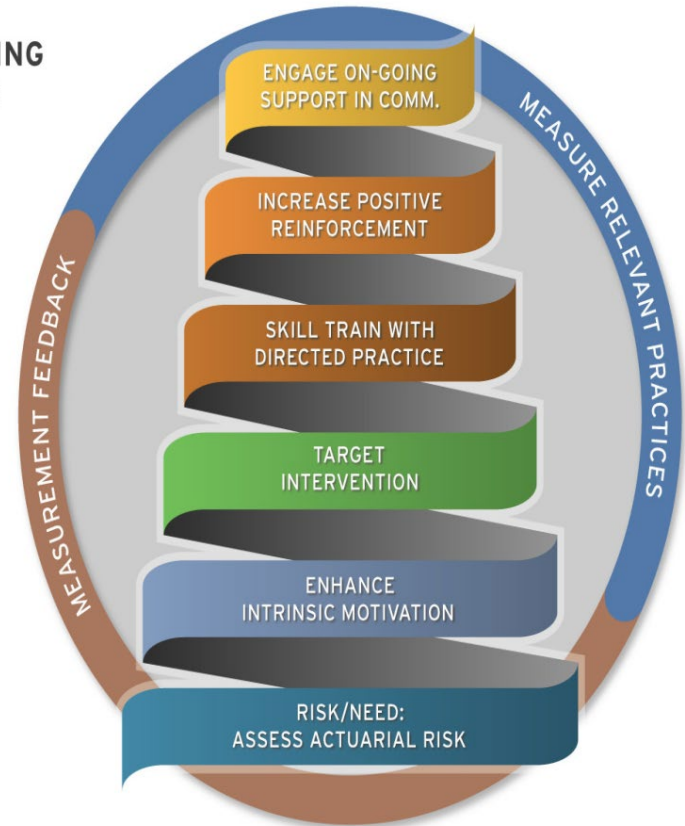
- Initial structure, guiding principles, and by-laws were developed in the first few meetings
- Voting protocols were developed or revised in 2008 (thresholds & alternatives established), 2009 (reconsideration established), and 2016 (supermajority threshold revised).
- CCJJ's first order of business was to address Adult Corrections and Re-entry.



Mission *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 public funds and use of public resources
- Focus on evidence-based recidivism reduction
(...revisiting later!)

EIGHT GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR RISK/RECIDIVISM REDUCTION



Source: National Institute of Corrections



Statutory Duties

- The Commission will conduct an empirical analysis of and collect evidence-based data on sentencing policies and practices, including but not limited to the effectiveness of the sentences imposed in meeting the purposes of sentencing and the need to prevent recidivism and re-victimization.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103.2a)



Statutory Duties

- The Commission will investigate effective alternatives to incarceration, the factors contributing to recidivism, evidence-based recidivism reduction initiatives, and cost-effective crime prevention programs.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103.2b)



Statutory Duties

- The Commission will make an annual report of findings and recommendations, including evidence-based analysis and data.
- The Commission will study and evaluate the outcomes of Commission recommendations as implemented.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103.2c,d)



Statutory Duties

- The Commission will conduct and review studies (including work done in other states) and make recommendations concerning policies and practices in the criminal and juvenile justice systems. The areas of study shall include, but are not limited to, the reduction of racial and ethnic disparities within the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Areas of study will be prioritized based on the potential impact on crime, corrections and the resources available for conducting the work.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(2)(e))



Statutory Duties

- The Commission will work with other state-established boards, task forces, or commissions that study or address criminal justice issues.
- Using empirical analysis and evidence-based data, the commission shall study sentences in Colorado.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103 (2)(f) & (2.5)(a))



Statutory Duties

- The Commission shall establish advisory committees that focus on specific subject matters and each advisory committee shall make findings and recommendations for consideration by the Commission.
- The Commission, at its discretion, may respond to inquiries referred by members of the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court, as resources allow.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103 (3) & (4))



Statutory Duties – Biennial Letter

- On or before May 1 of each even-numbered year, the Commission shall request a letter from the Governor suggesting topics for the commission to study. In preparing the letter, the governor is encouraged to consult with the Chief Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-103 (7))



Membership

- The Commission is comprised of 29 members and one *Ex-officio* member.
- Sixteen members are designated appointments based upon their position (no service terms).
- Fourteen members are appointed by the Governor to represent a broad spectrum of disciplines and constituencies. (These members serve no more than two, three-year terms.)

(C.R.S. 16-11.3-102.2 & 3)



Membership

- Only members of the Commission are permitted to participate in the Commission's formal decision making (voting) process.*
(The Director of the Division of Criminal Justice is the only non-voting member of the Commission).

*Members may designate a substitute who may participate in Commission discussions, but this individual is not granted voting privileges.

(CCJJ By-Laws Section 5.3 & C.R.S. 16-11.3-102.2b)

- Joe Thome, CCJJ *ex officio* (representing Staff)
- Richard Stroker, CCJJ Consultant
- Jack Reed, Dir., DCJ: Office of Research & Statistics
 - Laurence Lucero, ORS, CCJJ Coordinator
 - Kevin Ford, ORS
 - Linda Harrison, ORS
 - Allison Rosenthal, ORS
 - Stephane Waisanen, ORS
- Joel Malecka, Legislative Liaison, Exec. Dir. Office, CDPS

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

Visit the Commission web site often!

ccjj.colorado.gov



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Commission on Criminal
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Enhancing public safety and justice through evidence-based recidivism reduction

Next Meeting

COMMISSION ("CCJJ") MEETING

Special date

Friday, **November 18, 2022**; 1:30-4pm

CCJJ Agenda (11/18): (To be posted)

New Member Orientation: 11:00am-12:30pm

See [Meetings](#) for the latest CCJJ and committee meeting details. CCJJ offers hybrid meetings (Choice of in-person or virtual attendance).

Future CCJJ meetings (2nd Fri.):

Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb.10...

See the [CCJJ Calendar](#).

Of Interest

[CCJJ FY 2021 Annual Report](#)

[Addressing Trauma and Victimization in Women's Prisons \(2020\)](#)

[Exploring the Increase in CO District Court Filing \(2013-2018\)](#)

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

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