



District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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MINUTES OF VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING

April 19, 2022

Via WebEx

Voting Members in Attendance:

Hon. Milton Lee

Hon. Marisa Demeo

Hon. Juliet McKenna

Cedric Hendricks

Molly Gill

Katerina Semyonova

Renata Cooper

Frederick Cooke, Jr.

William Martin

Dave Rosenthal

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Eric Glover

Steve Husk

Leslie Parsons

Kevin Whitfield for Charles Allen

Staff in Attendance:

Linden Fry

Mia Hebb

Taylor Tarnalicki

Brittany Bunch

Maeghan Buckley

Emily Blume

Chairman Monthly Meeting Introduction – Action Item, Judge Lee, Chairman

Judge Lee called the April monthly meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. and completed a membership roll call. The meeting proceeded with a quorum of voting members present.

Review and approval of the minutes from March 15, 2022, Commission meeting – Action Item, Judge Lee, Chairman.

The Commission was sent the draft March meeting minutes for final review prior to the April meeting. The Commission voted to approve the minutes (9 votes in favor and no votes opposed). Judge McKenna abstained from voting because of her absence during the March meeting.

Interim Director's Report - Information Item, Linden Fry, Interim Executive Director

Linden Fry greeted the Commission members and staff. He proceeded to give a brief overview of the staff's current activities. The printer proof for the Commission's upcoming 2021 Annual Report has been received and reviewed by staff. The final draft will be sent to the printers on April 20th, 2022. Mr. Fry thanked the staff as a whole and specifically thanked the Commission's Statistician, Taylor Tarnalicki, for leading the project.

In anticipation of the 2022 D.C. Voluntary Guideline Manual being prepared, an invitation was sent to all Commission members who were interested in joining the Commission's Guidelines Implementation Committee (GIC). The first GIC meeting will be held on Monday, April 25th, 2022, at 1 PM to discuss

possible revisions to the Guidelines manual. Members who are interested in joining the meeting are encouraged to contact the Commission's Attorney Advisor, Maeghan Buckley.

Mr. Fry informed the Commission that the plan to receive redacted Pre-Sentence Report (PSR) data from the Court Services & Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) is no longer a viable option. CSOSA has informed the Commission that they do not have the resources to provide the data to the Commission. Judge Lee noted that he will be meeting with Mr. Fry next week to discuss potential options and next steps. This matter remains a top priority and will be added to next month's agenda for discussion. Mr. Fry thanked Commission Member Cedric Hendricks for his assistance in helping the Commission access the data.

Mr. Fry also discussed the Commission's continued preparation for the potential passage of the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2021 (RCCA) legislative package currently pending the Council. The Commission has requested additional funds from the Council for FY2023 to begin preparing for the RCCA's passage. The requested funds would allow the Commission to hire two additional staff members who would focus on preparing the Commission for the effects of code reform and assist in revising the Sentencing Guidelines. Additionally, the Commission requested funding for a needs assessment to evaluate what changes, if any, will need to be made to the Commission's data system if the RCCA enacted. Kevin Whitfield confirmed that all needed materials were submitted to the Council well in advance of the deadline and offered his aid if any additional questions or issues arose.

Closed Executive Session – Action Item, Judge Milton Lee

Per the Commission's announced agenda, Judge Lee proposed entering a closed Executive Session in order to discuss the hiring of a new Executive Director pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b)(10). The motion was seconded and, per a roll call vote, approved by all voting members present. The Commission proceeded to enter a closed session.

Following the conclusion of the closed Executive Session, Commission staff and the public were invited back to join the meeting. Judge Lee reported that the Commission members had discussed the position thoroughly. A motion was made to appoint the Commission's current Interim Executive Director, Linden Fry, as the permanent Executive Director. A roll call vote was completed, all voting members unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Fry the Commission's Executive Director.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:39 pm.

NEXT MEETING:
May 17, 2022
Via WebEx