



# District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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## **MINUTES OF VIRTUAL COMMISSION MEETING**

July 20, 2021

One Judiciary Square, Suite 430S, Washington, DC 20001

### **Voting Members in Attendance:**

|                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Milton Lee       | William” Billy” Martin |
| Juliet McKenna   | Dave Rosenthal         |
| Danya Dyson      | Katerina Semyonova     |
| Cedric Hendricks | Renata Cooper          |
| Molly Gill       | Frederick Cooke        |
| Julie Samuels    |                        |

### **Non-Voting Members in Attendance:**

Diane Strote for Sonya Thompson  
Leslie Parsons

### **Staff in Attendance:**

|                      |                   |              |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Barbara Tombs-Souvey | Taylor Tarnalicki | Mehmet Ergun |
| Mia Hebb             | Brittany Bunch    |              |

Judge Lee called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**Review and Approval of the Minutes from the June 22, 2021 – Action Item, Judge Lee. Minutes approved without objection.**

### **Continued Discussion on Commission’s Response to the Impact of Covid-19 on Sentencing– Action Item, Judge Lee, and Guideline Implementation Subcommittee**

Judge Lee continued the discussion related to Commission’s response to the Impact of Covid-19 on Sentencing - Potential New Mitigating Departure Factor. These discussions centered on how the Guidelines could potentially respond to unprecedented and emergency situations, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which had a direct impact on court operations and sentencing proceedings but not limiting the response to the COVID-19 pandemic alone. Judge Lee turned the floor over to the Guideline Implementation Sub-Committee for further discussion and recommendations. There was a lengthy discussion among the Sub-Committee and the Commission members regarding the intent and the proposed language. The Sub-Committee was ultimately able to reach an agreement on the proposed language regarding the new Mitigating Departure factor and the language for the new mitigating departure factor was presented to the full Commission for a vote.

**Commission Vote:** The Commission members unanimously voted in favor of the addition of Proposed Mitigating Departure when the court invokes DC Code 11-947.

**Lapse and Revival Refresher – Informational Item, Barbara Tombs-Souvey**

The Lapse and Revival Refresher will be placed on hold and presented at the next Commission meeting.

**Continued Discussion of the Lapse and Revival Provision – Discussion Item, Judge Lee, Chairman**

Continued Discussion of the Lapse and Revival Provision: Judge Lee briefly gave an overview of the of the Guideline’s current lapse and revival provision that the Commission will discuss and undertake at the September Commission meeting.

Judge Lee informed the Commission members that the virtual Commission meeting for August is cancelled and the next Commission meeting will be held on September 21, 2021.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:27pm.

NEXT MEETING:  
September 21, 2021  
Via ZOOM