

2016 AMENDMENTS

The following amendments to the 2015 manual were effective on June 27, 2016. The Commission did not make any substantive revisions to the Guidelines Manual. The amendments discussed below were made to explain, clarify, and/or streamline the information presented in the Manual. Because there are many revisions, this Appendix does not attempt to describe all of them. Only the most important revisions are discussed below.

Additionally, the following offense and severity rankings were added:

- Injuring/Obstructing a Police Animal - Significant Bodily Injury/Death
(§ 22-861(b)(2)) Master Group 8
- First-Degree Unlawful Publication of Sexual Images
(§ 22-3053) Master Group 9

Chapter Two:

Section 2.2.2 - Scoring Prior Convictions/Adjudications

The language preceding the conviction scoring chart on page eight was adjusted to clarify that out-of-District offenses should be matched to a current D.C. Code offense according to the rules set forth in Section 2.2.6 and then treated as the closely matching District offense.

Section 2.2.4 - Which Prior Juvenile Adjudications Count?

The first paragraph of the Section was amended by adding “release in that case” to clarify that the defendant must be detained in a secure/locked facility in the specific case pertaining to the prior adjudication to extend the five year lapsing window.

Sections 2.2.8 and 2.2.9 – Offense Severity Group and Scoring of Currently Unranked or Amended Statutes / Offense Severity Group and Scoring of Previously Unranked or Re-Ranked Statutes

The substance of the rules previously contained in Section 2.2.8 was not changed. However, the Section was split into two separate Sections and reorganized for clarity. Section 2.2.8 now addresses the offense severity group and scoring of currently unranked or amended statutes while Section 2.2.9 discusses the offense severity group and scoring of previously unranked or re-ranked statutes.

Chapter 3

Section 3.6 - Mandatory Minimums and Statutory Minimums

The paragraph addressing offenses with statutory minimum sentences that are higher than the top of the Guidelines range was changed from an offense specific provision to a general rule so that it covers all offenses with a statutory minimum sentence that is higher than the top of the Guidelines range.

Appendix A and B

Master and Drug Grids now note that the sentencing ranges listed are in months.

Assault with Intent to Commit Mayhem was removed from the Master Grid because it is not a common offense, however its offense ranking did not change (it remains in Appendix C/C-I).

Appendix C and C-I

A footnote was added to the Convictions for violations of conditions of release (D.C. Code § 23-1329) listing in Appendix C and C-I to clarify that “This ranking only applies to the instant conviction. The scoring of a prior contempt conviction is discussed in § 2.2.12 (Scoring Contempt Convictions).”