



# District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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## MINUTES OF FULL COMMISSION MEETING

September 20, 2016

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

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

Frederick Weisberg

William Martin

Laura Hankins

Gregory Jackson

Paul Butler

Julie Samuels

Molly Gill

Dave Rosenthal

Marvin Turner

Renata Cooper

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

Chanell Autrey (Chairman McDuffie)

### **Staff in Attendance:**

Barbara Souvey

Richard Schmechel

Rachel Redfern

Bryson Nitta

LaToya Wesley

Linden Fry

Jinwoo Park

Mia Hebb

Miatta Sesay

- I.** Chairman Weisberg called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.
- II.** The minutes from June 20, 2016 were reviewed, amended and approved.
- III.** Welcome Commission's New Staff Member – Miatta Sesay, Data Manager Specialist, Informational Item, Barbara Tombs-Souvey.  
  
*New Staff Member:* Barbara Souvey introduced newest Staff Member, Miatta Sesay. Ms. Sesay briefly discussed her educational and professional experience. Chairman Weisberg and the Commission welcomed her.
- IV.** Criminal Code Revision Project Deliverables – Action Item, Richard Schmechel, Project Director.
  - a) Overview of Report to the Council
  - b) Overview of Appendices
  - c) Commission Action

***Criminal Code Revision Project Deliverables:*** Richard Schmechel informed the Commission that its current Statutory Mandate to develop recommendation for Criminal Code Revision expires September 30, 2016. Mr. Schmechel reviewed the final report to the Council and Mayor on the Criminal Code Project. He described how the report provides information on recent project activities and summarizes the scope of the Commission's work on the code revision. He

explained how the final report recommends no action; rather the project's work and records will be transferred to the new agency for further development.

Mr. Schmechel briefly gave an overview of the Appendices that will be included in the report to the Council and Mayor as drafted:

- Appendix A: Committee Draft Revised Criminal Code
- Appendix B: List of Staff Research Reviewed by Committee
- Appendix C: List of Staff Research Not Reviewed by Committee

The Commission members raised concerns regarding the language and recommended modifications to the Report and Appendices. The language will be amended prior to submitting the report to the Council.

***Commission Action #1:*** The Commission voted 11 – 0 to approve the report and its appendices, as modified by the Commission, and submit it to the Council as reflection of the work the Criminal Code Revision Committee and Commission.

V. Guidelines Evaluation Study Timeline-Informational Item, Barbara Souvey.

***Guidelines Evaluation Study Timeline Update:*** Barbara Souvey gave a brief overview of Phase I and II of the Guidelines Evaluation Study.

Ms. Souvey informed the Commission of following Evaluation Study timeline updates:

- October 18, 2016 - The Commission will receive a presentation on the key findings of Phase I and II of the Study.
- November 22, 2016 - The Committee's first draft of the report will be distributed to the Commission for review.
- November 29, 2016 - The staff will present a full presentation on the Study and answer any questions regarding the types of analysis and findings depicted in the report. The Commission will have two weeks to provide edits or comments following the full presentation.
- December 20, 2016 -This meeting will discuss the recommendations set forth by the Research Committee after reviewing all the data and findings from the report. Committee members have up until the 30th of December to provide feedback. The Commission will provide their feedback on what should be included and not included in the report.
- January 9, 2017 - The final print of the report will be distributed to the Commission.

Ms. Souvey gave special recognition to Research Committee members: Honorable Frederick Weisberg, Molly Gill, Julie Samuels, Stephen Husk, Judi Garrett and Donald Braman for their continued assistance and input on the Guidelines Evaluation Study. The Committee members also commended the staff members for their hard work on the analysis and responding to questions or changes as needed.

The Commission raised an issue regarding the evaluation study meeting timeline. Commission members recommended further discussion regarding the proposed timeline at the October 18, 2016 Commission Meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:  
October 18, 2016  
One Judiciary Square (441 4<sup>th</sup> St., NW), Room 430S.