

Minutes of Meeting
of Members of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission

April 6, 2011

A meeting of four members of the Sentencing Commission comprising the 2012 Legislative Session working group was held at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, April 6, 2011, in the chambers of Judge David Borden at the Appellate Court, 75 Elm St, Hartford. Members in attendance were Bill Carbone, Robert Farr, Honorable David Borden, and Honorable Joseph M. Shortall, chair of the Commission. Also in attendance was Andrew Clark, director of the Institute of Municipal & Regional Policy at CCSU and Riju Das who was assisting Mr. Clark.

The working group discussed several possible subjects for 2012 legislative proposals. It was agreed to proceed further on three: (1) conforming the penalty provisions of a manageable group of unclassified crimes, mostly if not entirely misdemeanors, to the Penal Code structure; (2) providing a procedure by which juveniles convicted in adult court can seek a modification of their sentences after a period of good behavior during incarceration; (3) establishing standards for exercise of the pardon power.

To undertake such a task, it was suggested that law students around the state could be available. It was mentioned that business analysts and legislative staff may also be available to assist. Judge Borden tasked individual members of the working group to take a lead on each of the proposals. It was also decided that Commission members would also be asked separately for possible proposals, and a subsequent memo would be sent from Judge Shortall prior to the April 28th Full Commission meeting.

In addition, Judge Shortall mentioned that he had sent a letter to the chairs and ranking members of the legislature's Appropriations and Judiciary Committees to give them a general view of the Commission's work and to solicit their input on potential proposals as would relate to the Sentencing Commission's mandate.

Judge Shortall also indicated that he would like to ask the Sentencing Commission in its next meeting to establish the legislative working group as a standing subcommittee.

It was also mentioned that on April 12, there will be a University Partnership meeting at Quinnipiac University. On Thursday, May 5, the Sentencing Commission legislative subcommittee meeting will take place at 9:30 AM at Judge Borden's chambers in Hartford.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

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