

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2015

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Legislative Office Building, Room 1C

300 Capital Avenue

Hartford, CT

Minutes

Members Present: *David M. Borden (Chair), Mike Lawlor (Vice-Chair), Patrick L. Carroll, Robert J. Devlin, Jr., Stephen Grant, Vivien K. Blackford, Susan E. Pease, William R. Dyson, Maureen Price-Boreland, John Santa, Scott Semple, Kevin Kane, Deborah Del Prete Sullivan (on behalf of Susan O. Storey), Thomas J. Ullmann, Natasha Pierre, Carleton Giles, Mark A. Palmer, Robert Farr.*

Members Absent: *Gary White, Tracey L. Meares, David Shepack, Dora B. Schriro, Miriam Delphin-Rittmon. Susan O. Storey.*

Staff: *Andrew Clark (Acting Executive Director), Leland J. Moore, Renee Muir.*

I. MEETING CONVENED

Justice Borden called the meeting to order at approximately 3:48 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2015

Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the minutes were **approved by a unanimous voice vote.**

III. WELCOME: ATTORNEY ROBERT FARR (APPOINTED BY HOUSE MINORITY LEADER THEMIS KLARIDES)

Justice Borden welcomed Attorney Robert Farr to the Commission.

IV. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

A. JUVENILE GRAHAM/MILLER PROPOSAL

I. UPDATE: STATE V RILEY

Attorney Leland Moore presented on the Connecticut Supreme Court's recent decision in State v. Riley.

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- II. UPDATE: SB 796 AN ACT CONCERNING LENGTHY SENTENCES FOR CRIMES COMMITTED BY A CHILD OR YOUTH AND THE SENTENCING OF A CHILD OR YOUTH CONVICTED OF CERTAIN FELONY OFFENSES.

Justice Borden provided an update on the differences between the main provisions of House Bill 6926 and Senate Bill 796.

- III. PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION: REGARDING SECTIONS 10 & 11 OF HB 6926 AN ACT CONCERNING LENGTHY SENTENCES FOR CRIMES COMMITTED BY A CHILD OR YOUTH.

The Commission considered the Sentencing Structure, Policy, and Practices Committee's proposal recommendation regarding sections 10 and 11 of House Bill 6926. The Commission did not reach consensus on the proposal and the proposal was referred back to the Sentencing Structure, Policy, and Practices Committee.

- B. RECOMMENDATION REGARDING STATE V. DECICCIO

Judge Devlin presented the Sentencing Structure, Policy, and Practices Committee's recommendation regarding State v. DeCiccio. After a brief discussion, the proposal was adopted as introduced.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Executive Director Search: Andrew Clark reported that executive director position description has been finalized and a position announcement will be distributed to Commission members within the next two weeks.

b. Budget Update: Andrew Clark reported that the \$100,000 previously allocated to the Commission is not included in the Governor's FY 2016/2017 Biennial Budget. Justice Borden and Andrew Clark plan to meet with the chairs of the appropriations committee to discuss the Commission's 2016/2017 request.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL: 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Upon a duly made and seconded motion, the 2014 Annual Report was **approved by a unanimous vote**.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Research Committee: Attorney Thomas Ullmann announced that the Committee will be presenting a report regarding statutes that carry a mandatory minimum sentence. Attorney Ullmann also announced that the Committee's risk assessment study has been referred to the Judicial Branch's

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Court Support Services Division for review and that a plan should be ready by the next Commission meeting.

b. Recidivism Reduction Committee: Maureen Price-Boreland reported that the Committee continues to explore the issues surrounding inmate substance abuse and inmate educational attainment.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

John Santa announced that the Malta Justice Initiative will be hosting a legislative breakfast on Thursday, March 26th to introduce their recently published book entitled *The Justice Imperative*.

Judge Carroll expressed concern regarding the provisions of Raised Bill 1117 that would remove classification from several recently classified misdemeanors. No other business was addressed.

IX. MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:02 p.m.

2015 Commission Schedule

Meetings: **June 18, September 17, December 10**
(Time: 2-4pm; Location: Legislative Office Building)

Public Hearing: **October 22** (Time: 10am; Location: Legislative Office Building)