

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2015

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Legislative Office Building, Room 1C

300 Capital Avenue

Hartford, CT

Minutes

Members Present: *David M. Borden (Chair), Patrick L. Carroll, Robert J. Devlin, Jr., Stephen Grant, Vivien K. Blackford, William R. Dyson, Maureen Price-Boreland, Cheryl Cepelak (on behalf of Scott Semple), Thomas Kulhawik, Susan O. Storey, Thomas J. Ullmann, Carleton Giles, Mark A. Palmer, Robert Farr, Dora B. Schriro, David Shepack, Miriam Delphin-Rittmon*

Members Absent: *Mike Lawlor (Vice-Chair), Natasha Pierre, John Santa, Gary White, Kevin Kane, Tracey L. Meares.*

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

I. MEETING CONVENED

Justice Borden called the meeting to order at approximately 3:38 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2015

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

III. LEGISLATION:

A. Update: S.B. 796 An Act Concerning Lengthy Sentences For Crimes Committed By A Child Or Youth Convicted Of Certain Felony Offenses

Justice Borden remarked upon the passage of Senate Bill 796 and thanked everyone who contributed to the Commission's juvenile justice recommendation over the past three years. Andrew Clark noted that the bill contains language directing the Commission to study victim notification and report to Judiciary Committee by February 1, 2016.

B. S.B. 1087 An Act Concerning A Study Of The Sexual Offender Registration System.

Mr. Clark provided an overview of the special act mandating that the Commission study Connecticut's sexual offender registration system and statutes. Justice Borden appointed a special committee to assist with the study, develop recommendations, and report to the Commission at its

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meetings. Justice Borden appointed Stephen Grant and Attorney Robert Farr to chair the special committee along with the following individuals as members: Attorney Natasha Pierre (or her designee); Attorney Kevin Kane (or his designee); a representative from the Department of Correction; Attorney Deborah Del Prete Sullivan; Vivien Blackford; Attorney Thomas Ullmann; Attorney Susan Storey; and Mark Palmer.

IV. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

A. Recommendation Regarding C.G.S. § 53a-40

The Commission discussed the Sentencing Structure, Policy, and Practices Committee's recommendation regarding C.G.S. § 53a-40. The proposal was referred to the Sentencing Structure, Policy, and Practices Committee to provide further opportunity for stakeholder feedback.

[Justice Borden welcomed Miriam Delphin-Rittmon and Thomas Kulhawik to the Commission]

B. Recommendation regarding State v. DeCiccio

At Judge Devlin's request, the Commission referred its recommendation regarding *State v. DeCiccio*, 315 Conn. 79 (2014) back to the Sentencing Structure, Policy, and Practices Committee to clarify an ambiguity in drafting.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Strategic Planning Working Group

Mr. Clark provided an update on the work of the Strategic Planning Working Group on behalf of John Santa. The working group is expected to report to Steering Committee with its findings.

B. Update: Casiano v. Commissioner of Correction

Attorney Leland Moore provided an overview of the Connecticut Supreme Court's decision in *Jason Casiano v. Commissioner of Correction*, 317 Conn. 52 (2015).

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Steering

i. Executive Director Search: Justice Borden updated the Commission on the status of the hiring process to fill the Executive Director position.

ii. Budget: Mr. Clark reported that assurances have been made that \$80,000 will be allocated to the Commission for FY2016/2017. It is anticipated that a majority of these funds will be utilized to fund the Commission's full-time

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executive director. The Commission will likely seek additional funds to support staff positions and other needs.

B. Research Committee:

Attorney Ullmann provided an update on the activities that occurred during the May 19th committee meeting

C. Recidivism Reduction Committee

Maureen Price-Boreland and Vivien Blackford reported that the Recidivism Reduction Committee is working to collect data from the Department of Correction on recidivism and inmate education.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Attorney Ullmann asked that the Commission invite former Commission members to the next meeting to be formerly recognized for their service.

Mr. Clark requested that anyone interested in attending the signing of S.B. 796 notify the Commission staff as soon as possible.

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:53 p.m.

2015 Commission Schedule

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

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