



ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION

A Division of the Arkansas Department of Corrections
101 East Capitol, Suite 470 · Little Rock, AR 72201 · Tel (501) 682-5001 · Fax (501) 682-5018

Commission Meeting
December 13, 2019
8:15 A.M.
Conference Call

MEMBERS PRESENT

Judge Gordon Webb
Mr. Keith Rutledge
Mr. Daniel Shue

Mr. Nathan Smith
Judge Mack McCain
Mr. Michael Robbins

Judge Shannon Blatt
Mr. Pat Roberts

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Judge Robin Carroll

Mr. Bob Balfe

Mr. Brent Standridge

STAFF PRESENT

Lindsay Wallace

Tawnie Rowell

VISITORS PRESENT

Solomon Graves (Secretary's Office)

Joe West (AG)

Tiffanye Compton (ADC)

Judge Gordon Webb declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Daniel Shue moved and Michael Robbins seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The motion was approved.

Daniel Shue moved and Michael Robbins seconded the motion to approve the quarterly expense report. The motion was approved.

The Commission considered the audit report. There were no reportable instances.

The Commission considered the Population Monitoring Report. Tawnie discussed that we are tracking pretty closely with overall population to the 2018 JFA Projections. 2019 projections should be on the next report.

Lindsay Wallace gave the director's report. Our rule was approved and the changes are incorporated into the new Benchbook, which should be published early next month. We have conducted multiple trainings: Cross County Prosecutor's Office, the Prosecutor Coordinator's Office Support Staff Conference, and a new deputy prosecutor in the 3rd Judicial District. Staff will train and install the Sentencing Order Program for the remainder of the 14th judicial district in January. Staff is planning to visit Benton County in January if possible. Sebastian County is discussing changing forms with their circuit clerk as well.

Ms. Wallace gave a synopsis of the *Ransom v. State* case. This has implications for extensions of probation/revocations that do not appear on the Sentencing Order. Judge Webb commented that a solution to this problem would be to use the Sentencing Order in lieu of another form.

Solomon Graves presented announcements on behalf of Department of Corrections Secretary Wendy Kelley; she sent her regrets that she was unable to attend. Mr. Graves had two announcements: (1) Budgeting for FY2021 will be handled in a single legislative package for everyone in the Department, but the Sentencing Commission will retain its' own originally allocated money. (2) Secretary Kelley would like to discuss changing the procedures in which offenders are committed to Community Correction Centers to allow the Department to make the determination unless a judge affirmatively decides otherwise.

The next meeting date, which will likely be an in-person meeting, will be set after date conflicts are considered.

Daniel Shue moved and Keith Rutledge seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion was approved. Meeting adjourned.