



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 September 30, 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. Bob Balfe

Judge Shannon Blatt
Mr. Pat Roberts
Mr. Michael Robbins

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Judge Robin Carroll

Mr. Brent Standridge

STAFF PRESENT

Lindsay Wallace

Tawnie Rowell

VISITORS PRESENT

Joe West (AG's Office)
Suba Desikan (BLR)

Wendy Kelley (DOC Secretary's Office)
Solomon Graves (DOC Secretary's Office)

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

Judge Blatt moved and Keith Rutledge seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The motion was approved.

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

Judge McCain moved and Michael Robbins seconded the motion to pay stipends to non-state employee commissioners. The motion was approved.

The Commission considered the Population Monitoring Report. Secretary Kelley of the DOC reported that probation is being utilized more often, resulting in a stabilized secure population, but higher caseloads for probation and parole officers. She requested that the Commission examine the population being sentenced to Community Correction Centers, including demographic information.

Lindsay Wallace gave the director's report, including updates from the National Association of Sentencing Commissions conference and the United State Sentencing Commission conference. The staff is also continuing the process of becoming part of the cabinet-level Department of Corrections. This will result in a new look for Commission publications because of new department-level logos.

Judge Webb discussed how to further streamline data collection. Staff has not conducted a wide-scale push to get prosecutor's offices on the Sentencing Order in a few years, but is planning to do so in coming months. This will reduce errors in creating sentencing orders and reduce the amount of clerical work required of Commission staff.

The Commission considered amendments to the Seriousness Reference Table. There were no public comments. Keith Rutledge moved and Daniel Shue seconded the motion to adopt these ranking as submitted. The motion was approved.

The next meeting will be a conference call. The date will be set after date conflicts are considered.

Keith Rutledge moved and Judge Blatt seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion was approved. Meeting adjourned.