

CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION

Strategic Planning Working Group Recommendations to the Steering Committee November 17th 2015

Working Group Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Select one of the following two tasks mandated by § 54-300 to serve as the commission's main priority for the immediate future:

(1) Facilitate the development and maintenance of a state-wide sentencing database in collaboration with state and local agencies, using existing state databases or resources where appropriate;

OR

(2) Evaluate existing sentencing statutes, policies and practices including conducting a cost-benefit analysis.

Recommendation 2: Develop a selection and management process for projects/tasks not initiated by the commission.

Recommendation 3: Utilize pro/con analysis in the abovementioned selection process.

Recommendation 4: Work within the constraints of existing staff and monetary resources.

Recommendation 5: Require that committees work to meet existing commission priorities.

Staff Recommendations:

Recommendation 1: Increase Operational Efficiency

- Place limits on the creation of new committees and working groups
- Consider transitioning to a system where each committee has one chair and one vice chair
- Clearly define committee roles and jurisdictions

Recommendation 2: Clarify strategy for communicating with state agencies

- Develop internal guidance for external communication
- Involve interested stakeholders in the development of the aforementioned guidance

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Recommendation 3: Secure adequate funding

- Apply for grants
- Work with the legislative and executive branches to allocate resources sufficient to meet the commission's operational needs.

Recommendation 4: Formalize the Strategic Planning Process

Approved by the Steering Committee (with amendments) on 11.17.15