

Synopsis
of Sentencing Commission Proposal
on Miller v. Alabama

On January 25, 2012, the United States Supreme Court decided the case of Miller v. Alabama, in which it held that it constitutes cruel and unusual punishment to impose a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole for a homicide offense on a juvenile, defined as one who was under the age of eighteen at the time of the crime. It may well be that Miller also applies, however, to non-mandatory effective sentences of life without the possibility of parole imposed on juveniles. The Commission is considering suggesting appropriate legislation to bring Connecticut's sentencing statutes into compliance with the mandates of Miller.

The Commission will hear public comments on the proposal at a public hearing at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford on November 29, 2012, beginning at 12:00 PM.