



# KANSAS

## KANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION

Honorable Ernest L. Johnson, Chairman  
Attorney General Paul Morrison, Vice Chairman  
Helen Pedigo, Executive Director

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

### **Minutes of the Kansas Sentencing Commission Conference Call February 16, 2007**

The Honorable Ernest L. Johnson, Chairman, called the Kansas Sentencing Commission meeting to order on February 16, 2007, at 1:30 p.m., once a quorum had been obtained. The meeting was held via conference call.

#### **Participants:**

##### **Members:**

Honorable Ernest L. Johnson, Chairman  
Attorney General Paul Morrison, Vice Chairman  
Honorable Christel Marquardt  
Senator John Vratil  
Representative Janice Pauls, appearing in person  
Rick Kittel, Board of Indigents' Defense Services  
Annie Grevas, Director of Community Corrections, 28<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
Patricia Biggs, Kansas Parole Board  
Roger Werholtz, Secretary of Corrections  
Chris Mechler, Office of Judicial Administration  
Captain Dale Finger, Public Member

##### **Staff:**

Helen Pedigo, Executive Director  
Natalie Gibson, Staff Attorney  
Kunlun Chang, Director of Research  
Fengfang Lu, Senior Research Analyst  
Lora Moison, Research Analyst  
Brenda Harmon, Administrative Assistant  
Janice Brasher, Grant Administrator  
Jennifer Dalton, Accountant  
Amanda Nations, Program Consultant

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Kansas Sentencing Commission meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes as written by Ms. Annie Grevas and seconded by Ms. Chris Mechler. The motion carried.

#### **Legislative Update**

Staff Attorney Natalie Gibson gave a brief outline of Legislation currently being followed by the Commission.

700 SW Jackson Street, Suite 501, Topeka, KS 66603-3714

Voice 785-296-0923 Fax 785-296-0927 <http://www.kansas.gov/ksc>

### **Commission Position on House Bill 2141 and House Bill 2142**

Ms. Helen Pedigo provided an overview on House Bills (HB) 2141 and 2142, which are reentry initiatives. Handouts were provided. HB 2141 has to do with probation revocations and the reduction of probation revocation community corrections grants. HB 2142 increased inmate good time for completion of programs as an incentive to participate in programs inside the prison.

Following a discussion by Commission members, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Paul Morrison to have the Sentencing Commission support House Bill 2142 with the caveat of limiting the additional good time for completion of programs to 60 days, no matter how many programs are completed. A second was made by Representative Janice Pauls. The motion carried. Judge Christel Marquardt abstained on this vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Patricia Biggs to have the Sentencing Commission support House Bill 2141. A second was made by Captain Dale Finger. The motion carried. Judge Christel Marquardt abstained on this vote.

Ms. Pedigo will work up some testimony, with a balloon amendment that there would be a 60 day limitation per offender.

### **Executive Director Report**

Ms. Pedigo provided and discussed an executive director report, which outlined last month's main staff accomplishments. Items discussed included:

- Consultation with Criminal Justice Information System staff, their contractor, and Department of Corrections staff regarding implementation of electronic journal entries by June 30, 2007. Prosecutors are not required to use the system, so an alternative means must be developed, in Phase II, to enter journal entries through the court case system in those areas where the prosecutor system is not used.
- The Kansas Sentencing Commission has been asked to be a part of the Kansas Reentry Policy Council. Judge Johnson or his designee will be participating.
- Legislative information and meetings
- Budget recommendations
- Reports
- Data entry of journal entries

### **Request for Impact**

Secretary Roger Werholtz requested Commission staff prepare an updated impact statement showing the most recent estimate that changes two of the factors: parole revocations and probation revocations. The committee that needs these updated figures may start meeting as early as next week.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in the Senate Room of the Jayhawk Tower.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by the Honorable Christel Marquardt and seconded by Vice Chairman Paul Morrison. The motion carried. The conference call meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.