

## State Sentencing Commissions

### Alabama

**Name of Commission:** Alabama Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 16

**Composition as enacted:** The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, or at his or her designation, a sitting or retired judge, who shall serve as chair, or at his or her designation another member of the commission shall serve as chair; the Governor, or his or her designee; the Attorney General, or his or her designee; a district attorney appointed by the President of the Alabama District Attorneys' Association; two circuit judges, active or retired, appointed by the President of the Alabama Association of Circuit Court Judges; a district judge, active or retired, appointed by the President of the Alabama Association of District Court Judges; a victim of a violent felony or a person whose immediate family member was a victim of a violent felony, appointed by the Governor; the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, or his or her designee who is a member of the House Judiciary Committee; the Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, or his or her designee who is a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee; a private attorney specializing in criminal defense appointed by the President of the Alabama Criminal Defense Lawyers' Association; a private attorney specializing in criminal law appointed by the President of the Alabama Lawyer's Association; a county commissioner appointed by the Governor; the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections, or his or her designee; the chair of the Alabama Board of Pardons and Parole, or his or her designee; a member of the academic community with a background in criminal justice or corrections policy appointed by the Chief Justice

**Current membership:** Retired Circuit Judge and Professor of Law, University of Alabama School of Law (chair) (1); Deputy Legal Advisor to the Governor (1); Representative, 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Colbert County (1); District Judge, Lowndes County (1); District Attorney, 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Commissioner, Alabama Department of Corrections (1); Chief Assistant Attorney General (1); The Glassroth Law Firm, P.C. (1); Victim's Advocate (1); D.P.A., Faulkner University (1); Presiding Circuit Judge, 33<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Mobile County Commissioner (1); Circuit Judge, 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Faulk & Reed, L.L.P. (1); Executive Director, Alabama Board of Pardons & Paroles (1); Senator, 18<sup>th</sup> District, Jefferson County (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Judiciary

**When created:** May 17, 2000

**Website:** <http://sentencingcommission.alacourt.gov/>

**Alaska** (defunct)

**Name of Commission:** Alaska Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 9

**Composition as enacted:** three state court judges; three attorneys who have practiced law in the state for at least 10 years; three members of the public

**Membership:** State Court Judges (3); Attorneys (3); Citizen Representatives (3)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Independent (citizen's commission)

**When created:** 1990 (existed from 1990-1992—understanding that Commission would only exist for three years—former director maintains membership in national council, still conducts research, presents papers)

**Website:** <http://www.ajc.state.ak.us/> (Alaska Judicial Council)

**Arizona**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Arkansas**

**Name of Commission:** Arkansas Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 9

**Composition as enacted:** Unknown

**Current membership:** Citizen Representative, Fort Smith (1); Judge, 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (West) (1); Prosecuting Attorney, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (West) (1); Citizen Representative, Conway (1); Public Defender, 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Judge, 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (West) (1); Defense Attorney, 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Prosecuting Attorney, 12<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Judge, 14<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Independent

**When created:** 1993

**Website:** <http://www.state.ar.us/asc/>

**California**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Colorado**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Connecticut**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

### Delaware

**Name of Commission:** Delaware Sentencing Accountability Commission (SENTAC)

**Number of members:** 11

**Composition as enacted:** Four members of the judiciary (appointed by the Chief Justice, 2 of whom shall be initially appointed for a 2-year term and 2 of whom shall be appointed to a 4-year term; provided, that each succeeding term for all 4 such members shall be 4 years); the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee; the Public Defender or the Public Defender's designee; the Commissioner of Corrections or the Commissioner of Corrections' designee; four other members-at-large, each of whom shall, by training or experience, possess a knowledge of Delaware sentencing practices, 2 to be appointed by the Governor, 1 by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and 1 by the Speaker of the House. (The Chief Justice shall designate 1 of the members of the judiciary serving on the Commission to serve as Chairperson of the Commission.)

**Current membership:** Superior Court Judges (one of whom is chair) (3); Family Court Chief Judge (1); Attorney General (1); Chief Public Defender (1); Correction Commissioner, Department of Correction (1); Coordinator, Police Chiefs' Council (1); Delaware State Police Chief (1); Attorney, Office of the Governor (1); Chief Magistrate (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive (related to the Criminal Justice Council)

**When created:** 1984

**Website:** <http://www.state.de.us/cjc/sentac.shtml>

### Florida (defunct)

**Name of Commission:** Florida Sentencing Guidelines Commission

**Number of members:** 17

**Composition as enacted:** Unknown

**Membership:** Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1); Circuit Court Judges (3); County Court Judge (1); Senators (2); Representatives (2); Victim Advocacy Representative (1); Attorney General (1); Secretary of the Department of Corrections (1); State Attorney (1); Public Defender (1); Private Attorney (1); persons of the governor's choice (2)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** under the Department of Corrections

**When created:** 1982 [Florida sentencing guidelines were enacted on October 1, 1983, and applied to all felonies, except capital felonies, committed on or after October 1, 1983, but prior to January 1, 1994. Another set of sentencing guidelines were enacted on January 1, 1994, and applied to all felonies, except capital felonies, committed on or after January 1, 1994 and prior to October 1, 1995. The 1995 Sentencing Guidelines applied to sentencing for all felonies, except capital felonies, committed on or after October 1, 1995. Florida sentencing guidelines were repealed in 1997. In 1998, the Florida Legislature created a new sentencing structure, the Florida Criminal Punishment Code. The Criminal Punishment Code became effective for offenses committed on or after October 1, 1998. The sentencing guidelines are repealed for all offenses committed on or after October 1, 1998, but remained in effect for offenses committed prior to that date.

**Website(s):** [http://www.dc.state.fl.us/pub/sg\\_annual/0001/intro.html](http://www.dc.state.fl.us/pub/sg_annual/0001/intro.html) (unofficial)

<http://www.fcc.state.fl.us/fcc/reports/final00/13sentence.htm> (unofficial)

**Georgia**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Hawai'i**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Idaho**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Illinois**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Indiana**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Iowa**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Kansas**

**Name of Commission:** Kansas Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 17

**Composition as enacted:** the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the Chief Justice's designee; two district court judges appointed by the Chief Justice; the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee; one public defender appointed by the Governor; one private defense counsel appointed by the Governor; one county attorney or district attorney appointed by the Governor; the Secretary of Corrections or the Secretary's designee; the chairperson of the Kansas Parole Board or the chairperson's designee; two members of the general public, at least one of whom shall be a member of a racial minority group, appointed by the Governor; a director of a community corrections program appointed by the Governor; and a court services officer appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; four members of the legislature, to be appointed by the president of the senate, the senate minority leader, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the house minority leader

**Current membership:** Judge, District Court Division 5 (chair) (1); Judge, Kansas Court of Appeals (1); Johnson County District Attorney (vice chair) (1); District Judge (1); Representatives (2); Senators (2); Community Corrections Program Director (1); Chairperson, Kansas Parole Board (1); Citizen Representatives (2); Designee for the Attorney General (1); Secretary, Department of Corrections (1); Captain (1); Private defense Counsel (1); representative from the University of Kansas School of Law (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Hybrid (represented by all three branches)

**When created:** 1989

**Website:** <http://www.accesskansas.org/ksc/>

## Kentucky

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**State:** Louisiana

**Name of Commission:** Louisiana Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 23

**Composition as enacted:** The commission shall be composed of 23 members, 19 of these shall be voting members and 4 shall be non-voting members. The governor appoints 15 of the voting members, the President of the Senate appoints 1 senator, the Speaker of the House appoints 1 House member, chair of House Committee on Criminal Justice, chair of Senate Judiciary C committee.

**Current membership:** District Attorneys (2); Defense Attorneys (2); Sheriffs (2); Appellate Judge (1); District Court Judges (5); City Court Judge (1); Justice of the Supreme Court (1); Representatives (2); Senators (2); a citizen who is a felony crime victim (1); a representative of the Louisiana State Law Institute (nonvoting member) (1); a representative of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice (nonvoting member) (1); secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or designee (nonvoting member) (1); a professional with a doctorate degree in social science or criminal justice (nonvoting member) (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive (under the jurisdiction of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice in the office of the governor)

**When created:** 1987 (advisory sentencing guidelines made voluntary, 1995)

**Website:** [http://www.legis.state.la.us/boards/board\\_members.asp?board=312](http://www.legis.state.la.us/boards/board_members.asp?board=312)

## Maine

**Name of Commission:** N/A

## **Maryland**

**Name of Commission:** Maryland State Commission of Criminal Sentencing Policy (MSCCSP)

**Number of members:** 19

**Composition as enacted:** The Commission is composed of 19 voting members, three of whom are ex-officio members: a chairman, appointed by the Governor; the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, or a judge or former judge of the Court of Appeals or the Court of Special Appeals designated by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; one circuit court judge, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; one District Court Judge, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee; one State's Attorney who is recommended by the President of the Maryland State's Attorneys Association, appointed by the Governor; the Public Defender or the Public Defender's designee; a criminal defense attorney who is recommended by the President of the Maryland Criminal Defense Attorneys Association, appointed by the Governor; two members of the State Senate, including at least one member of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, appointed by the President of the Senate; two members of the House of Delegates, including at least one member of the House Judiciary Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the House; the Secretary of the Department or the Secretary's designee; one representative from a victims' advocacy group, appointed by the Governor; one representative from law enforcement, appointed by the Governor; one member with a background in criminal justice or corrections policy who is a recognized expert in the field and who is appointed by the Governor; one representative of local correctional facilities, appointed by the Governor; and two representatives of the public, appointed by the Governor. (Each Commissioner is appointed to a four-year term staggered throughout the Commission.)

**Current membership:** Judge, Court of Special Appeals (one of whom is chair) (2); Circuit Court Judge (1); District Court Judge (1); Representatives (2); Senators (2); Criminal Defense Attorney (1); Law Enforcement Official (1); Public Attorneys (2); State's Attorney (1); Representative of Local Detention Center (1); Representative of Victim's Advocacy Group (1); Criminal Justice/Corrections Policy Expert (1); Attorney General (ex-officio) (1); State Public Defender (ex-officio) (1); Secretary of Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (ex-officio) (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive

**When created:** spring 1996

**Website:** <http://www.msccsp.org/>

### Massachusetts

**Name of Commission:** Massachusetts Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 15

**Composition as enacted:** Unknown

**Current membership:** judges (one of whom is chair) (3); prosecutors (3); private defense counsel (3); member from the Executive Office of Public Safety (1); representative from the Massachusetts Sheriff's Association (1); representative from the Department of Correction (1); representative from the Parole Board (1); representative from the Office of the Commissioner of Probation (1); representative from the Victim Witness Assistance Board (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Judiciary

**When created:** April 1994

**Website:** <http://www.mass.gov/courts/admin/sentcomm/mscoverview.html>

### Michigan (defunct)

**Name of Commission:** Michigan Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 19

**Composition as enacted:** Four senators and four representatives (two from each caucus), the director of the Department of Corrections, the director of the Department of Management and Budget, a circuit and a recorder's court judge, two representatives of the public, a prosecutor, a defense attorney, a sheriff, an individual advocating alternatives to incarceration, and an individual representing victims of crime.

**Current membership:** Senators (4); Representatives (4); Judges (2); Prosecutor (1); Criminal Defense Attorney (1); Law Enforcement Representative (1); Director, Department of Corrections representative (1); Alternative to Incarceration Advocate (1); Crime Victim Representative (1); Director, Department of Management and Budget (1); Citizen Representatives (2)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Legislature

**When created:** 1994

**Website:** [www.milegislativecouncil.org](http://www.milegislativecouncil.org) (outdated)

<http://courts.michigan.gov/mji/resources/sentencing-guidelines/sg.htm> (unofficial)

### Minnesota

**Name of Commission:** Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission

**Number of members:** 11

**Composition as enacted:** Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or designee; Judge, Minnesota Court of Appeals; District Court Judge; Public Defender; County Attorney; Commissioner of Corrections or designee; Peace Officer; Probation or Parole Officer; three members of the public, one of whom is a victim of a felony crime

**Current membership:** Supreme Court Justice (chair) (1); Judge, Minnesota Court of Appeals (1); District Court Judge (1); Public Defender, 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (1); Isanti County Attorney (1); Commissioner of Corrections (1); Chairman, Olmsted County Sheriff (1); Probation Officer Representative, Washington County (1); Citizen Representatives (3); Attorney General's Office Representative (non-voting member) (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive

**When created:** 1978

**Website:** <http://www.msgc.state.mn.us/>

### Mississippi

**Name of Commission:** N/A

### Missouri

**Name of Commission:** Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission (MOSAC)

**Number of members:** 11

**Composition as enacted:** One member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one member shall be appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate; one member shall be the Director of the Department of Corrections; six members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor from among the following: the Public Defender Commission; private citizens; a private member of the Missouri Bar; the Board of Probation and Parole; and a prosecutor; two members shall be appointed by the Supreme Court, one from a metropolitan area and one from a rural area. (All members shall be appointed to a four-year term.)

**Current membership:** Judge, appointed by the Supreme Court (chair) (1); Cole County Circuit Court Judge (1); Representative, appointed by Speaker of House of Representatives (1); Senator, appointed by Senate Pro Tem (1); member of the Missouri Bar, appointed by the Governor (1); Director, Department of Corrections (1); Chairman, Board of Probation & Parole, appointed by the Governor (1); Prosecutor, appointed by the Governor (1); Public Defender, appointed by the Governor (1); Private Citizen, appointed by the Governor (1 of 2 – one vacant spot)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Independent

**When created:** 1994 (replaced existing commission) (guidelines released, 1997)

**Website:** <http://www.mosac.mo.gov/>

### Montana

**Name of Commission:** N/A

### Nebraska

**Name of Commission:** N/A



*Nevada*

**Name of Commission:** N/A

*New Hampshire*

**Name of Commission:** N/A

*New Jersey*

**Name of Commission:** New Jersey Commission to Review Criminal Sentencing

**Number of members:** 15 (13 on actual commission)

**Composition as enacted:** Two members of the Senate to be appointed by the President thereof, who shall not be of the same political party; two members of the General Assembly to be appointed by the Speaker thereof, who shall not be of the same political party; the Attorney General or designee; the Commissioner of Corrections or designee; the Public Defender or designee; the Chief Justice or designee; the Chairman of the State Parole Board or designee; the President of the New Jersey County Prosecutors Association or representative; the President of the New Jersey State Bar Association or representative; one public member appointed by the Senate President; one public member appointed by the Speaker of the General Assembly; and two public members appointed by the Governor, no more than one of whom shall be of the same political party

**Current membership:** Public Members (one of whom is chair [and a judge]) (3); Public Defender (vice chair) (1); Attorney General (1); New Jersey County Prosecutors Association, President Designee (1); Senator (1); Assemblyman, District 25 (1); Chairman, New Jersey State Parole Board (1); Assemblyman, District 27 (1); Senator, District 33 (1); New Jersey State Bar Association, President Designee (1); Designee of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** under the administrative services of the Attorney General, serves the legislature

**When created:** January 2004

**Website:** <http://www.sentencing.nj.gov/>

### New Mexico

**Name of Commission:** New Mexico Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 23 (sex offender management board – 13)

**Composition as enacted:** Three members appointed by the Governor; three members appointed by the Senate President ProTempore; three members appointed by the Speaker of the House; one member appointed by the President of the State Bar Association; Chief Public Defender; Representing Secretary, CYFD (youth and families program); Secretary, Department of Public Safety or representative; one member appointed by the New Mexico Association of Counties; one member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; Attorney General or designee; one member appointed by the District Attorneys Association; one member appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals; three members appointed by the District Court Judges Association; Dean, UNM School of Law or designee; the Secretary of Corrections or designee

**Current membership:** (chair) appointed by the Governor (3); appointed by the Senate President ProTempore (3); appointed by the Speaker of the House (3); appointed by the President of the State Bar Association (1); Chief Public Defender (1); Representing Secretary, CYFD (youth and families program) (1); Secretary, Department of Public Safety or representative (1); appointed by the New Mexico Association of Counties (1); appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1); Attorney General or representative (1); appointed by the District Attorneys Association (1); appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals (1); appointed by the District Court Judges Association (3); Dean, UNM School of Law or representative (1); Secretary of Corrections or representative (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive (for budget purposes); housed and based at the University of New Mexico (to maintain independence)

**When created:** 2001 (existed under different name prior to 2001)

**Website:** <http://www.nmsc.state.nm.us/>

### New York

**Name of Commission:** N/A

### North Carolina

**Name of Commission:** North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission

**Number of members:** 28/30

**Composition as enacted:** Four judges, one of whom serves as chairman; six legislators (three from the Senate, three from the House); two law enforcement representatives; a representative of the attorney general; one academic; one bar association representative; one business representative; one community corrections representative; one corrections representative; one county commissioner; one defense attorney; one former inmate; one justice fellow; one member-at-large; one member of the parole board; one private citizen; one prosecutor; one crime control representative; one victim assistant representative

**Current membership:** Superior Court Judge (chair) (1); representative from Association of County Commissioners (1); Professor, Fayetteville State University (1); representative from Sheriffs' Association (1); representative from Bar Association (1); representative from Department of Crime Control & Public Safety (1); State Representative (3); representative from Attorney General's office (1); Private Citizen, Governor's Appointee (1); representative from Conference of District Attorneys (1); representative of the Department of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (1); State Senators (2) (1 spot vacant); representative from Post-Release Supervision & Parole Commission (1); representative from District Court Judges' Association (1); representative from Court of Appeals (1); representative from Retail Merchants' Association (1); Lieutenant Governor's Appointee (1); Justice Fellowship (1); representative from Association Chiefs of Police (1); representative from Conference of Superior Court Judges (1); representative from Department of Correction (1); representative from Victim Assistance Network (1); representative from Association of Clerks of Superior Court (1); representative from Community Sentencing Association (1); Commissions Chairman's Appointee (1); representative from Academy of Trial Lawyers (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Independent (housed in the Judiciary)

**When created:** 1990

**Website:** <http://www.nccourts.org/Courts/CRS/Councils/spac/Default.asp>

### North Dakota

**Name of Commission:** N/A

## Ohio

**Name of Commission:** Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 31

**Composition as enacted:** One member shall be the chief justice of the supreme court, who shall be the chairperson of the commission. The following ten members of the commission, no more than six of whom shall be members of the same political party, shall be appointed by the chief justice: one judge of a court of appeals, three judges of courts of common pleas who are not juvenile court judges, three judges of juvenile courts, and three judges of municipal courts or county courts. Four members shall be the superintendent of the state highway patrol, the state public defender, the director of youth services, and the director of rehabilitation and correction, or their individual designees. The following twelve members, no more than seven of whom shall be members of the same political party, shall be appointed by the governor after consulting with the appropriate state associations, if any, that are represented by these members: one sheriff; two county prosecuting attorneys, at least one of whom shall be experienced in the prosecution of cases in juvenile court involving alleged delinquent children, unruly children, and juvenile traffic offenders; two peace officers of a municipal corporation or township, at least one of whom shall be experienced in the investigation of cases involving juveniles; one former victim of a violation of Title XXIX of the Revised Code; one attorney whose practice of law primarily involves the representation of criminal defendants; one member of the Ohio state bar association; one attorney whose practice of law primarily involves the representation in juvenile court of alleged delinquent children, unruly children, and juvenile traffic offenders; one full-time city prosecuting attorney; one county commissioner; and one mayor, city manager, or member of a legislative authority of a municipal corporation. Two members shall be members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one appointed by the minority leader of the senate. Two members shall be members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and one appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.

**Current membership:** Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (chair) (1); Appellate Court Judge (vice chair) (1); Public Defender (1); Juvenile Court Judges (2/3) (vacant); Law Enforcement Officers (1/2) (vacant); Defense Attorneys (2); State Senators (2); Municipal Court Judges (3); Victim's Representative (1); OSBA Representative (1); State Representative (1/2) (vacant); Highway Patrol Superintendent (1); Municipal Prosecuting Attorney (1); County Commissioner (1); Common Pleas Court Judges (2/3) (vacant); Director of Youth Services (1); Juvenile Prosecuting Attorney (1); Sheriff (1); Prosecuting Attorney (1); Director of Rehabilitation & Correction (1); Mayor, Municipal Representative (1) (vacant)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Judiciary

**When created:** 1991

**Website:** [http://www.sconet.state.oh.us/Sentencing\\_Commission/default.asp](http://www.sconet.state.oh.us/Sentencing_Commission/default.asp)

## Oklahoma

**Name of Commission:** Oklahoma Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 15

**Composition as enacted:** The Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court shall appoint a sitting Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court who shall serve an initial term of four years; the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts shall appoint an indigent defender, who shall serve an initial term of three years; one member, to be appointed by the Governor, who shall serve an initial term of one year; two members of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a Republican and one of whom shall be a Democrat, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, each of whom shall serve an initial term of two years; two members of the Senate, one of whom shall be a Republican and one of whom shall be a Democrat, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, each of whom shall serve an initial term of two years; a district attorney appointed by the District Attorneys Council who shall serve an initial term of five years (provided, any person appointed pursuant to this paragraph who is no longer serving as a district attorney shall not continue to serve on the Commission); the Attorney General, the first assistant Attorney General, or the chief of the criminal division of the Office of Attorney General; the Director of State Finance or the director of the budget division of the Office of State Finance; a defense attorney appointed by the Oklahoma Bar Association, who shall serve an initial term of five years; a judge of the district court appointed by the assembly of presiding judges, who shall serve an initial term of three years (provided, any person appointed pursuant to this paragraph who is no longer serving as a district judge shall not continue to serve on the Commission); a crime victim or representative of crime victims appointed by the other fourteen members of the Commission from a list of five persons submitted to the Commission by the Victim's Compensation Board, who shall serve an initial term of four years; the director of the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System, the deputy director of the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System or the chief of the noncapital trial division of the Oklahoma Indigent Defense System; and the director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation or the deputy director of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. (All members of the Commission shall be voting members.)

**Current membership:** State Representatives (one of whom is chair) (2); State Senators (one of whom is co-chair) (2); Attorney/Pilot, appointed by the Governor (1); Supreme Court Justice (1); Attorney General or designee (First Assistant Attorney General) (1); Chief Public Defender (1); District Attorney (1); Director, Office of State Finance, or designee (1); Defense Attorney (1); Presiding Judge of Judicial District #2 (1); Victim's Representative (1); Chief of the Noncapital Trial Division (1); Director, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Legislature

**When created:** 1998 (1994)

**Website:** <http://www.ocjrc.net/oscHome.asp>

### Oregon

**Name of Commission:** Oregon Criminal Justice Commission

**Number of members:** 9

**Composition as enacted:** Unknown

**Current membership:** Director, Department of Correction (1); Sheriff (1); District Attorney (1); Chair of the Parole Board (1); attorney (1); community corrections director (1); State Senator (1); State Representative (1); Community Member (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Independent

**When created:** 1995

**Website:** <http://www.oregon.gov/CJC/index.shtml>  
<http://www.ocjc.state.or.us/>

### Pennsylvania

**Name of Commission:** Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing

**Number of members:** 11

**Composition as enacted:** Four judges, appointed by the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania; two State Senators, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; two State Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; remaining appointments are made by the Governor and must include a district attorney, a defense attorney, and a professor of law or criminologist. (Commission members are appointed for two-year terms and serve without compensation.)

**Current membership:** State Representatives (one of whom is chair) (2); District Attorney (vice chair) (1); professor, Villanova University School of Law (1); Judge, Westmoreland County (1); State Senators (2); Judge, Court of Common Pleas (1); Judge, Allegheny County (1); Attorney, Dauphin County (1); Judge, Dauphin County (1);

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Legislature (General Assembly) (located on the University Park campus of The Pennsylvania State University)

**When created:** 1978

**Website:** <http://pcs.la.psu.edu/>

### Rhode Island

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**South Carolina** (defunct)

**Name of Commission:** South Carolina Sentencing Guidelines Commission

**Number of members:** 17 (13 voting; 4 non-voting)

**Composition as enacted:** a justice of the Supreme Court, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; two circuit court judges, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; three members of the Senate to be designated by the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee; three members of the House designated by the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee; an attorney, experienced in the practice of criminal law, appointed by the Governor from a list of candidates submitted by the President of the South Carolina Bar; the Dean of the Law School of the University of South Carolina or his designee; the South Carolina Attorney General, or his designee, to serve ex officio; a solicitor appointed by the Chairman of the South Carolina Circuit Solicitors' Association; the Chief of the State Law Enforcement Division, or his designee, to serve ex officio (nonvoting member); the Chairman of the Commission on Indigent Defense, or his designee who must be a member of that commission or who must be the director of the commission (nonvoting member); the Chairman of the State Board of Corrections, or his designee who must be a member of that board or who must be the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections (nonvoting member); the Chairman of the Board of the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services, or his designee who must be a member of that board or who must be the Commissioner or Executive Director of the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (nonvoting member).

**Membership:** Supreme Court Justice (1); Circuit Court Judges (2); State Senators (3); State Representatives (3); Criminal Attorney (1); Dean, University of South Carolina Law School (1); Attorney General (1); Solicitor (1); Chief of the State Law Enforcement Division (1); Chairman of the Commission on Appellate Defense (1); Chairman of the State Board of Corrections (1); Chairman of the Parole Board (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Independent

**When created:** 1981/1982 [1983-1996 {minutes of the SGC}; 1982-2003 {correspondence and administrative files of the director}; 1984-2003{reports and plans}] (Judges didn't want it, destroyed it; solicitors were lukewarm in their support)

**Website:** <http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/t24c026.htm> (unofficial)

<http://www.scstatehouse.net/archives/aar2000/b06.doc> (unofficial)

<http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/guide/rg0331.htm> (unofficial)

**South Dakota**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Tennessee**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

**Texas**

**Name of Commission:** N/A

## Utah

**Name of Commission:** Utah Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 27

**Composition as enacted:** Unknown

**Current membership:** Sheriff, Utah Sheriff's Association (1); Juvenile Court Judges (2); State Senators (2); State Representatives (2); members of the Utah State Bar (2); Executive Director, Statewide Association of Prosecutors (1); Executive Director, Juvenile Justice Services (1); representative for Juvenile Treatment (1); Executive Director, Department of Corrections (1); District Court Judges (2); Executive Director, Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (1); Juvenile Prosecutor (1); Court of Appeals Judge (1); Citizen Representative (Jones, Waldo, Holbrook, & McDonough) (chair) (1); member of the Youth Parole Authority (1); representative for Adult Treatment (1); Chief, Utah Chiefs of Police Association (1); Ethnic Representative (1); Victims' Representative (1); Chair, Board of Pardons & Parole (1); Chief Deputy, Attorney General's Office (1); Director, Salt Lake Legal Defenders (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive (under the administration of the governor, responsible to respond to all three branches of government)

**When created:** 1993

**Website:** <http://www.sentencing.state.ut.us/>

## Vermont

**Name of Commission:** N/A

## Virginia

**Name of Commission:** Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 17

**Composition as enacted:** Six judges or justices, who may be judges of a circuit court who regularly hear criminal cases or judges or justices of the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals, to be appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia; one person who is not an active member of the judiciary, to be appointed as Chairman by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia for a term of four years subject to confirmation by the General Assembly (the Chairman shall designate a vice-chairman from among the other members to serve a term commensurate with that of the Chairman); the Chairman of the House Committee for Courts of Justice or his designee who shall be a member of the committee and two persons to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Chairman of the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice or his designee who shall be a member of the committee and one person to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; four persons to be appointed by the Governor, at least one of whom shall be a representative of a crime victims' organization or a victim of crime; and the Attorney General of Virginia or his designee for a term commensurate with his term of office.

**Current membership:** Chairman, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1); sitting judges or justices, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (6); Attorney General's Representative (1); Governor's Appointments (4); Senate Appointments (2); House of Delegates Appointments (3)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Judiciary

**When created:** 1995

**Website:** <http://www.vcsc.state.va.us/>



## Washington

**Name of Commission:** Washington Sentencing Guidelines Commission

**Number of members:** 20/21

**Composition as enacted:** The Governor appoints two prosecuting attorneys; two attorneys with particular expertise in defense work; four persons who are superior court judges; one person who is the chief law enforcement officer of a county or city; four members of the public who are not prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, or law enforcement officers, one of whom is a victim of crime or a crime victims' advocate; one person who is an elected official of a county government, other than a prosecuting attorney or sheriff; one person who is an elected official of a city government; one person who is an administrator of juvenile court services. (In making the appointments, the governor shall seek the recommendations of Washington prosecutors with respect to the prosecuting attorney members, the Washington State Bar Association with respect to the defense attorney members, the Association of Superior Court Judges with respect to the members who are judges, the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs with respect to the member who is a law enforcement officer, the Washington State Association of Counties with respect to the member who is a county official, the Association of Washington Cities with respect to the member who is a city official, the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy and other organizations of crime victims with respect to the member who is a victim of crime or a crime victims' advocate, and the Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators with respect to the member who is an administrator of juvenile court services. The Governor shall designate the chairperson.)

**Current membership:** Professor, Seattle University School of Law (Citizen Representative) (chair) (1); Superior Court Judges (one of whom is vice chair) (4); Citizen Representatives (2); Sheriff (1); Secretary, Department of Corrections (non-voting member) (1); representative from the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board (non-voting member) (1); Director of Services, County Juvenile Department (1); State Representatives (2); State Senators (2); County Prosecuting Attorneys (2); Senior Assistant Director, Office of Financial Management (non-voting member) (1); County Commissioner (1); Defense Attorneys (2); Assistant Secretary Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, Department of Social and Health Services (non-voting member) (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Legislature

**When created:** 1981

**Website:** <http://www.sgc.wa.gov/>

## West Virginia

**Name of Commission:** N/A

### Wisconsin

**Name of Commission:** Wisconsin Sentencing Commission

**Number of members:** 21

**Composition as enacted:** the attorney general or his or her designee; the state public defender or his or her designee; seven members, at least two of whom are not employed by any unit of federal, state, or local government, appointed by the governor; one majority party member and one minority party member from each house of the legislature, appointed as are the members of standing committees in their respective houses; two circuit judges, appointed by the supreme court; one representative of crime victims and one prosecutor, each appointed by the attorney general; one attorney in private practice engaged primarily in the practice of criminal defense, appointed by the criminal law section of the State Bar of Wisconsin; three non-voting members, including the secretary of corrections or his or her designee, the chairperson of the parole commission or his or her designee, and the director of state courts or his or her designee

**Current membership:** Professor, Wisconsin School of Law (chair) (1); member from the Office of the Attorney General (1); District Attorneys (2); State Representatives (2); State Senators (2); Circuit Court Judges (4); Superintendent, Milwaukee House of Correction (1); Private Attorneys (2); Police Chief (1); member from the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (1); Director, Trial Division, State Public Defender (1); Secretary, Department of Corrections (non-voting member) (1); Director, State Courts (non-voting member) (1); Chair, Parole Commission (non-voting member) (1)

**Where in government (which branch/independent):** Executive

**When created:** 2002

**Website:** <http://wsc.wi.gov/>

### Wyoming

**Name of Commission:** N/A

#### **A few helpful websites:**

<http://www.ussc.gov/states/nascaddr.htm>

[http://www.ncsconline.org/WC/Publications/KIS\\_SentenSenCommProfiles.pdf](http://www.ncsconline.org/WC/Publications/KIS_SentenSenCommProfiles.pdf)

<http://www.ussc.gov/states/newsm97.pdf>