
SENTENCING SUBCOMMITTEE

June 2021

PURPOSE

Develop considerations for how judges can improve sentencing to ensure equal justice.

FOCUS AREAS:

- Compile historical data to understand sentencing trends and uncover potential bias
 - began compiling and analyzing sentencing and incarceration data from the courts and Division of Correction
- Carefully look at charging documents that affect sentencing
- Analyze Rules that might impact sentencing
 - appointed a liaison to the Rules Review Subcommittee to collaborate on that subcommittee's work
- Examine judges' sentencing philosophies
 - surveyed active and senior trial court judges; analyzing the survey results
- Explore the impact of mandatory minimum sentences
- Investigate potential racial disparities in sentencing
 - analyzing data compiled from courts and Division of Correction
- Consider the development of best practices to aid judges in sentencing, including
 - availability of alternative to incarceration
 - expansion of problem-solving courts
 - training and education of judges
 - timing of violations of probation

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Invited several subject matter experts to present to the subcommittee
 - Justice Policy Institute
 - Maryland Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy
 - Division of Parole and Probation
 - Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Programs, Treatment, and Reentry Services
 - Office of Problem-Solving Courts
 - Prince George's County Problem-Solving Courts
 - Anne Arundel County Crisis Intervention Team
 - The Osborne Association

Drafted interim report and recommendations for Equal Justice Committee's Consideration
