Washington State Criminal Sentencing Task Force Meeting

October 15, 2020 8:45am-3:00pm
ZOOM Meeting
Meeting Goals

• Check-ins & updates

• Complete discussion on “Final Offer” potential recommendations from Working Groups

• Begin consensus deliberations on recommendations for inclusion in 2020 report

• Review upcoming Task Force meetings & overall work plan
The Washington State Criminal Sentencing Task Force was established by the Legislature in 2019 to review state sentencing laws, including a consideration of the report of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission required by section 129, chapter 299, Laws of 2018.

The task force shall develop recommendations for the purpose of:

a) Reducing sentencing implementation complexities and errors;

b) Improving the effectiveness of the sentencing system; and

c) Promoting and improving public safety.
8:45am
Review Agenda, Groundrules

9:05am
Introductions

9:25am
Updates: Facilitation Team and Co-Chairs

9:35am
“Final Offer” Of Potential Recommendations + Discussion

10:30am
BREAK
10:40am  
Consensus Deliberations

12:00pm  
Break for Lunch – around 12:15ish eat lunch in break out rooms (virtual lunch tables)

1:00pm  
Consensus Deliberations

2:00pm  
BREAK

2:10pm  
Consensus Deliberations

2:40pm  
Action Items/Next Steps

2:45pm  
Questions from Observers

3:00pm  
Adjourn
**Mute your audio:** Whether you’ve joined by phone or video, please mute your audio until just before it’s your turn to speak.

**Join by Video:** We encourage everyone to join by video (recognizing that bandwidth issues may prevent some from using video) Personal presence is important for collaborative group meetings, and even more crucial for virtual meetings.

**Gallery view:** Please select gallery view (in top left corner of your computer screen), so you can see everyone & not just the speaker.
Chat: On the bottom “menu” bar on your screen (or in the participant box on a mobile device app) you’ll see a “chat” button. We have disabled the private chat function to adhere to your groundrule of no side conversations. You can chat to the entire group, and Molly will manage the discussion.

Phone Participation: For those only on via phone, we will facilitate discussion similar to in-person meetings. During discussion, we will start w/Task Force members “in the room” (those on Zoom using “Raise Hand”) then ask those on phone if they have questions or comments.
**ZOOM: Virtual Meeting Groundrules**

**When you want to speak:** To avoid talking over one another, we ask that those on video use the “raise your hand function”. The Facilitation Team will monitor this and call on folks individually, similar to how we use table tents during in-person meetings.

To access the “raise your hand function”:

Click on the “participants” icon.

This will bring up the participant box and at the bottom you will see the following icons:
Criminal Sentencing Task Force Groundrules

• Be Respectful
  • One person speaks at a time; listen when others are speaking, avoid interrupting and side conversations.
  • Keep comments brief so everyone gets a chance to share their thoughts. Avoid dominating the discussion.
  • Hear and respect all opinions.
  • Silence cell phones and refrain from using laptops during the meeting, except to take notes.

• Be Constructive
  • Acknowledge that all participants bring with them legitimate purposes, goals, concerns, and interests, whether or not you are in agreement with them.
  • Openly explore issues.
  • Act in “good faith,” seeking to resolve conflicts and identify solutions.
  • State concerns and interests clearly, listen carefully to and assume the best in others. Leave negative assumptions and attitudes at the door.
  • Share comments that are solution focused, rather than repeating past discussions.
  • It’s OK to disagree, it is not OK to make personal attacks or slanderous statements.
  • Minimize the use of jargon and acronyms, define and explain when used.
  • Work towards consensus. Be willing to compromise.
  • Ask for clarification when uncertain of what another person is saying. Ask questions rather than make assumptions.

• Be Productive
  • Begin and end meetings on time.
  • Respect time constraints.
  • Adhere to the agenda as much as possible, focusing on the subject at hand.
Introductions

- Task Force Member Changes
- **Members**: Please state name, affiliation, and constituency you represent on the Task Force.
- **Alternates**: Please state name, affiliation, and who you are an alternate for on the Task Force.
Facilitation Team and Co-Chair Updates

• Task Force Meetings 2x/month – next meeting is Nov. 5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct. 15th</th>
<th>Nov. 5th</th>
<th>Nov. 19th</th>
<th>Dec. 3rd</th>
<th>Dec. 17th</th>
<th>Dec. 31st</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*consensus begins</td>
<td>*Final offer review of potential rec’s 46-49</td>
<td><strong>1st Draft report</strong></td>
<td><strong>2nd Draft report</strong></td>
<td>Nearly final draft of report for Task Force review.</td>
<td>Final draft of report for Task Force Review</td>
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**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- 2
- 3
- 4
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- 6
- 7
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- 12
- 28
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**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- 9
- 10
- 11
- 13
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 19

**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27

**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- 30
- 32
- 38
- 39
- 40
- 41
- 42
- 43

**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- 44
- 45

**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- 46
- 47
- 48
- 49

**Recommendations for Consensus Deliberation: #’s**

- IF time:
  - 38
  - 39
  - 40
  - 41
  - 42
  - 43
  - 44
  - 45
“FINAL Offer” Of Potential Recommendations + Discussion
Temperature Check

To access the “consensus icons”
Click on the “participants” icon.

This will bring up the participant box and at the bottom you will see the following icons:
10:30-10:40am

BREAK
Consensus Deliberations

10:40-12:00pm
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CSTF: Criminal Sentencing Task Force
GRID: Sentencing Grid Subgroup
SEWG: Sentencing Effectiveness Working Group
RWG: Reentry Working Group
**Full Participation and Cooperation**
- Everyone participates, not just the vocal few
- Opposing viewpoints are allowed to co-exist in the room
- Work together to achieve collective—and respective—goals
- Appreciate experience and expertise while also welcoming new input
- No coercion, manipulation, or threats

**Shared Responsibility**
- Everyone (including facilitator) takes responsibility for themselves and their participation.
- Everyone also helps support the group – draw each other out with supportive questions.
- Everyone takes responsibility for both the content and the process of making decisions together.

**Mutual Understanding**
- Share all relevant information
- Listen to feelings as well as ideas
- Be willing to reconsider your own thinking, in the light of new information
- Allow for independent validation of assumptions
- Be open to the possibility of transformation
- Focus on common purpose
- Try to understand other’s reasoning – even when that reasoning leads to a conclusion you do not agree with.

**Inclusive Solutions**
- Strive to turn either/or problems into both/and solutions
- Work to foster a win/win attitude
- Move away from either/or thinking, toward creative possibilities
- Inclusive solutions are wise solutions. The wisdom emerges from integrating everyone’s perspectives and needs. An inclusive solution often involves the discovery of an entirely new option.
Consensus
Consensus is an outcome AND a process
Criminal Sentencing Task Force Consensus Process

**Presentation and Discussion**

**Working Groups Draft Potential Recommendations**
- Meet between meetings to draft potential recommendations that meet all Task Force members needs.

**Full Task Force Dialogue, Input, and Temp Checks**
- Working Groups present potential recommendations (1st, 2nd, 3rd offers) to full Task Force over multiple meetings.
- Task Force discusses and provides input.
- Consensus Temperature checks.

**Working Groups Refine**
- Working Groups take input from full Task Force and refine potential recommendations to meet needs of all members.

**Deliberation**

**Proposed Recommendation**
- Facilitation Team will read the proposed recommendation.

**1st Test for Consensus**
- Do all members support or can live with?
  - No
  - Discussion and Modify
    - Address concerns
    - Modify to better serve the whole group
  - Yes

**2nd Test for Consensus**
- Do all members support or can live with?
  - No
  - Capture Pros and Cons in Final Report
  - Add to 2021 Workplan
  - Yes
Consensus

Deliberation

Proposed Recommendation
Facilitation Team will read the proposed recommendation.

1st Test for Consensus
Do all members support or can live with?

No

Discussion and Modify
Address concerns
Modify to better serve the whole group

Yes

Consensus

2nd Test for Consensus
Do all members support or can live with?

No

Capture Pros and Cons in Final Report

Yes

Add to 2021 Workplan
(Task Force Operating Procedures)

- Consensus can be achieved at any full Task Force meeting where at least two-thirds (14 of 20) members (or their designated alternates) are present.

Consensus means that each Task Force member can say:

(1) I was a respected member of the group that considered the decision;

(2) my ideas (opinions, knowledge, concerns, beliefs, hopes) were listened to;

(3) I listened to the ideas (opinions, knowledge, concerns, beliefs, hopes) of others; and

(4) I can support the decision of the group, even though I might have made a different decision had I acted alone.
This consensus can be conveyed via:

- A thumbs up (I fully support this option),
- A thumbs sideways (I can live with this option for the good of the group and the process) or
- A thumbs down (I cannot live with this option).

If anyone is thumbs down, the group will seek solutions that allow those thumbs to move to up or sideways.

If there are instances where consensus cannot be reached, the pros and cons of the different alternatives can be presented in a succinct manner in the Task Force’s reports.
- What is preventing you from being able to live with the recommendation?
- What would it take for you to change your position?
To access the “consensus icons”
Click on the “participants” icon.

This will bring up the participant box and at the bottom you will see the following icons:
Consensus Deliberations

Recommendations #:
2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
12:00-1:00pm

Lunch – Break Out Rooms
Cont. Consensus Deliberations

Recommendations #:
29, 29, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37
2:00-2:10pm

BREAK
Cont. Consensus Deliberations

Recommendations #: 8, 12
2:40-2:45pm

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