

Addendum to Non-Controlled Substance Modifications to the Sentencing Guidelines --  
Criminal Vehicular Homicide (Qualified Prior Driving Offense Conviction)  
Possible Modifications to Guidelines § 2.B.3

3. Prior Gross Misdemeanors and Misdemeanors. \* \* \*

- g. Assignment of Units for Criminal Vehicular Homicide or Operation or Felony Driving While Impaired (DWI). If the current conviction is for criminal vehicular homicide or operation or felony DWI, assign previous violations of Minn. Stat. §§ 169A.20, 169A.31, 169.121, 169.1211, 169.129, 360.0752, 609.2112, 609.2113, or 609.2114 two units each. There is no limit to the total number of misdemeanor points that can be included in the offender's criminal history score due to criminal vehicular homicide or operation or DWI offenses. For DWI offenses, see section 2.B.6 for exceptions to this policy relating to predicate offenses used for enhancement purposes. For Criminal Vehicular Homicide (Death or Death to an Unborn Child, Qualified Prior Conviction), assign no misdemeanor units to the qualified prior driving offense that was used to increase the statutory maximum penalty. \* \* \*

*Comment*

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**2.B.303.** *The Commission placed a limit of one point on the consideration of misdemeanors or gross misdemeanors in the criminal history score. This was done because, with no limit on point accrual, offenders with lengthy, but relatively minor, misdemeanor records could accrue high criminal history scores and thus be subject to inappropriately severe sentences upon their first felony conviction. The Commission limited consideration of misdemeanors to particularly relevant misdemeanors under existing state statute. Offenders whose criminal record includes at least four prior sentences for misdemeanors on the targeted misdemeanor list provided in Minn. Stat. § 299C.10, subd. 1(e), non-traffic gross misdemeanors, gross misdemeanor reckless driving, and gross misdemeanor driving while impaired or refusal to submit to a chemical test are considered more culpable and are given an additional criminal history point.*

**2.B.304.** *The Commission believes that offenders whose current conviction is for criminal vehicular homicide or operation or first-degree (felony) driving while impaired, and who have prior violations under Minn. Stats. §§ 169A.20, 169A.31, 169.121, 169.1211, 169.129, 360.0752, 609.2112, 609.2113, or 609.2114 are also more culpable, and for these offenders there is no limit to the total number of misdemeanor points included in the criminal history score due to DWI or*

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*criminal vehicular homicide or operation (CVO) violations. To determine the total number of misdemeanor points under these circumstances, first add together any non DWI/CVO misdemeanor units. If there are less than four units, add in any DWI/CVO units. Four or more units would equal one point. Only DWI/CVO units can be used in calculating additional points. Each set of four DWI/CVO units would equal an additional point. For example, if an offender had two theft units and six DWI/CVO units, the theft would be added to the two DWI/CVO units to equal one point. The remaining four DWI/CVO units would equal a second point. In a second example, if an offender had six theft units and six DWI/CVO units, the first four theft units would equal one point. Four of the DWI/CVO units would equal a second point. The remaining two theft units could not be added to the remaining two DWI/CVO units for a third point. The total misdemeanor score would be two.*

*When the current offense is a conviction under Minn. Stat. § 609.2112, subd. 1(a) (Death, and Qualified Prior conviction), or § 609.2114, subd. 1(b) (Death to an Unborn Child, and Qualified Prior Conviction), the Commission excluded consideration of the qualified prior driving offense, if a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor, from the criminal history score because, by virtue of the conviction offense, the qualified prior conviction has been accounted for in the enhanced penalty. \* \* \**