

Reitz, Nate (MSGC)

From: Mariana Schunk <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, August 18, 2018 1:08 PM
To: Guidelines, Sentencing (MSGC)
Subject: Recent Memo to Criminal Justice Stakeholders, 8/3/2018
Attachments: MSGC Stakeholder.docx

Mr. Dietzen & Commissioners -

Attached is my response to the Memo sent to Criminal Justice Stakeholders, Meeting Notice Subscribers, and Commission Members on August 3, 2018 regarding Request for Input - Possible Criminal History Score Policy Modifications.

There's a strong likelihood that I won't be able to attend the September 13 meeting, but I do want to give input. This is a serious matter that has profoundly affected me. Even though the attached is less than a page long, it took me days to write. I'm hoping the outcome of your next meeting will reflect that public safety is your ultimate concern, and that prison sentences will reflect behavior of **repeat** violent offenders.

Thank you for your time & considerations,
Mariana Schunk

Re: Request for Input – Possible Criminal History Score Policy Modifications

I am a stakeholder, in that four years ago I requested the MSGC to consider longer sentencing for repeat severe violent offenders. My motivation is that I believe my daughter would still be alive if one of her perpetrators had been given a longer prison sentence for a violent crime he committed prior to his involvement with the murder of my daughter.

Since presenting, I have met with members of POMC (Parents of Murdered Children), neighbors, co-workers, representatives of various agencies, legislators, and attorneys. I have addressed inmates at Faribault Prison, and followed media (newspaper and television) reports of severe violent offenders. Nothing that I've heard, researched, or read has changed my opinion that serious violent offenders who are repeatedly convicted of such crimes, substantially impedes public safety. Specifically, offenders with psychopathic personalities/tendencies have no consideration of right or wrong, act without any emotional ties, and no form of punishment inhibits their behavior. A current, high profile, example of this is the recent murder of Officer Gomm at Stillwater Prison. Consider that offender's criminal history. Even incarceration had no impact on his predisposition to violence.

Keeping the aforementioned in mind, it was exasperating to read the MSGC Memo. All I interpreted was "how many beds are needed if this change is made?" "Will this have a racially disproportionate affect?" If you've never had a loved one taken from you by murder, you probably can't imagine how hurtful this memo is. ... Responding to it causes me to relive the tragedy, and sense that perpetrators deserve more dignity than victims.

Whatever changes you make, PLEASE keep in mind what you stated in the first paragraph: "our primary consideration must be public safety." I strongly encourage you to make a change that keeps REPEAT SEVERE VIOLENT offenders off the streets for the *longest* period of time. My personal experience, supervised release for this group of felons is worthless – they know how to "get around" the "system." Serious offenders need to remain incarcerated for their entire sentence in order to keep Minnesotans safest.