

## Public Hearing Summary

### Hearing Date: December 17, 2020

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A public hearing of the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission (MSGC) was held on December 17, 2020. Due to the ongoing health pandemic and peacetime emergency, it was not feasible for members of the Commission or the public to attend at the regular meeting location in Saint Paul; instead, Commission members and members of the public participated by telephone or by electronic Webex meeting, the notice required by [Minn. Stat. § 13D.021](#), subd. 4, having been posted on the MSGC website on November 16, 2020.

Commission members present electronically were Commission Chair Kelly Lyn Mitchell, Vice-Chair Valerie Estrada, and Commission members Justice (Ret.) Christopher Dietzen, Abby Honold, Tonja Honsey, Kara Ladd, Judge Michelle Larkin, Judge Kevin Mark, Cathryn Middlebrook, and Commander Salim Omari.

Also present by telephone and/or electronically were Executive Director Nate Reitz and MSGC staff members Nicole Jaspersen, Kathleen Madland, Jill Payne, and Anne Wall.

Members of the public present by telephone and/or electronically included Alex Bunger, Minn. Department of Corrections; Rep. Matthew Grossell, Minn. House of Representatives; James Johnson; Kate Gilbertson; John Hultquist, Minn. House of Representatives Research Consultant, Republican Caucus; Robert Small, Minn. County Attorneys Association; and Ben Johnson, Minn. House of Representatives Research.

#### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Mitchell called the public hearing to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

#### **2. Opening Statement**

Chair Mitchell announced the purpose of the public hearing, to give interested persons the opportunity to present statements regarding proposed modifications to the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines and Commentary resulting from legislative amendments and non-legislative amendments.

Chair Mitchell explained that no one had registered in advance with Commission staff. Chair Mitchell explained that any person present who wished to testify might still do so by contacting staff by e-mail or phone and registering their name, address, telephone number, and the names of any individuals or associations that the person represented in connection with the hearing.

Chair Mitchell explained the reasons and authority for the hearing being conducted by telephonic and electronic means. Chair Mitchell stated that members of the public were able to monitor the hearing remotely by telephone or computer with instructions posted on the MSGC website.

Chair Mitchell announced that people might make oral or written statements at the hearing regarding the proposed amendments, and might also address questions about the proposed amendments to the Commission, its staff, or witnesses, and that the Commission or its staff might ask questions of those making oral statements. Chair Mitchell explained that a copy of the proposal was published and made available on the Commission's website beginning Monday, November 16, 2020.

Chair Mitchell stated the record would remain open for five calendar days to accept and record written materials. Chair Mitchell stated that, on Thursday, January 14, 2021, the Commission would meet at 1:00 p.m. to finally adopt or reject the proposal.

### **3. Public Testimony**

Chair Mitchell called on members of the public who wished to speak. No member of the public contacted staff expressing their interest in giving testimony. Chair Mitchell announced the time as 1:07 p.m. and said the public hearing would remain open until 1:10 p.m. to give any interested party enough time to contact staff and register to speak. No one contacted staff during that time, so there was no public testimony.

### **4. Adjournment**

Chair Mitchell adjourned the public hearing at 1:10 p.m., without objection.

### **5. Written Testimony**

After the public hearing, the record remained open for five calendar days—through December 22, 2020—to accept written comments. The Commission received three written comments during this period, which are part of the public hearing record.