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The Center's basic policies and activities are determined by its Board, which is composed of the Chief Justice of the United States, who is permanent Chairman of the Board by statute, and two judges of the U.S. courts of appeals, three judges of the U.S. district courts, one bankruptcy judge, and one magistrate judge, all of whom are elected for 4-year terms by the Judicial Conference of the United States. The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts is also a permanent member of the Board.

Pursuant to statute, the Center carries out the following duties:

—develops and administers orientation and continuing education programs for Federal judges, Federal defenders, and nonjudicial court personnel, including probation officers, pretrial services officers, and clerks' office employees;

—conducts empirical and exploratory research and evaluation on Federal judicial processes, court management, and sentencing and its consequences, usually for the committees of the Judicial Conference or the courts themselves;

—produces research reports, training manuals, satellite broadcasts, video programs, computer based training, and periodicals about the Federal courts;

—provides guidance and advice and maintains data and records to assist those interested in documenting and conserving the history of the Federal courts; and

—cooperates with and assists other agencies and organizations in providing advice to improve the administration of justice in the courts of foreign countries.

Sources of Information

Information may be obtained from the following divisions and offices:

Director and Deputy Director. Phone, 202–502–4162, or 202–502–4164. Fax, 202–502–4099.

Research. Phone, 202–502–4071. Fax, 202–502–4199.

Judicial Education. Phone, 202–502–4060. Fax, 202–502–4299.

Court Education. Phone, 202–502–4110. Fax, 202–502–4088.

Communications Policy and Design. Phone 202–502–4250. Fax, 202–502–4077.

Federal Judicial History. Phone, 202–502–4181. Fax, 202–502–4077.

Information Services. Phone, 202–502–4153. Fax, 202–502–4077.

Interjudicial Affairs. Phone, 202–502–4161. Fax, 202–502–4099.

Human Resources. Phone, 202–502–4165. Fax, 202–502–4099.

Systems Innovations and Development. Phone, 202–502–4223. Fax, 202–502–4288.

Electronic Access Selected Federal Judicial Center publications, including access to its Federal judicial history databases and selected educational resources, are available through the Internet, at www.fjc.gov.

Publications Single copies of most Federal Judicial Center publications are available free of charge. Phone, 202–502–4153. Fax, 202–502–4077.

For further information, contact the Federal Judicial Center, Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, One Columbus Circle NE., Washington, DC 20002–8003. Phone, 202–502–4000. Internet, www.fjc.gov.

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

Suite 2–500, South Lobby, One Columbus Circle NE., Washington, DC 20002–8002
Phone, 202–502–4500. Internet, www.ussc.gov.

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Special Counsel	JUDITH W. SHEON

The United States Sentencing Commission develops sentencing guidelines and policies for the Federal court system.

The United States Sentencing Commission was established as an independent agency in the judicial branch of the Federal Government by the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984 (28 U.S.C. 991 *et seq.* and 18 U.S.C. 3551 *et seq.*). The Commission establishes sentencing guidelines and policies for the Federal courts, prescribing the appropriate form and severity of punishment for offenders convicted of Federal crimes.

The Commission is composed of seven voting members appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate for 6-year terms, and two nonvoting members. One of the voting members is appointed Chairperson.

The Commission evaluates the effects of the sentencing guidelines on the criminal justice system, advises Congress regarding the modification or enactment of statutes relating to criminal law and sentencing matters, establishes a research and development program on sentencing issues, and performs other related duties.

In executing its duties, the Commission promulgates and distributes to Federal courts and to the U.S. probation system guidelines to be used in determining sentences to be imposed in criminal cases, general policy statements regarding the application of guidelines, and policy statements on the appropriate use of probation and supervised release revocation provisions. These sentencing guidelines and policy statements are designed to further the purposes of just punishment, deterrence, incapacitation, and rehabilitation; provide fairness in meeting the purposes of sentencing; avoid unwarranted disparity; and reflect advancement in the knowledge of human behavior as it relates to the criminal justice process.

In addition, the Commission provides training, conducts research on sentencing-related issues, and serves as an information resource for Congress, criminal justice practitioners, and the public.

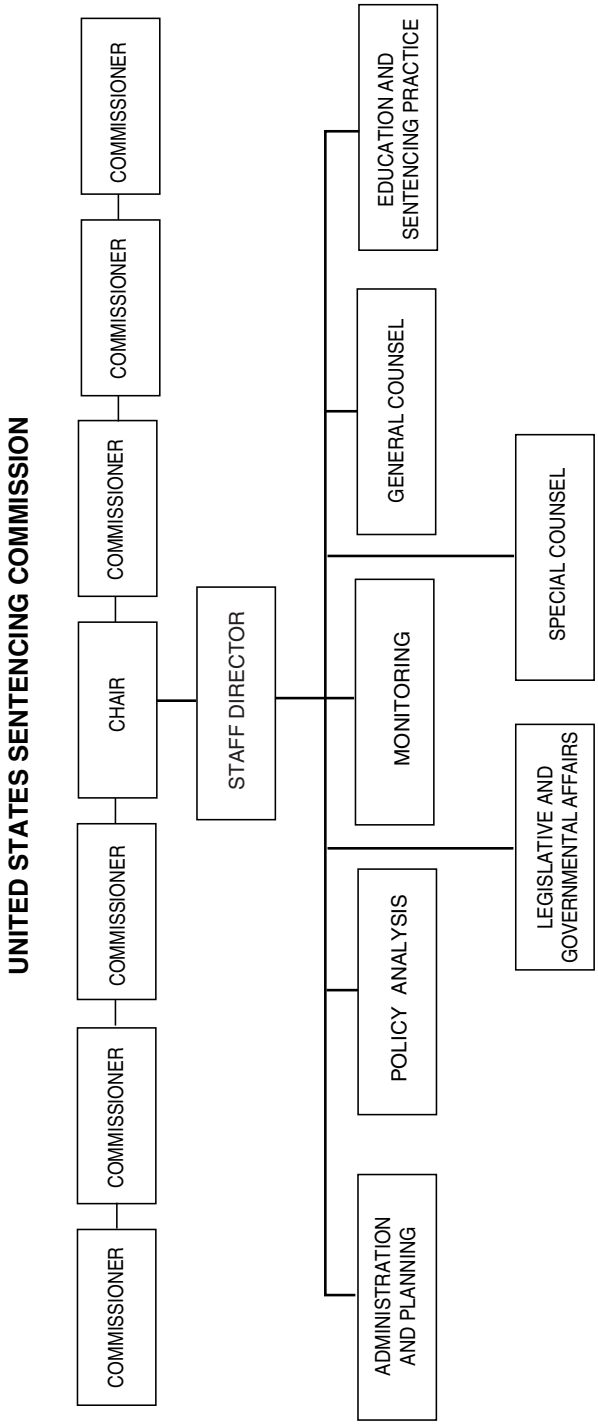
Sources of Information

Electronic Access Commission information and materials may be obtained through the Internet, at www.ussc.gov.

Guideline Application Assistance Helpline Phone, 202–502–4545.

Public Information Information concerning Commission activities is available from the Office of Publishing and Public Affairs. Phone, 202–502–4590.

For further information, contact the Office of Publishing and Public Affairs, United States Sentencing Commission, Suite 2–500, South Lobby, One Columbus Circle NE., Washington, DC 20002–8002. Phone, 202–502–4590. Internet, www.ussc.gov.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