

2015 Potential Study Items

Utah Sentencing Commission

Suggestions from Master Study Resolution:

- Good Landlord Revisions
- Campaign Contribution Disclosure Laws
- Election Laws Technical Cleanup (consistency)
- Capital Punishment (comprehensive review & methods)
- Domestic Violence (court data connecting to divorce, child custody, protective orders and falsification of information)
- Medical Marijuana
- Requirement for administrative law judges and justice court judges to be attorneys
- Child Trafficking/Human Trafficking
- Incarceration Costs (Pay for Stay)
- Sex Offender Sentencing and Treatment (based on risk and need assessments, options in jails, prisons, community settings)
- Reduction in Natural Resources Criminal Code

Suggestions from members, legislators, public comment:

- Diagnostic Unit at Prison (how to reinstitute without abuse)
- Preliminary screening tool for risk and need
- How to inform offenders of collateral consequences of convictions
- Reduce 25 to life sentence for sex offenses
- "Mandatory minimums"/"Minimum terms" conflict with indeterminate sentencing structure
- Regulation of private probation providers/use by courts
- Utilizing an evidence based approach to sentencing DV offenders
- Develop DV Sentencing Guidelines
- Update philosophical approach consistent with evidence based practices & better explanation of sex offenses philosophy
- Include sentencing recommendations for controlled substance cases (misdemeanor and felony) in Guidelines
- Include recommendations for all misdemeanors in Guidelines
- Categorize misdemeanors by nature of offense &/or provide link to bail schedule on website
- Revise Form 5 - Adult Guidelines
- Revise Juvenile Disposition Guidelines Matrix
- Add graduated sanctions and incentives to Juvenile Guidelines