

Criminal Breakout Session: Sentencing Guidelines

District of Oregon Conference

May 2, 2024

This document is produced and disseminated at U.S. taxpayer expense.

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Office of Education and Sentencing Practice
Online HelpLine Form

Agenda

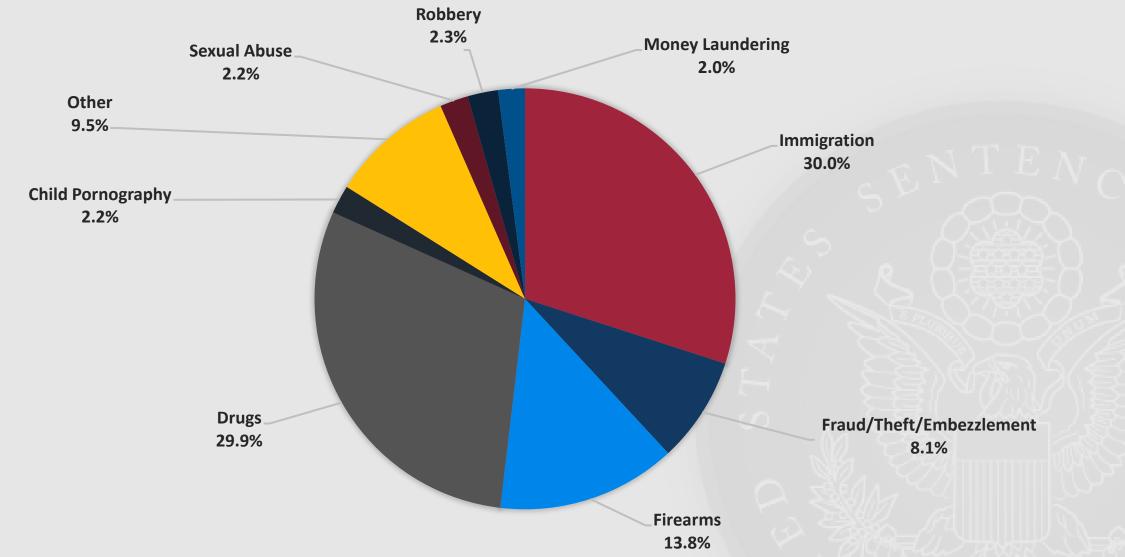


- National and District Sentencing Data
- Sentencing Commission Overview
- 2024 Policy Priorities
- Online Resources



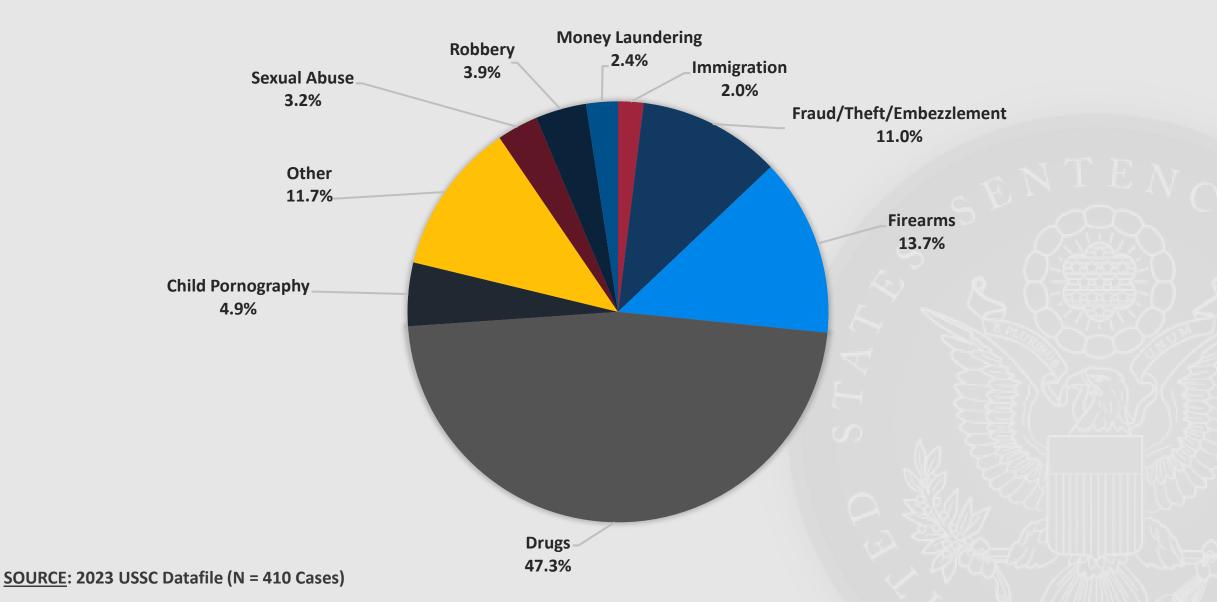
National and District Data

Primary Offense Types National – FY2023

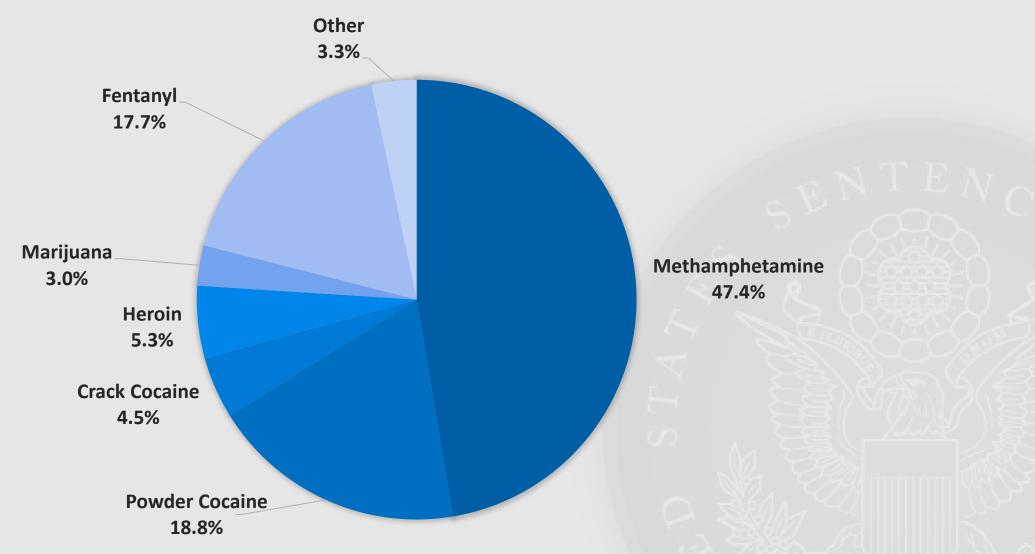


SOURCE: 2023 USSC Datafile (N = 64,126 Cases)

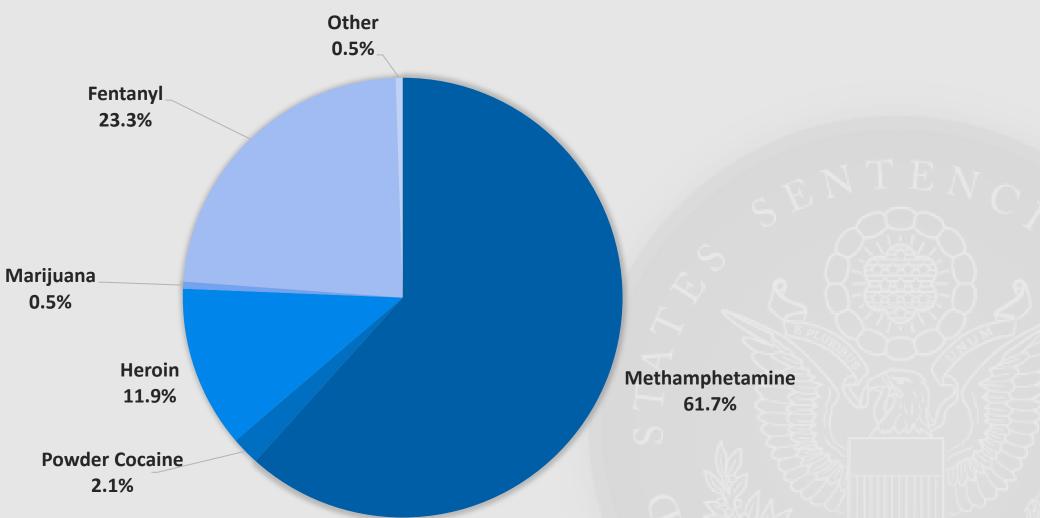
Primary Offense Types District of Oregon – FY2023



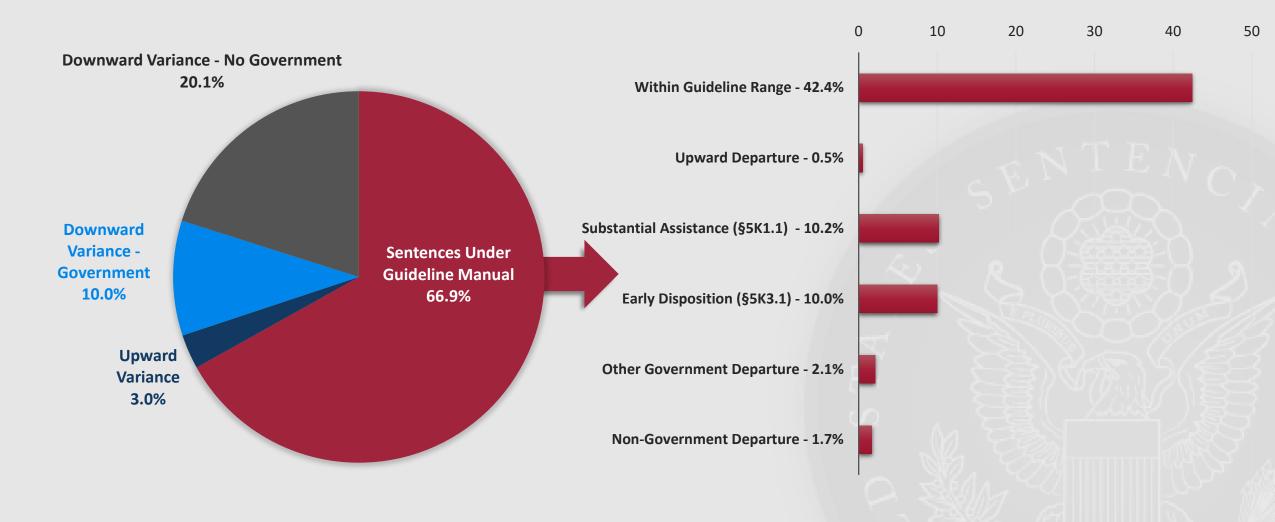
Primary Drug Types National – FY2023



Primary Drug Types District of Oregon – FY2023

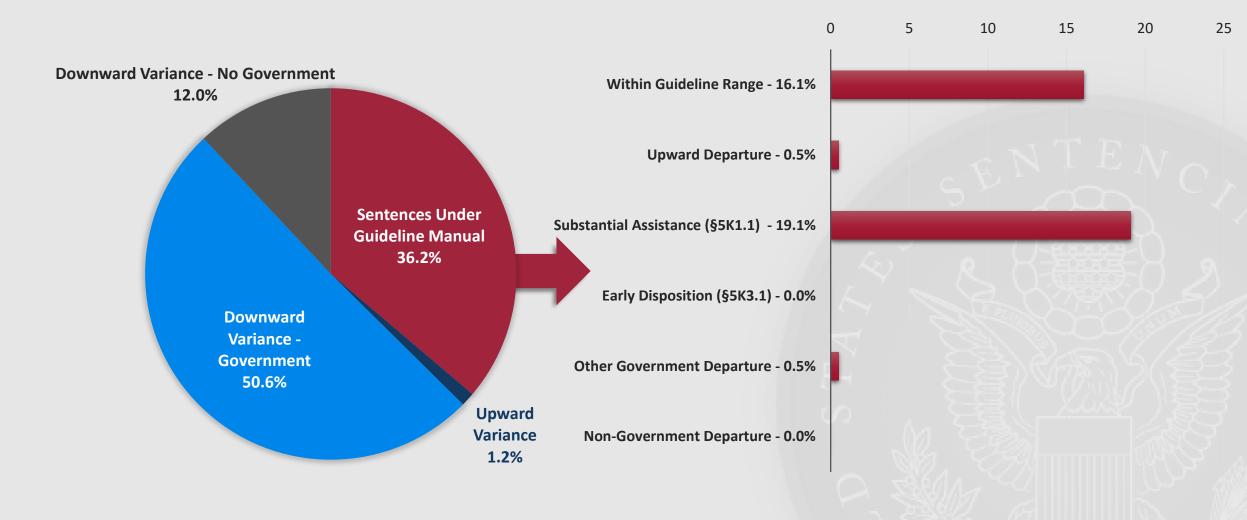


Position of Sentences in Relation to Guideline Range National – FY2023



SOURCE: 2023 USSC Datafile (N = 63,814 Cases)

Position of Sentences in Relation to Guideline Range District of Oregon – FY2023





Sentencing Commission Overview

The United States Sentencing Commission

Created Original Guidelines **Reviews and Revises** Guidelines **Collects and Analyzes Sentencing Data Publishes Research** Reports Makes Recommendations to Congress Conducts Training



Bipartisan No More Than 4 from the Same Political Party



Bipartisan No More Than 4 from the Same Political Party







Required for Quorum



Current Commissioners

Confirmed August 2022









Judge Carlton Reeves Claire McCusker Murray Chair Vice Chair

Laura Mate Vice Chair

Judge Luis Felipe Restrepo Vice Chair







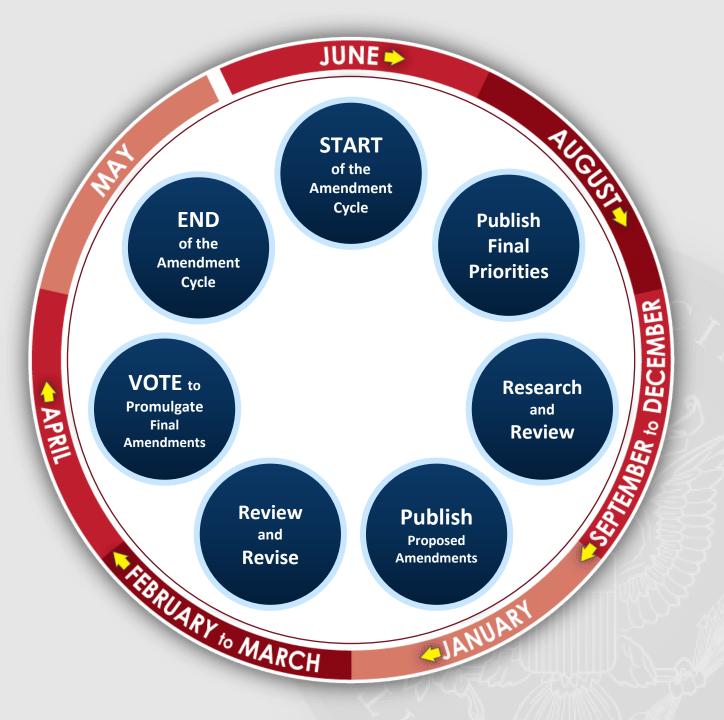
Judge Claria Horn Boom

John Gleeson

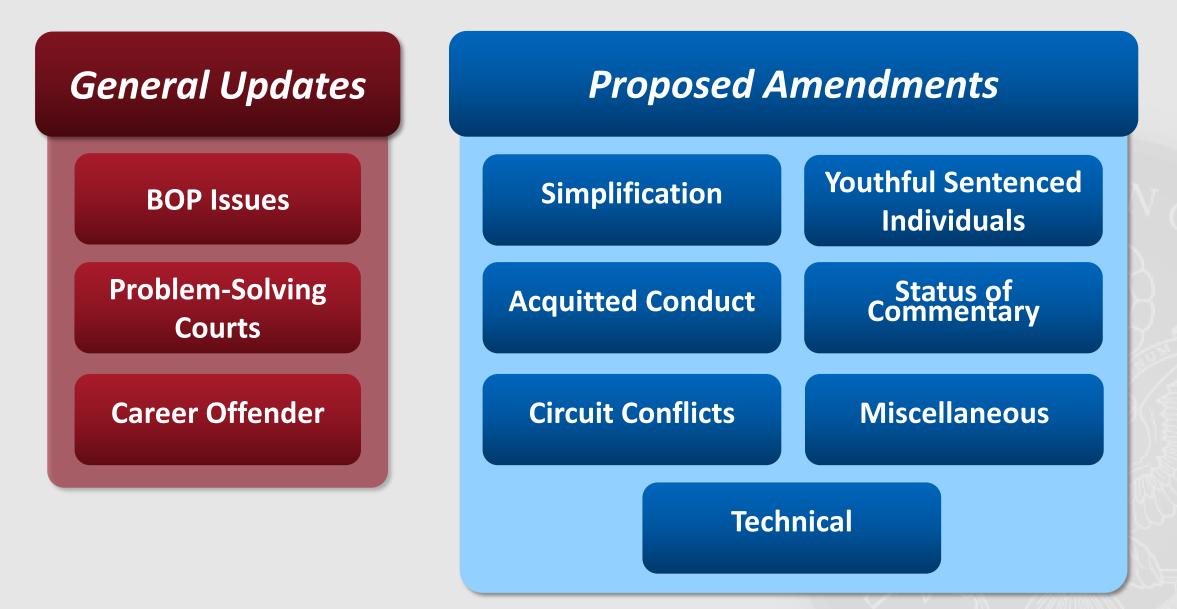


Candice Wong

Amendment Cycle



2023–2024 Amendment Cycle





RECIDIVISM AND EEDEDAL

BUREA

Recidivism and Federal Bureau of Prisons Programs: Drug Program Participants Released in 2010

DRUG PRO

KEY FINDINGS

This chapter summarizes key findings from the study and explains the scope of the analysis and how recidivism is defined and measured. The second chapter of this report discusses the RDAP program requirements and analyzes differences in offender and offense characteristics and recidivism rates among eligible offenders. The third chapter of this report details NRDAP program requirements and the differences in offender and offense characteristics and recidivism rates among eligible offenders. Finally, the fourth chapter concludes with a review of the report's findings.

This study observed a significant reduction in the likelihood of recidivism for offenders who completed the Residential Drug Abuse Treatment Program or the Non-Residential Drug Abuse Treatment Program.

Recidivism and Federal Bureau of Prisons Programs: Drug Program Participants Released in 2010

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VOCATION

Occupational Education Programs (OEP)

Although the recidivism rate for offenders who completed an OEP course was lower than that of offenders who did not participate in an OEP course (48.3% compared to 54.1%), the difference in their recidivism rates was not statistically significant after controlling for key offender and offense characteristics such as criminal history category, age at release, gender, and crime type. Pederal Prison Industries (FPI)

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THE UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

Table. Excluding Offenses for Earning First Step Act Time Credits

Eligibility

Earning

In some instances, a listed offense will exclude an individual only if specific or additional circumstances are present. These specific or additional circumstances are indicated in bold text in the Description column.

Filter table by offense category:

AllArsonAssaultBurglary and RobberyDamage to Property Involving Endangerment to Human LifeDrugsEspionage, National Security, andTerrorismExplosives, Firearms, and WeaponsHomicideHuman TraffickingImmigrationIndividual RightsKidnappingMiscellaneousOffenses Involving Correctional FacilitiesOffenses Involving Government OfficialsSex Offenses

Or search the table for a specific statute or keyword:

Q Search in table

Page 1 of 14 🔉

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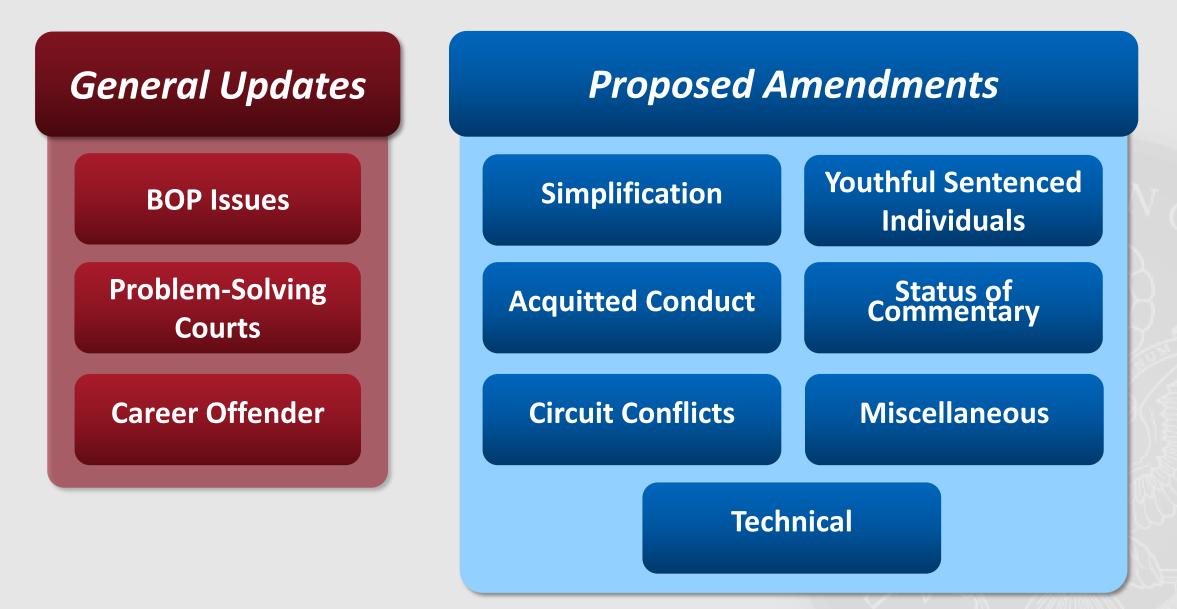
EDUCA

 In this sect resources t understand federal sen

		Offense Category	Statute	Title	Description	FSA Citation
e Commi ormation e execution minal jus idemic co this section this section derstand leral sent	Earning rates ba	Arson	18 U.S.C. § 81	Arson within special maritime and territorial jurisdiction		18 U.S.C. § 3632(d)(4)(D)(iv).
		Assault	18 U.S.C. § 111(b)	Assaulting, resisting, or impeding certain officers or employees	"[R]elating to assaulting, resisting, or impeding certain officers or employees using a deadly or dangerous weapon or inflicting bodily injury."	18 U.S.C. § 3632(d)(4)(D)(v).
	Award	Assault	18 U.S.C. § 113(a)(1)	Assaults within maritime and territorial jurisdiction	"[R]elating to assault with intent to commit murder."	18 U.S.C. § 3632(d)(4)(D)(vi).
	Inc	Assault	18 U.S.C. § 113(a)(7)	Assaults within maritime and territorial jurisdiction	"[R]elating to assault resulting in substantial bodily injury to a spouse or intimate partner, a dating partner, or an individual who has not attained the age of 16 years."	18 U.S.C. § 3632(d)(4)(D)(vi).
	*FSA time cre	ans are distinct norm, and in	raduition to, any good time credit	awarded under to 0.5.C. St	boz4(b) or creatis for participation in RDAP.	THE PROPERTY AND A DECIMARY OF A



2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



Federal Problem-Solving Courts

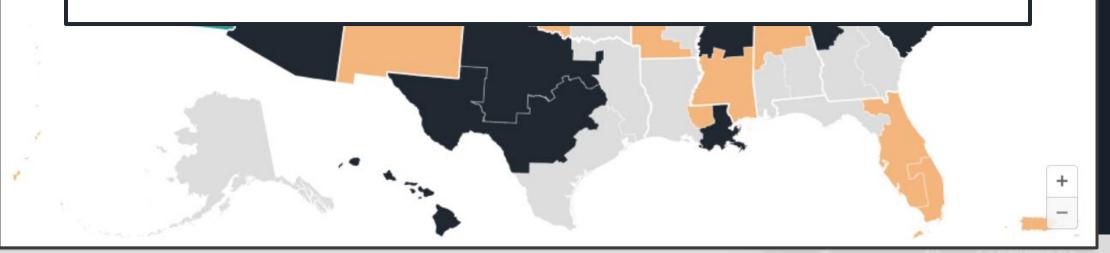


COMMISSION

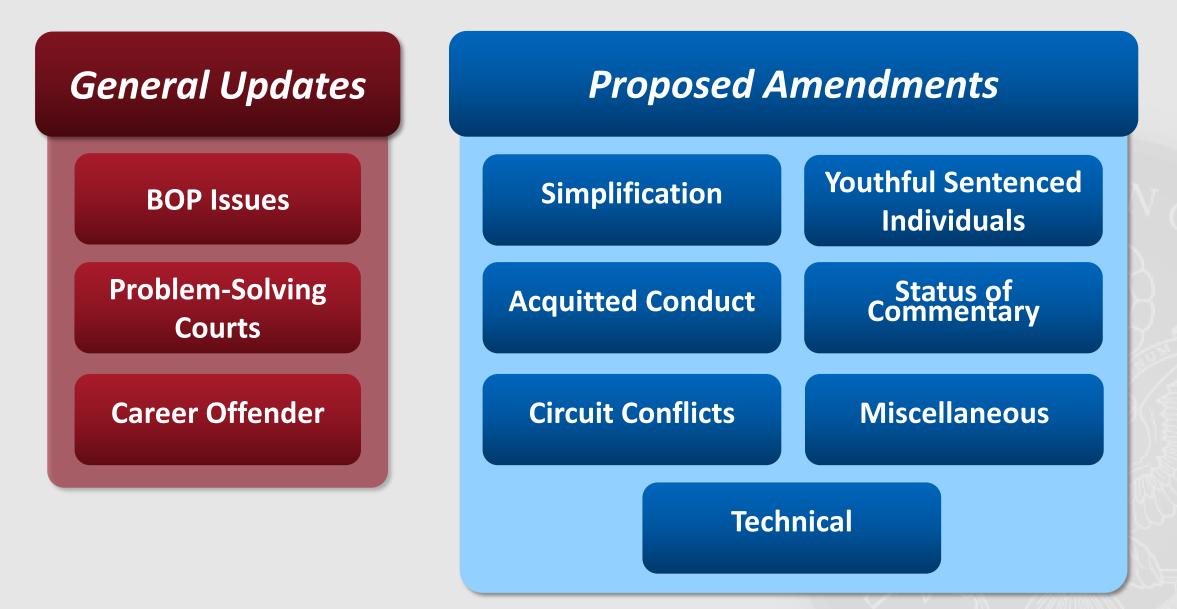
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Follow along with the work of the 2023-2024 Alternatives-to-Incarceration Policy Team in this Commission Chats miniseries, featuring the federal judges who lead the problemsolving court programs available around the country. Parts One through Eight are out now! (*Latest episode published April 2024*)

LISTEN HERE



2023–2024 Amendment Cycle





ABOUT BY TOPIC

ROUNDTABLE - FEBRUARY 7, 2024

EDUCATION



Roundtable on Career Offender & the Categorical Approach

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 Washington, DC By Invitation

The Commission has prioritized the continued examination of the career offender guidelines (§§4B1.1, 4B1.2), including the exploration of alternatives to the "categorical approach" to determine whether an offense is a "crime of violence" or a "controlled substance offense."

While the Commission did not propose 2024 amendments addressing this policy priority, the Commission continued its multiyear examination of the career offender guidelines inviting several experts to the February 2024 roundtable to generate alternatives to the categorical approach in the guidelines and solicit fresh perspectives on what, if anything, can be done to address the critiques of the categorical approach.

This wide-ranging and informative discussion included both circuit and district court judges, representatives from the Department of Justice, the Federal Public Defenders, the Commission's Practitioners Advisory Group, private practitioners, and law professors.

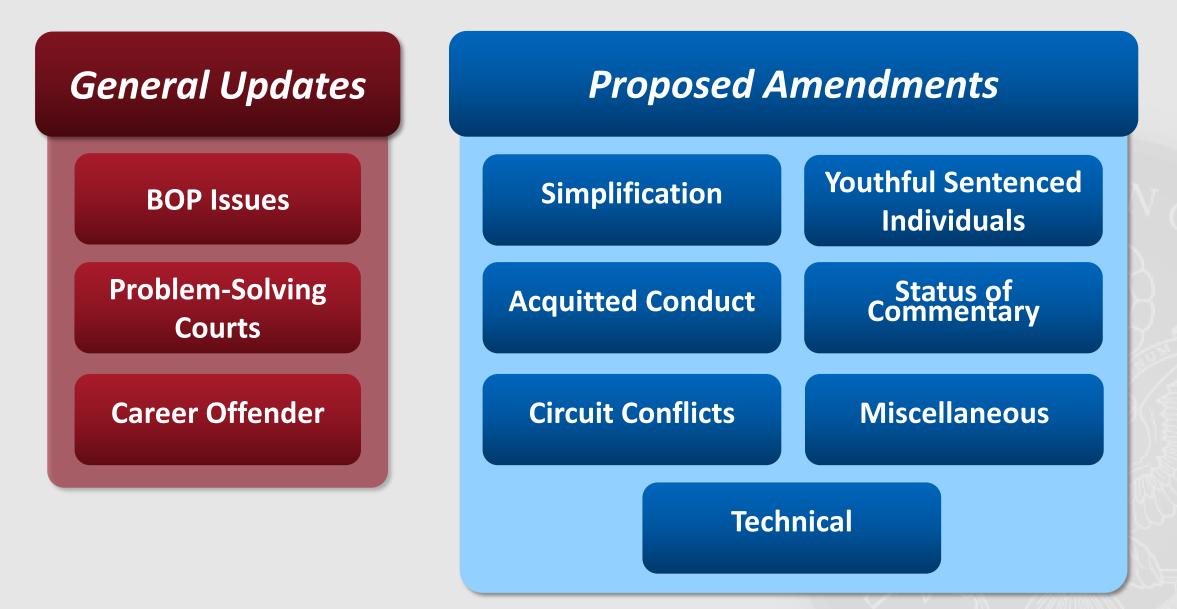
The Commission welcomes further comment and input on the career offender guidelines and the categorical approach. Please feel free to email us at PubAffairs@ussc.gov.

Related Materials:

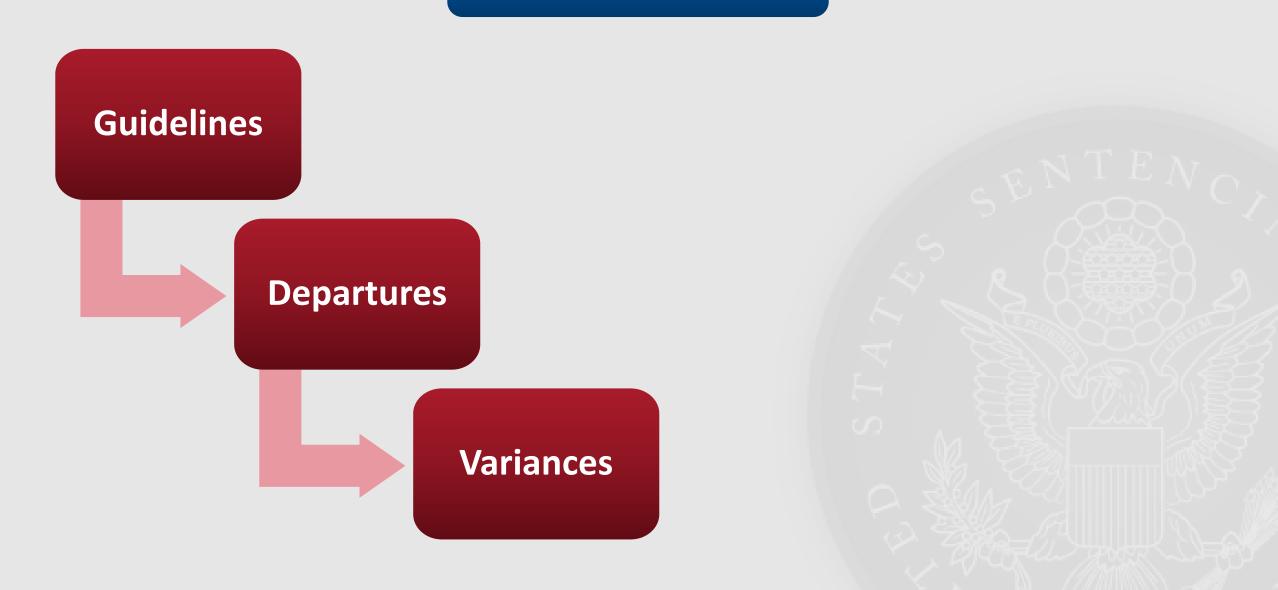
- Primer on the Categorical Approach
- 2016 Report to the Congress
- Quick Facts on Career Offenders
- 2022 Sourcebook of Federal Sentencing Statistics, Table 26

Career Offender

2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



Simplification



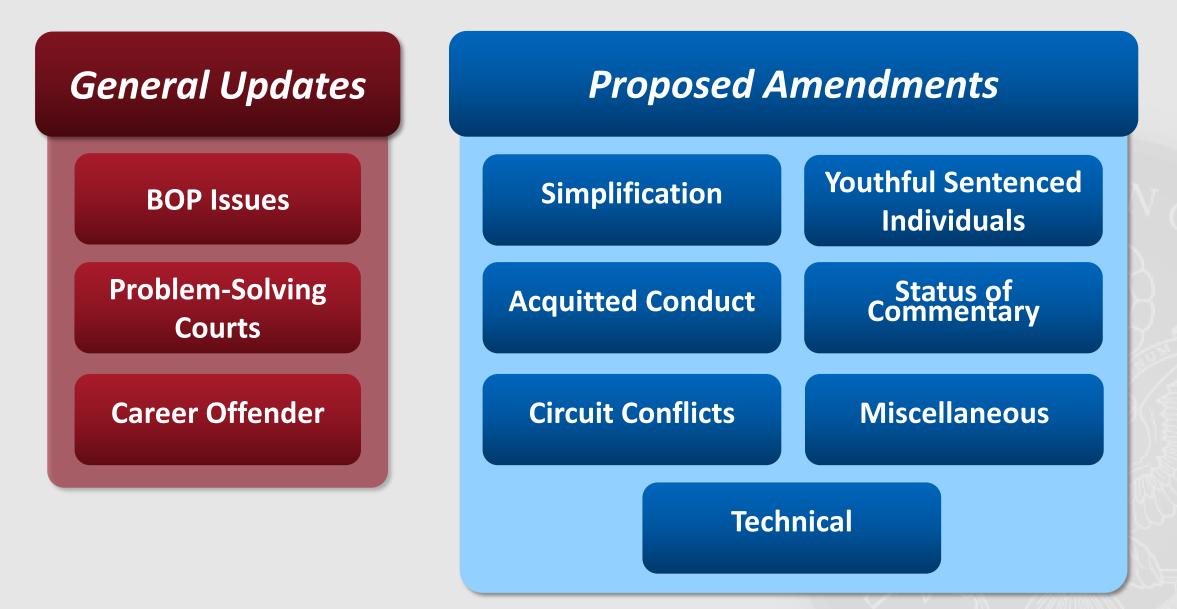
Simplification

Guidelines

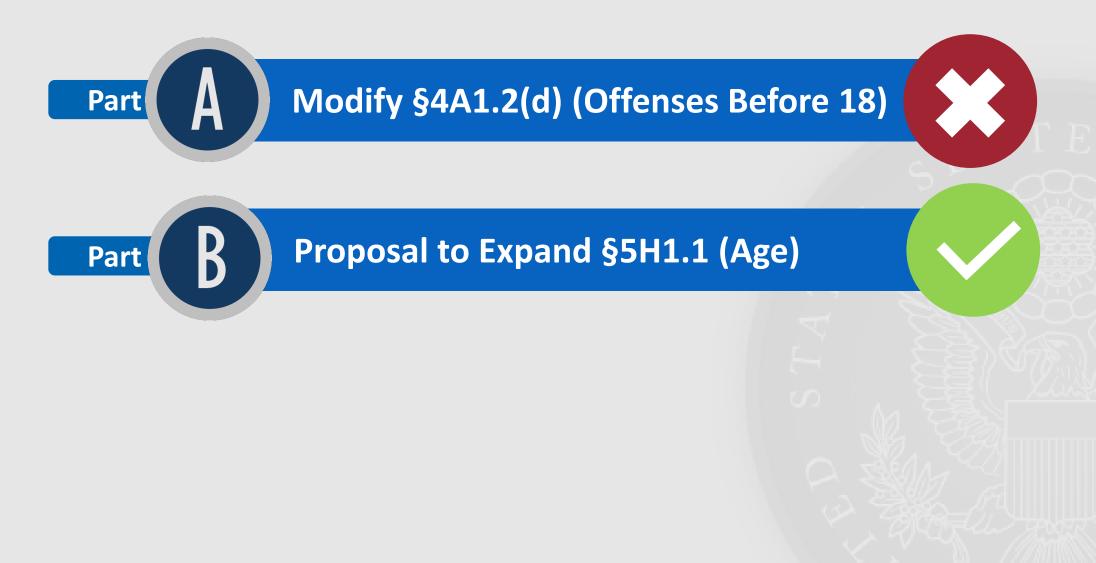
Variances



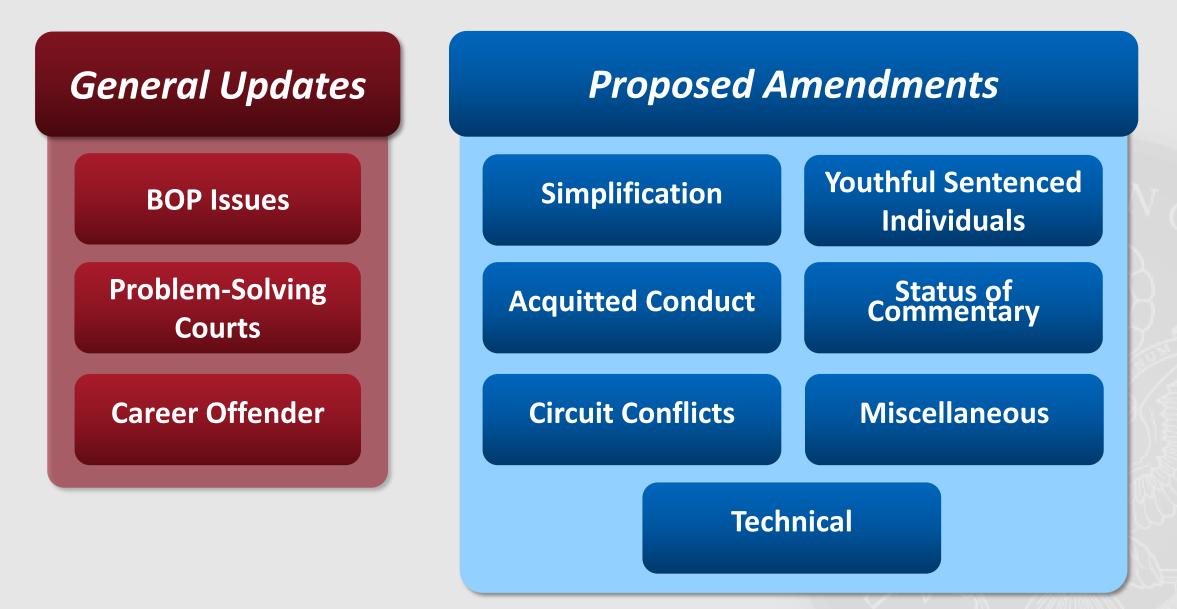
2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



Youthful Sentenced Individuals



2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



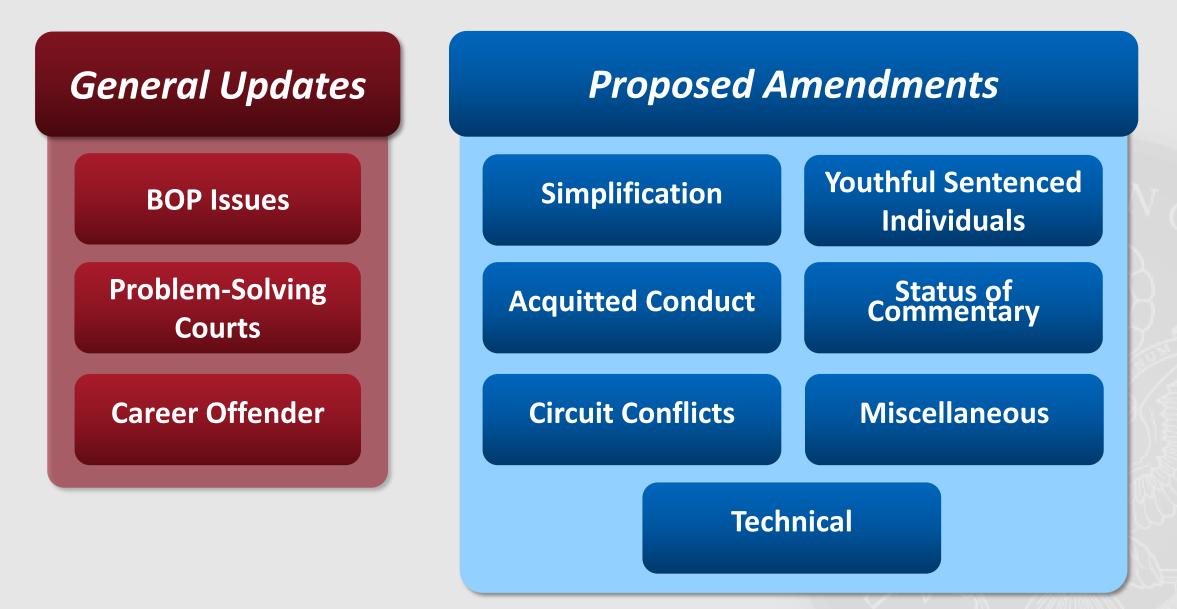
Acquitted Conduct

Relevant Conduct

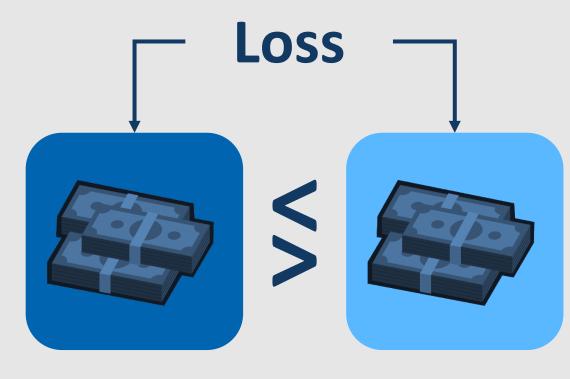


Acquitted Conduct

2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



Status of Commentary



Actual Loss

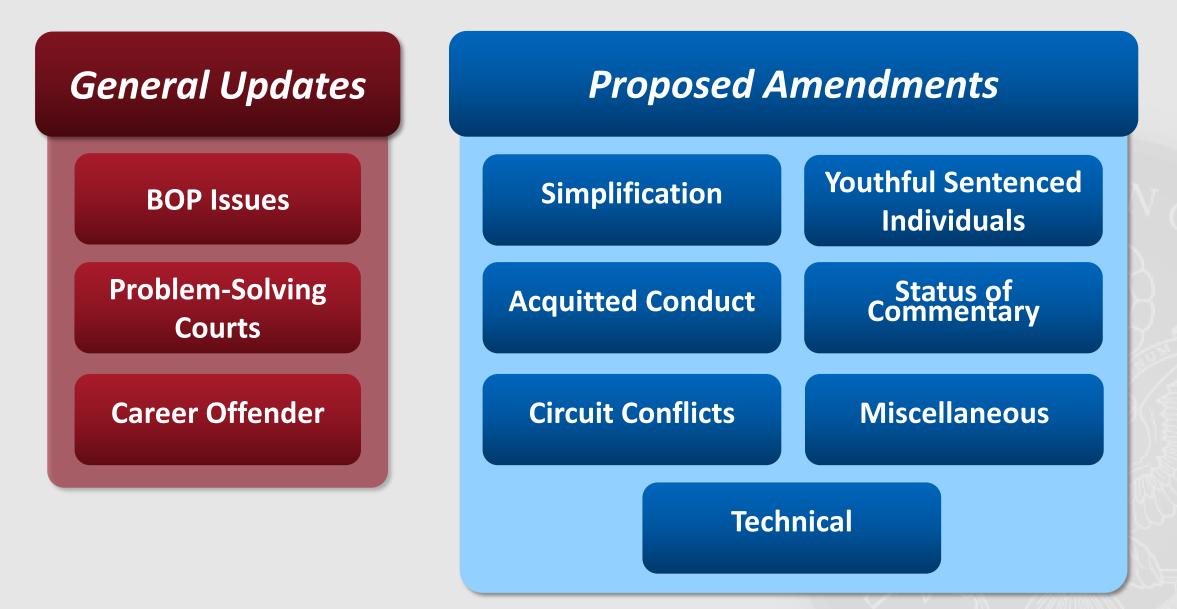
Intended Loss

Commentary

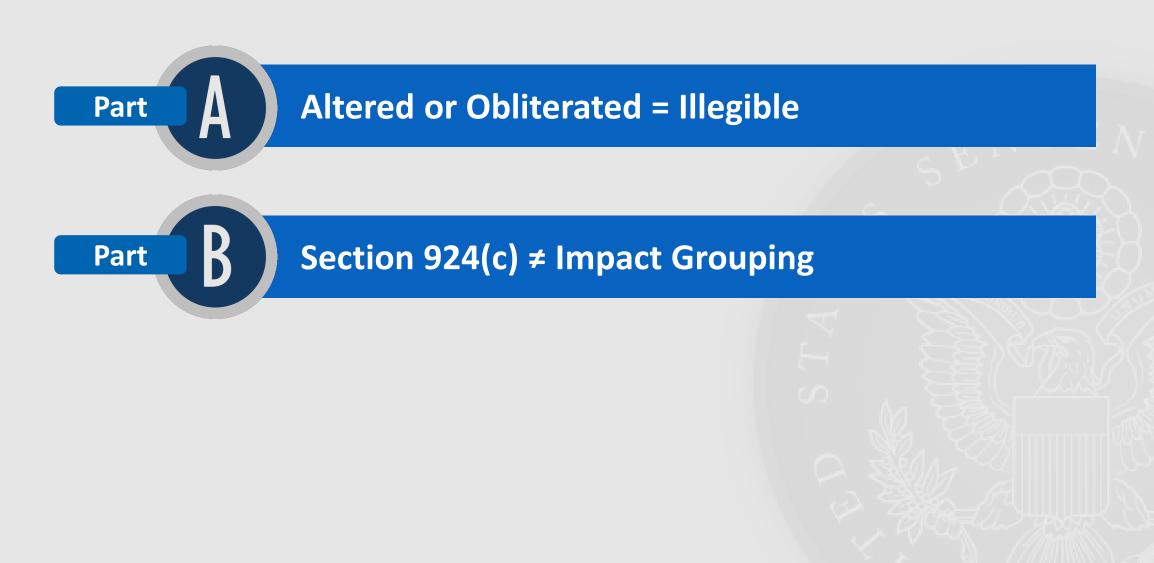
Actual vs. Intended (Use the Greater)

Guidelines

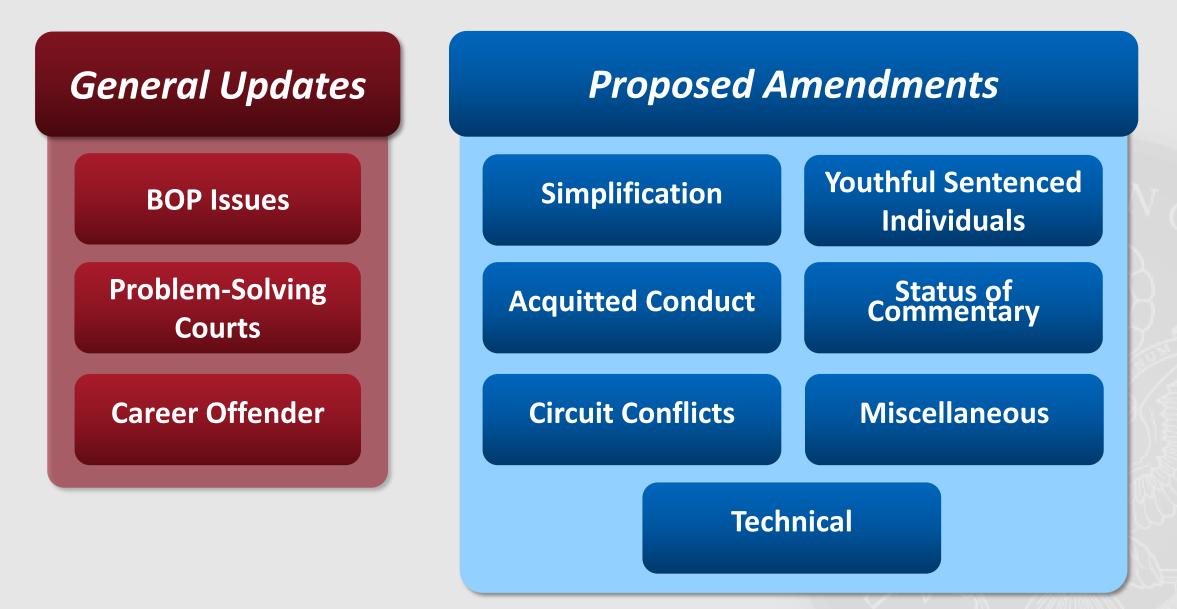
2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



Circuit Conflicts



2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



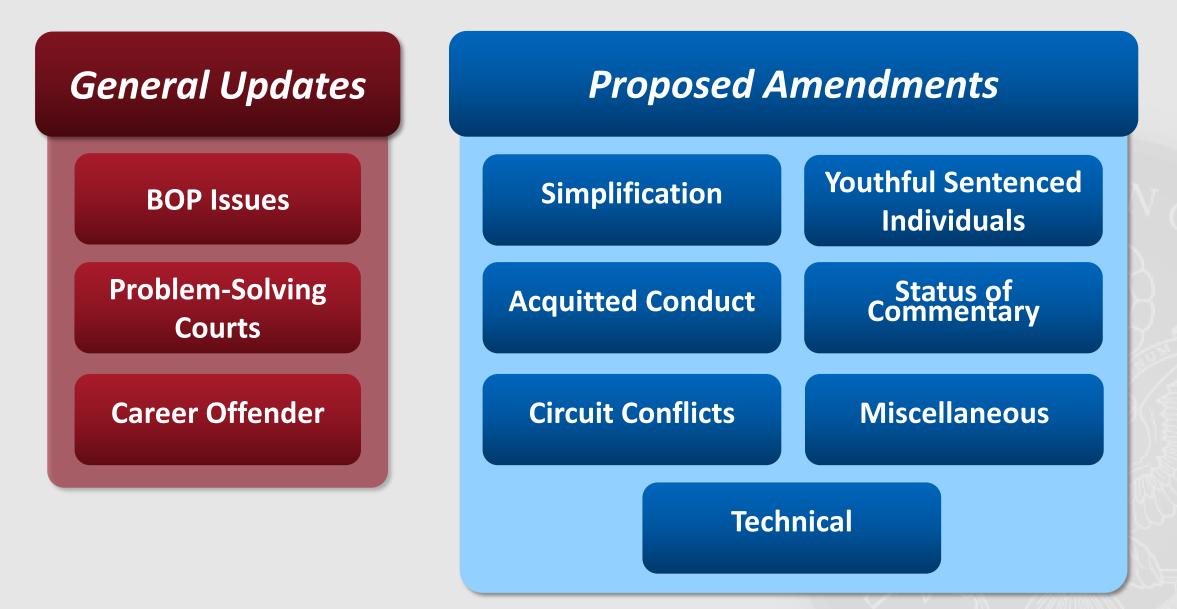
Miscellaneous

Section 2D1.1 (Base Offense Levels)

- 2

Section 4C1.1 (Add New Excluded Offenses)

2023–2024 Amendment Cycle



Technical

Technical Changes to §4C1.1

A

Retroactivity 28 U.S.C. § 994(u)

If the Commission reduces the term of imprisonment recommended in the guidelines, it shall specify whether the sentences may be retroactively reduced.

Retroactive Application of Amendments USSC Rule 4.1A of Practice and Procedure

At the same hearing, or soon thereafter, the Commission shall decide whether to:

- 1. Publish a Request for Comment on Retroactivity;
- 2. Perform Retroactivity Analysis;
- 3. Hold Public Hearing on Retroactivity; and
- 4. Schedule Vote on Retroactivity.

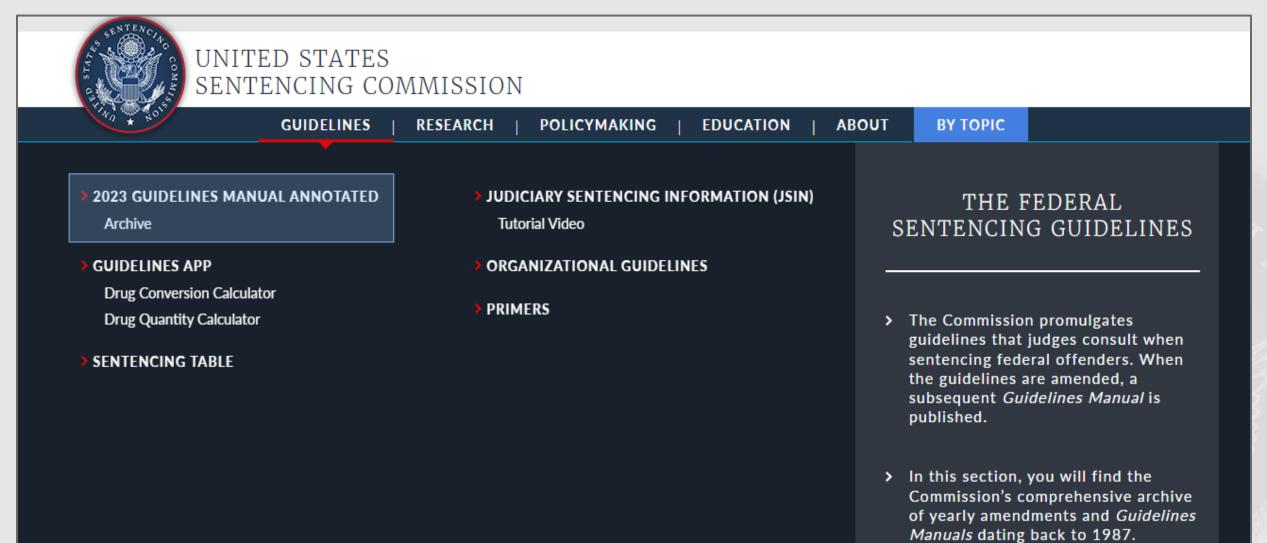
Possible Retroactive Amendments





Commission Resources

Guideline Resources



\$2B1.1 - LARCENY, EMBEZZLEMENT, AND OTHER FORMS OF THEFT; OFFENSES INVOLVING STOLEN PROPERTY; PROPERTY DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION; FRAUD AND DECEIT; FORGERY; OFFENSES INVOLVING ALTERED OR COUNTERFEIT INSTRUMENTS OTHER THAN COUNTERFEIT BEARER OBLIGATION OF THE UNITED STATES Effective November 1, 1987. Amended effective June 15, 1988 (Amendment 7

(a) Base Offense Level:

(1) 7, if (A) the defendant was convicted of an offense referenced to this guideline; and (B) that offense of conviction has a statutory maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years or more; or

(2) 6, otherwise.

(b) Specific Offense Characteristics

(1) If the loss exceeded \$6,500, increase the offense level as follows:

Loss (apply the greatest)	Increase in Level
(A) \$6,500 or less	no increase
(B) More than \$6,500	add 2
(C) More than \$15,000	

effective June 15, 1988 (Amendment 7); November 01, 1991 (Amendment 393); November 01, 1993 (Amendment 481); November 01, 1993 (Amendment 482); November 01, 1997 (Amendment 551); November 01, 2000 (Amendment 596); November 01, 2001 (Amendment 617); November 01, 2002 (Amendment 638); January 25, 2003 (Amendment 647); November 01, 2003 (Amendment 653); November 01, 2003 (Amendment 654); February 06, 2008 (Amendment 714); November 01, 2008 (Amendment 719); November 01, 2008 (Amendment 725); November 01, 2009 (Amendment 726); November 01, 2009 (Amendment 737); November 01, 2010 (Amendment 747); November 01, 2011 (Amendment 749); November 01, 2012 (Amendment 761); November 01, 2013 (Amendment 772): November 01, 2015 (Amendment 792)

ω

3. Loss Under Subsection (b)(1).—This application note applies to the determination of loss under subsection (b)(1).

(A) General Rule.—Subject to the exclusions in subdivision (D), loss is the greater of actual loss or intended loss.

(i) **Actual Loss.**—"**Actual loss**" means the reasonably foreseeable pecuniary harm that resulted from the offense.

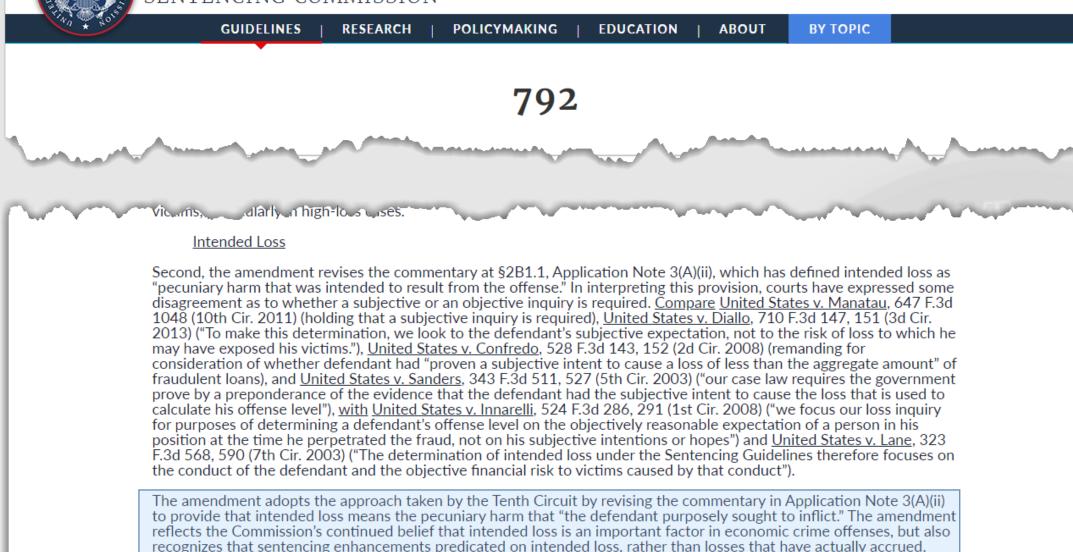
(ii) **Intended Loss.**—"**Intended loss**" (I) means the pecuniary harm that the defendant purposely sought to inflict; and (II) includes intended pecuniary harm that would have been impossible or unlikely to occur (*e.g.*, as in a government sting operation, or an insurance fraud in which the claim exceeded the insured value).

(iii) **Pecuniary Harm.**—"*Pecuniary harm*" means harm that is monetary or that otherwise is readily measurable in money. Accordingly, pecuniary harm does not include emotional distress, harm to reputation, or other non-economic harm.

(iv) **Reasonably Foreseeable Pecuniary Harm.**—For purposes of this guideline, "*reasonably foreseeable pecuniary harm*" means pecuniary harm that the defendant knew or, under the circumstances, reasonably should have known, was a potential result of the offense.

(v) **Rules of Construction in Certain Cases.**—In the cases described in subdivisions (I) through (III), reasonably foreseeable pecuniary harm shall be considered to include the pecuniary harm specified for those cases as follows:

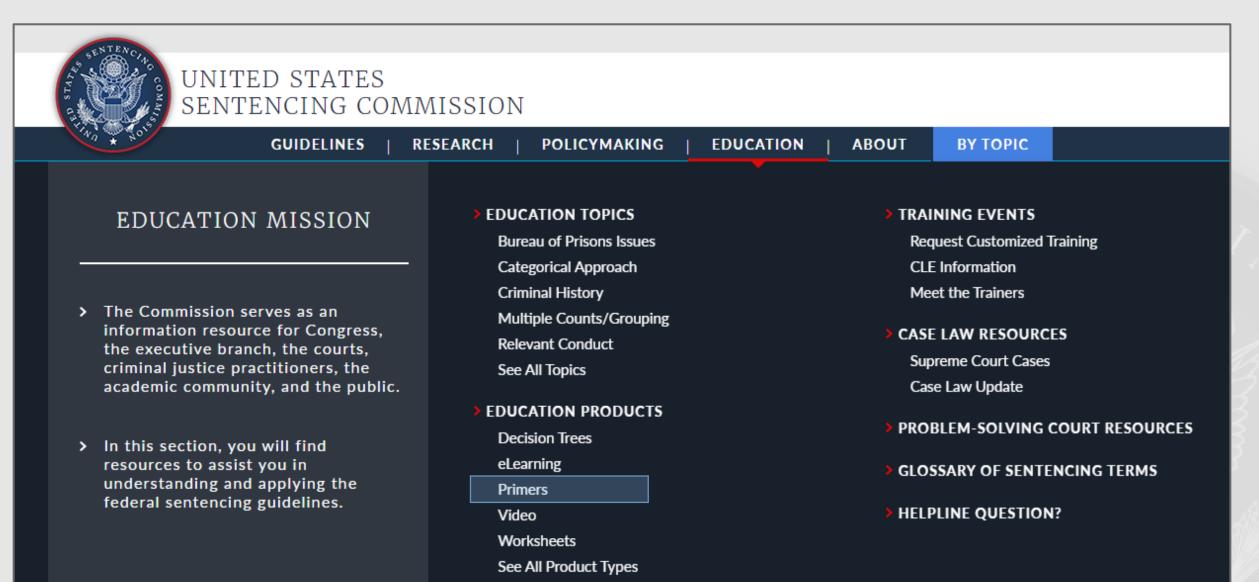
UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION



Sophisticated Means

should focus more specifically on the defendant's culpability.

Educational Resources



UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

Primer on Categorical Approach (2023)

a. "Force" or "elements" clauses

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A "force clause," sometimes referred to as an "elements clause," requires that the offense have an element of physical force against a person. For example, the ACCA defines a "violent felony" in part as a prior conviction that "has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of *physical force* against the person of another."²¹ Section 4B1.2(a)(1) likewise defines a "crime of violence" as a felony offense that "has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of *physical force* against the person of another."²²

In the context of the ACCA, the Supreme Court has held "physical force against another" means that the crime necessarily must involve violent force—that is, "force capable of causing physical pain or injury to another person."²³ In so holding, the Court rejected the common law definition of "force," which could be satisfied by even the slightest offensive touching, because it did not fit the context of the ACCA.²⁴ The Supreme Court has since further clarified that in the context of the ACCA, "force capable of causing pain or injury,' includes the amount of force necessary to overcome a victim's resistance."²⁵ However, the Court previously held that a "misdemeanor crime of domestic violence," as defined by a force clause in 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(33)(A) to include an offense that "has, as an element, the use or attempted use of physical force, or the threatened use of a deadly weapon," could be supported by "the degree of force that supports a common-law battery conviction."²⁶

In the context of 18 U.S.C. § 16(a), a statute providing that a "crime of violence" means an offense that has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person or property of another, the Supreme Court has held in *Leocal v. Ashcroft* that accidental or negligent conduct does not constitute the "use" of force in section 16(a).²⁷ The Court explained that the word "use" joined in context with the

offense" similarly); United States v. Woods, 576 F.3d 400, 403–04 (7th Cir. 2009) (because the language is identical in the ACCA's "violent felony" and §4B1.2's "crime of violence" definitions, "we therefore refer to the ACCA and the career offender provisions of the Guidelines interchangeably").

- ²¹ 18 U.S.C. § 924(e)(2)(B)(i) (emphasis added).
- ²² USSG §4B1.2(a)(1) (emphasis added).
- ²³ Johnson v. United States, 559 U.S. 133, 140 (2010).

²⁴ Id. at 139; see also id. at 141 ("It is significant, moreover, that the meaning of 'physical force' the Government would seek to import into this definition of 'violent felony' is a meaning derived from a commonlaw misdemeanor.").

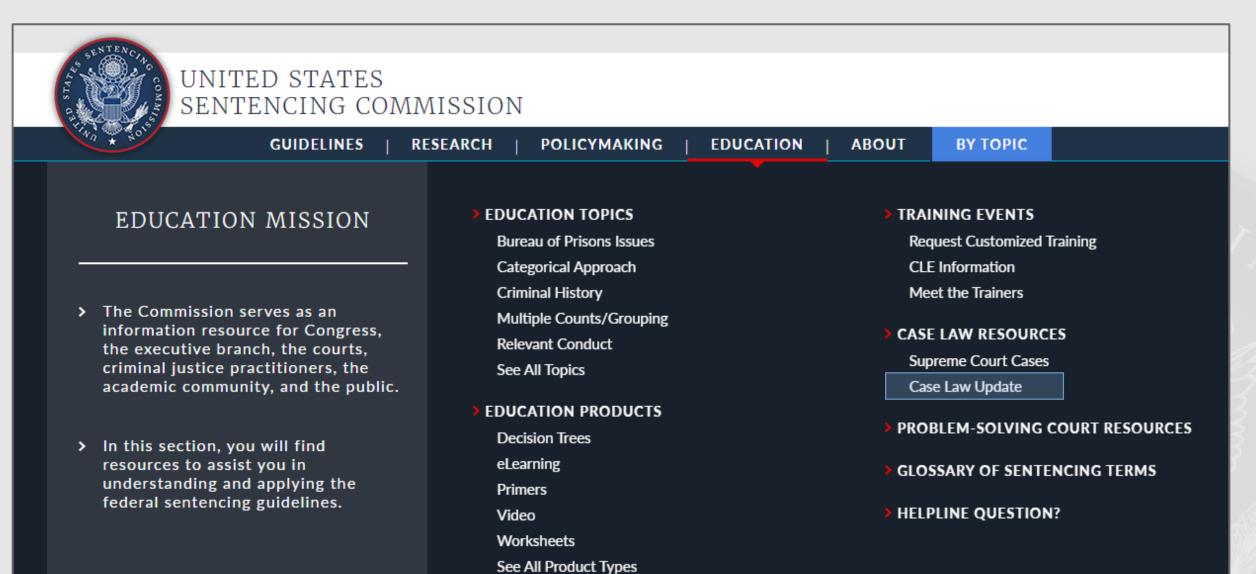
²⁵ Stokeling v. United States, 139 S. Ct. 544, 552, 554–55 (2019) ("force capable of causing physical pain or injury" in the force clause of the ACCA "does not require any particular degree of likelihood or probability that the force used will cause physical pain or injury; only potentiality" (citation omitted)); see also United States v. Alvarez, 60 F.4th 554, 564 (9th Cir. 2023) (discussing the definition of "capable" in Johnson and Stokeling); Johnson v. United States, 24 F.4th 1110, 1119 (7th Cir. 2022) (discussing the definition of "physical force" in Johnson and Stokeling).

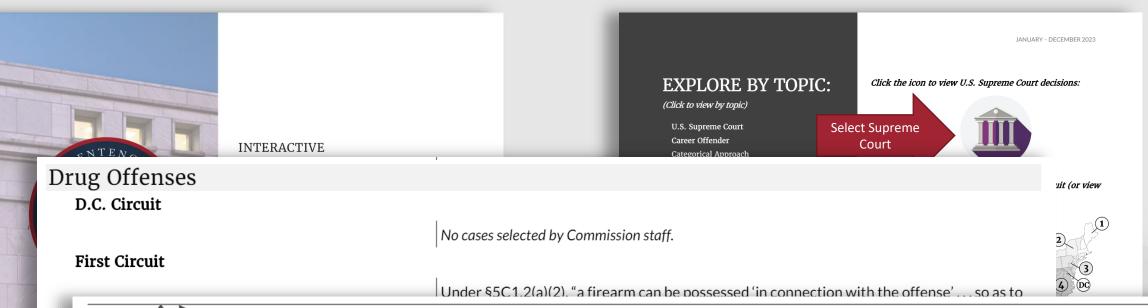
²⁶ United States v. Castleman, 572 U.S. 157, 168 (2014); 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(33)(A).

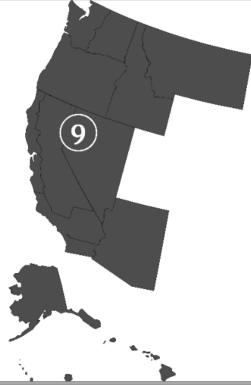
27 543 U.S. 1, 9 (2004).

GUIDELINES | RESEARCH | POLICYMAKING | EDUC/ Primers FILTERS X TOPIC About Us Alien Smuggling BACKGROUNDER **m** BACKGROUNDER Antitrust **Retroactive Guideline Amendments** Categorical. Backgrounder Categorical Approach PRIMER PRIMER Computer Fraud **NOVEMBER 2023** AUGUST 202 Copyright/Trademark This primer provides a general overview of the statute. This primer provi Corporate Crime policy statement, and case law applicable to motions for statutes, sentenci Criminal History application... a... Departures/Variances Pownload the PDE Download the PDF Drugs Economic Crime Family Ties and Responsibilities

Educational Resources

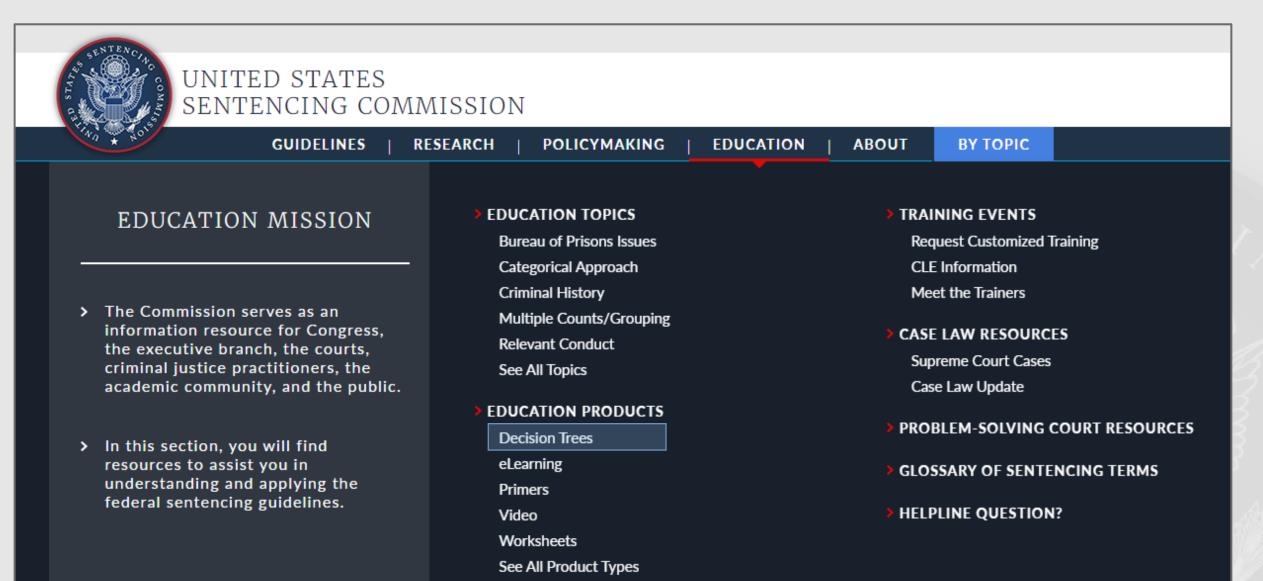


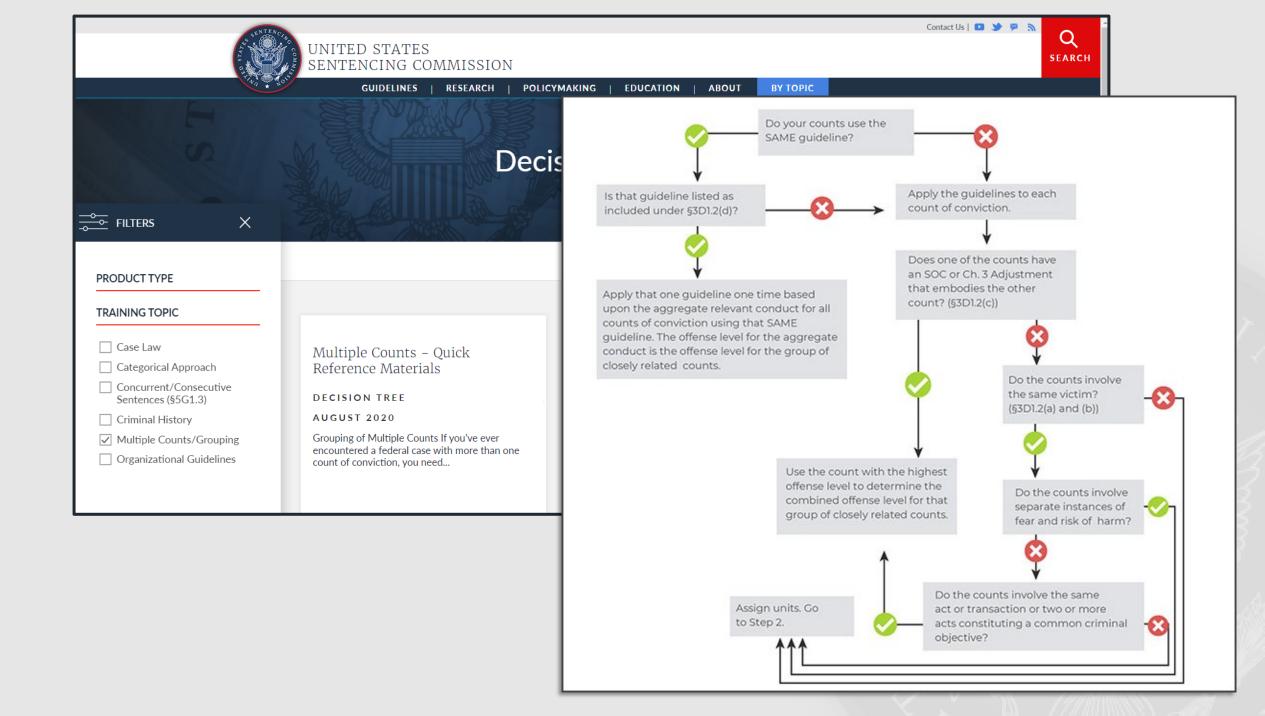




United States v. Castro, 71 F.4th 735 (9th Cir. 2023) (Career Offender) United States v. Castillo, 69 F.4th 648 (9th Cir. 2023) (Career Offender) United States v. Eckford, 77 F.4th 1228 (9th Cir. 2023) (Categorical Approach) United States v. Klensch, 87 F.4th 1159 (9th Cir. 2023) (Chapter Three Adjustments) United States v. Vinge, 85 F.4th 1285 (9th Cir. 2023) (Chapter Three Adjustments) United States v. Roper, 72 F.4th 1097 (9th Cir. 2023) (Chapter Three Adjustments) United States v. Roper, 72 F.4th 1097 (9th Cir. 2023) (Compassionate Release) United States v. Sadler, 77 F.4th 1237 (9th Cir. 2023) (Criminal History) United States v. Alaniz, 69 F.4th 1124 (9th Cir. 2023) (Drug Offenses) United States v. Salazar, 61 F.4th 723 (9th Cir. 2023) (Drug Offenses) United States v. Salazar, 61 F.4th 723 (9th Cir. 2023) (Firearms) United States v. Lopez, 58 F.4th 1108 (9th Cir. 2023) (Firearms) United States v. Dadyan, 76 F.4th 955 (9th Cir. 2023) (Restitution) United States v. Scott, 83 F.4th 796 (9th Cir. 2023) (Sex Offenses) United States v. Scheu, 83 F.4th 1124 (9th Cir. 2023) (Sex Offenses)

Educational Resources





Research

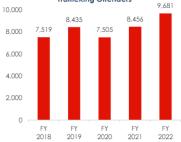
Quick Facts 🖮 🖄

- Methamphetamine Trafficking Offenses -

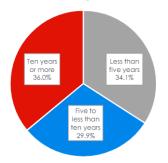
Fiscal Year 2022

- ▶ IN FY 2022, 64,142 CASES WERE REPORTED TO THE U. S. SENTENCING COMMISSION.
- 20.037 CASES INVOLVED DRUGS 1
- ▶ 19.851 INVOLVED DRUG TRAFFICKING.²
- 48.8% OF DRUG TRAFFICKING CASES INVOLVED METHAMPHETAMINE.
- METHAMPHETAMINE TRAFFICKING OFFENSES HAVE INCREASED BY 28.8% SINCE FY 2018.

Number of Methamphetamine **Trafficking Offenders**



Sentence Length FY 2022



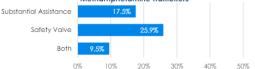
Offender and Offense Characteristics³

- 78.1% of methamphetamine trafficking offenders were men.
- 39.8% were Hispanic, 38.2% were White, 17.9% were Black, and 4.1% were Other races.
- Their average age was 38 years.
- 87.6% were United States citizens
- 34.8% had little or no prior criminal history (Criminal History) Category I); 5.8% were career offenders (§4B1.1).
- The median base offense level in these cases was 32, corresponding to between 1.5 and five kilograms of methamphetamine mixture or 150 and 500 arams of methamphetamine actual/"ICE."
- Sentences were increased for:
- possessing a weapon (28.6%);
- a leadership or supervisory role in the offense (5.0%).
- Sentences were decreased for:
 - minor or minimal participation in the offense (22.2%);
 - meeting the safety valve criteria in the sentencing guidelines (34.2%).
- The top five districts for methamphetamine trafficking offenders were[.]
 - Southern District of California (1,264);
 - Northern District of Texas (489);
 - Western District of Texas (487); Southern District of Texas (388)
 - Eastern District of Tennessee (267)

Punishment

- The average sentence for methamphetamine trafficking offenders was 95 months.
- 98.2% were sentenced to prison.
- 73.3% were convicted of an offense carrying a mandatory minimum penalty; of those offenders, 52.9% were relieved of that penalty.





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2022 SOURCEBOOK Archive

DATA REPORTS By Geography By Guideline By Quarter Prison Impact Reports

Retroactivity Reports

DATAFILES

INTERACTIVE DATA Tutorial Videos

RESEARCH REPORTS Reports At A Glance **Reports To Congress**

RESEARCH

Drugs

Offender Groups

Drug Trafficking (May 2023)

• Career Offenders (July 2023)

Non-U.S. Citizens (July 2023)

- Methamphetamine Trafficking (June 2023)
- Powder Cocaine Trafficking (July 2023)

Quick Facts publications give readers basic facts

Commission releases new Quick Facts periodical

Offenders in the Federal Bureau of Prisons

Women in the Federal Offender Population

• Native Americans in the Federal Offender

- Crack Cocaine Trafficking (June 2023)
- Fentanyl Trafficking (May 2023)
- Fentanyl Analogue Trafficking (May 2023)
- Heroin Trafficking (July 2023)
- Marijuana Trafficking (July 2023)
- Oxycodone Trafficking (July 2023)

Compassionate Release

UNITED STATES

SENTENCING COMMISSION

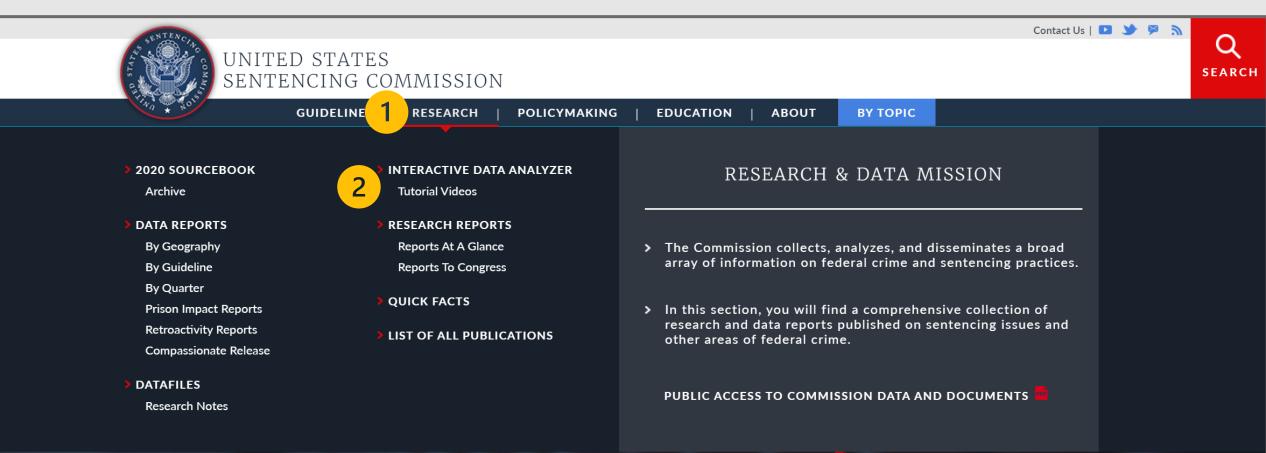
GUIDELINES

Research Notes

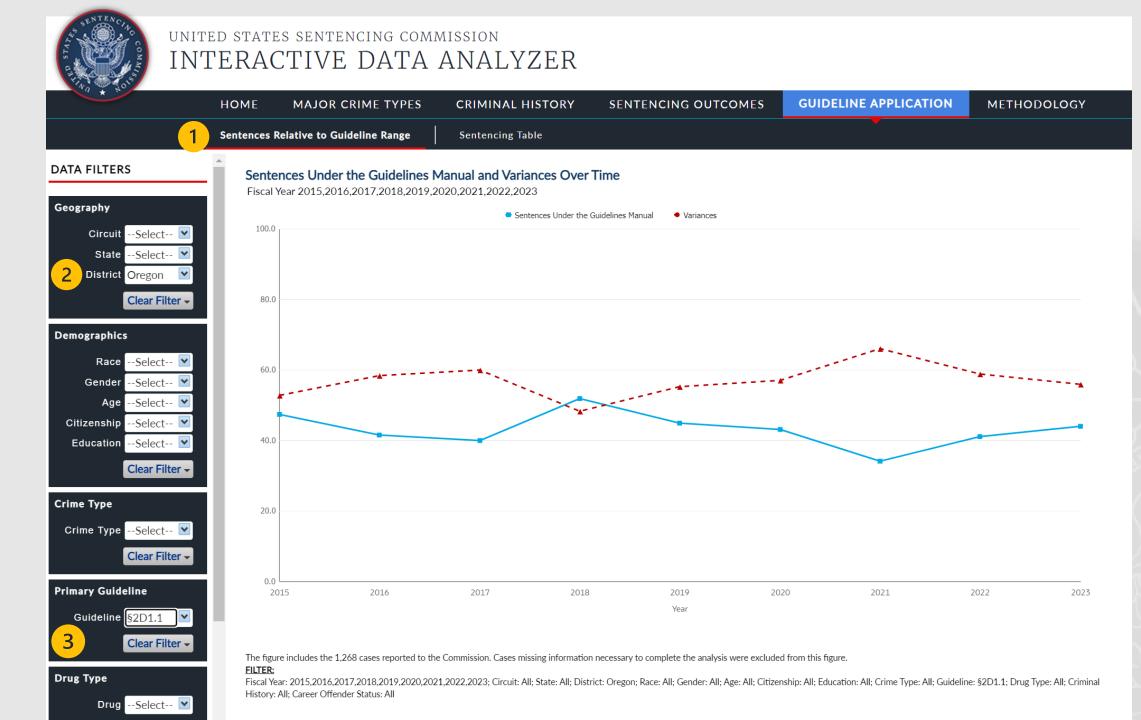
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LIST OF ALL PUBLICA

Interactive Data Analyzer (IDA)



PUBLIC ACCESS TO COMMISSION DATA AND DOCUMENTS



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