

#### THE J.S. Sentencing commission's

# Commission is an independent agency in the government, organized in 1985 to develop a

The United States Sentencing Commission is an independent agency in the judicial branch of the federal government, organized in 1985 to develop a national sentencing policy for the federal courts. The resulting sentencing guidelines provide structure for the courts' sentencing discretion to help ensure that similar offenders who commit similar offenses receive similar sentences.

## CYCLE

#### MAY

**End of Amendment Cycle** 

No later than May 1st, deliver final amendments to Congress.

Amendments are effective on November 1st unless Congress affirmatively disapproves of the amendments.

#### JUNE

Start of Amendment Cycle

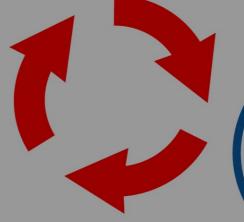
Publish proposed priorities and set a period of notice and public comment.

#### **AUGUST**

**Publish Final Priorities** 

#### **APRIL**

Vote to Promulgate Final Amendments



## SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER

Research, Review

Work with stakeholders, conduct data analyses, review research, hold public briefings if appropriate.

## FEBRUARY & MARCH

Review, Revise

Review comments and hold public hearings.

#### **JANUARY**

Publish Proposed Amendments

Set period of notice and public comment.