

LAW OFFICE OF DAWN E. WORSLEY

August 5, 2007

United States Sentencing Commission
One Columbus Cir. NE
Suite 2-500, South Lobby
Washington, DC 20002-8002
Attention: Public Affairs-Retroactivity Public Comment

RE: Request for Comment on Retroactivity of amendments to crack guidelines

VIA US MAIL

To Whom It May Concern:

I am responding to the request for public comment on whether the amendments to the crack guidelines should be retroactive. I am a criminal defense attorney and have witnessed unjust sentences meted out to defendants who were convicted of crack offenses. Instead of providing drug rehabs, our federal system throws addicts in jail and leaves them there.

These sentences have wreaked havoc on our entire country. Incarcerating non-violent drug offenders has hurt defendants, their friends, and their families. It has also crippled our citizens. The tax burden on our citizens is heavy. However, we have very little to show for our taxes. Many people cannot afford health care and our schools are underfunded. Unfortunately, our government has chosen to spend more money on jails than on education and medicine.

This country needs immediate relief. So do the non-violent drug offenders and their loved ones. We need to start paying for health care and education. We would get a better return on our money if this country treated drug addicts instead of locking them up for years. For those reasons, these crack amendments and any future crack amendments should be retroactive.

It is true that making the crack amendments retroactive will increase the workload of federal judges. However, it is possible to streamline the process. I suggest that a sentence reduction form be created. An inmate could fill out the form and send it to the sentencing court. A judge could then either sign the form and amend the sentence, or schedule a hearing.

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I am willing to help create the form. I am also willing to volunteer to go to the two federal prisons in my area (Fort Devens and Danbury) and help inmates fill out forms. Please contact me if you would like to discuss this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dawn Worsley". The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Dawn E. Worsley, Esq.

From: "Dawn E. Worsley, Esq" <dworsleylaw@gmail.com>
To: <pubaffairs@ussc.gov>
Date: Sat, Jul 21, 2007 5:18 AM
Subject: Amendments to Crack Cocaine guidelines

I am a criminal defense attorney and have first hand knowledge of the unjust sentences associated with crack cocaine. I am pleased that there is an amendment pending that would begin to decrease crack cocaine sentences and that the Commission hopes to decrease these sentences even more in the future. I hope that this amendment and all future amendments are retroactive. There are wasted lives sitting in prison. These people and their families need relief. It is not good enough to help people who have not been sentenced yet.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this.

Sincerely,
Dawn E. Worsley, Esq.

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