

United States Sentencing Commission
One Columbus Circle, N.E.
Suite 2-500, South Lobby
Washington, DC 20002
Attention: Public Affairs – Priorities Comments

Dear Sir or Madam,

Regarding your document numbered BAC2210-40 I would like to submit comments as part of the public opinion regarding the United States Sentencing Commission's priorities numbered 3 (mandatory minimums) and 5 (child pornography offences) for fiscal year ending May 2012.

Pertaining to priority # 3 mandatory minimums, please continue your review of federal sentencing practices since United States v. Booker. There are so many inconsistencies since these guidelines were made advisable from different Federal judges throughout the country. How can something that was declared unconstitutional still be used by judges sentencing offenders? Is it fair that one judge in a specific district use the guidelines while another judge in a different district court doesn't? Consider U.S. v. Justin Birdsall this individual was sentenced to 5 years probation for possessing over 600 images of child pornography yet in U. S. v. Marc Vadnais he was sentenced to 240 months for one count of receipt of child pornography and a life term of supervised release as a sex offender. Many lives have suffered greatly with ridiculous sentences that do not fit the crime. I urge you to publish your report and consider sending amendments to Congress so no one else is sentenced unfairly.

In regards to priority # 5 child pornography offenses I urge you to complete your report to Congress and make recommendations to Congress for statutory changes for these offences. Our prisons are overcrowded costing Americans large amount of tax dollars. Is it really lowering child pornography crimes? These cases are so unfairly sentenced throughout the country and there are so many inconsistencies between those offenders who attempt to contact children on the internet for sex versus someone viewing child pornography on their computers. Take for example U.S. v Dave Dean this case was described as "most egregious and horrific" in that district court and yet Dean was sentenced to 15 years in prison including a life term of supervised release. Dean participated in an international child pornography ring and received that sentence while in the case U.S. v. Marc Vadnais above the individual downloaded files using Lime Wire a peer-to-peer file sharing software which opened his computer to the internet for others to see. You would think the person organizing a ring would get a tougher sentence? That clearly is not happening.

I urge you to take action on the above initiatives for possible priority policy issues for the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2012.

Thank you,



Karen Parker