

Table 25A

**REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS FOR DOWNWARD
DEPARTURES WITH *BOOKER*/18 U.S.C. § 3553¹
Fiscal Year 2013**

REASONS	N	%
Criminal history issues	479	13.1
Avoid unwarranted sentencing disparity among defendants	223	6.1
General mitigating circumstances (§5K2.0)	146	4.0
Insufficient documentation provided on SOR to determine reason	144	3.9
Provide restitution to any victims	133	3.6
Family ties and responsibilities (§5H1.6)	126	3.4
Physical condition (§5H1.4)	124	3.4
Remorse	119	3.3
Protect public from further crimes	116	3.2
Military record/charitable works/good deeds (§5H1.11)	97	2.7
Age (§5H1.1)	89	2.4
Rehabilitation	85	2.3
Low likelihood of recidivism/not a risk to community	85	2.3
Provide defendant with educational or vocational training/medical care	79	2.2
Cooperation without motion (not §5K1.1)	77	2.1
Nature and circumstance of offense/history of defendant	74	2.0
Lack of youthful guidance/tragic or troubled childhood	70	1.9
Letters of support - unspecified from whom	67	1.8
Afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct	65	1.8
18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)	63	1.7
Mental and emotional conditions (§5H1.3)	59	1.6
Conduct on release/bond/supervision	56	1.5
Party motion/agreement/consent (reason unspecified)	54	1.5
Previous employment record (§5H1.5)	45	1.2
Time served/U.S. v. Barrera-Saucedo	45	1.2
Reduce disparity	44	1.2
General guideline adequacy issues	43	1.2
Aberrant behavior (§5K2.20)	39	1.1
Not representative of the heartland	36	1.0
Role in the offense	32	0.9
Child abuse syndrome	32	0.9
Defendant participated in psychosexual assessment	30	0.8
Other	681	18.6
TOTAL	3,657	100.0

¹ Of the 80,035 cases, 694 received a downward departure from the guideline range with *Booker*/18 U.S.C § 3553. Courts may cite multiple reasons for sentencing outside the guideline range; consequently, the total number of reasons cited generally exceeds the total number of cases. In this table, 3,657 reasons were cited for the 694 cases. In 144 cases where the SOR was received, there was insufficient documentation provided to determine some of the reasons for the sentence. The "Other" category includes all reasons cited fewer than 30 times among relevant cases. Descriptions of the variables used in this table are provided in Appendix A.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2013 Datafile, USSCFY13.