

**Table 25A**

**REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS FOR DOWNWARD  
DEPARTURES WITH *BOOKER* /18 U.S.C. § 3553<sup>1</sup>  
Fiscal Year 2014**

<b>REASONS</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Nature and circumstance of offense/history of defendant	517	13.2
Criminal history issues	458	11.7
Reflect seriousness of offense/promotes respect for law/just punishment	308	7.9
Afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct	240	6.1
General mitigating circumstances (§5K2.0)	172	4.4
Family ties and responsibilities (§5H1.6)	168	4.3
Protect public from further crimes	165	4.2
Avoid unwarranted sentencing disparity among defendants	165	4.2
Early implementation of Amendment 782 to drug guidelines	141	3.6
Insufficient documentation provided on SOR to determine reason	100	2.6
Age (§5H1.1)	96	2.4
Physical condition (§5H1.4)	90	2.3
18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)	90	2.3
Provide defendant with educational or vocational training/medical care	82	2.1
Mental and emotional conditions (§5H1.3)	81	2.1
Previous employment record (§5H1.5)	73	1.9
Party motion/agreement/consent (reason unspecified)	73	1.9
Role in the offense	52	1.3
Rehabilitation	44	1.1
Provide restitution to any victims	43	1.1
Low likelihood of recidivism/not a risk to community	39	1.0
Aberrant behavior (§5K2.20)	34	0.9
Lack of youthful guidance/tragic or troubled childhood	34	0.9
Military record/charitable works/good deeds (§5H1.11)	31	0.8
General guideline adequacy issues	28	0.7
Drug dependence/alcohol abuse (§5H1.4)	27	0.7
Educational and vocational skills (§5H1.2)	26	0.7
Remorse	26	0.7
Cultural assimilation	23	0.6
Nonviolent offense/offender	22	0.6
Reduce disparity	22	0.6
Cooperation without motion (not §5K1.1)	22	0.6
Conduct on release/bond/supervision	21	0.5
Other	406	10.4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,919</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> Of the 75,836 cases, 807 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, 3,919 reasons were cited for the 807 cases. In 100 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 21 times among relevant cases. Descriptions of the variables used in this table are provided in Appendix A.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2014 Datafile, USSCFY14.