

Table 24A

**REASONS GIVEN BY SENTENCING COURTS FOR UPWARD
DEPARTURES WITH *BOOKER* /18 U.S.C. § 3553¹
Fiscal Year 2017**

REASONS	N	%
Criminal history issues	140	19.4
Reflect seriousness of offense/promotes respect for law/just punishment	64	8.9
Afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct	61	8.5
Protect public from further crimes	56	7.8
The nature and circumstance of the offense pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1)	55	7.6
The history and characteristics of the defendant pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(1)	51	7.1
General aggravating circumstances (§5K2.0)	32	4.4
Dismissed and uncharged conduct (§5K2.21)	20	2.8
Extreme conduct (§5K2.8)	18	2.5
Insufficient documentation provided on SOR to determine reason	16	2.2
Victim impact	14	1.9
Avoid unwarranted sentencing disparity	13	1.8
Physical injury (§5K2.2)	12	1.7
Propensity for violence	12	1.7
General guideline adequacy issues	11	1.5
Death (§5K2.1)	10	1.4
Weapons/dangerous instrumentalities (§5K2.6)	8	1.1
Drug dependence and alcohol abuse (§5H1.4)	7	1.0
Pursuant to plea agreement	7	1.0
Role in the offense	7	1.0
Circumstance not considered by guidelines	6	0.8
Deterrence	6	0.8
Conduct while on release, bond, or supervision	5	0.7
18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)	5	0.7
Violent street gang (§5K2.18)	4	0.6
Sufficient punishment	4	0.6
Excerpt from 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)	4	0.6
Criminal history issues in application of §2L1.2	4	0.6
Mental and emotional conditions	4	0.6
Other	65	9.0
TOTAL	721	100.0

¹ Of the 66,873 cases, 104 received an upward 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, 721 reasons were cited for the 104 cases. In 16 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 four times among relevant cases. Descriptions of the variables used in this table are provided in Appendix A.

SOURCE: U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2017 Datafile, USSCFY17.