

# THE RAP SHEET

A Resources Bulletin for CJA Panel Members in the Western District of Pennsylvania

## Orientation Program Held for Reconstructed Panel in Pittsburgh Division

The District Court reconstituted the Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel in the Pittsburgh Division last Fall. The new Panel was implemented October 27, 1997.

The Federal Public Defender held an Orientation Program for the new Panel October 24, 1997. Chief Judge Donald Ziegler and Chief Magistrate Judge Kenneth Benson addressed the members, as did representatives of the Clerk of Courts' Finance Office and the Federal Defender Office. Materials distributed at the Orientation included a handout of general CJA Guidelines and Information, and a voucher packet from the Finance Section. Copies of the handouts are included with this Bulletin for Panel Members who did *not* attend the Orientation. *Please complete the "Attorney Profile" included in the Orientation Handout and return to the FPD Office by fax or mail.*

### Third Circuit Case Summaries

Enclosed is a Summary of Third Circuit Opinions on Criminal Law published since March 19, 1996.

### "My Little Red Rules Book"

The Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho have printed the updated 1998 Edition of "My Little Red Rules Book." The Federal Public Defender Office purchased a book for each CJA Panel Member in the District. One is enclosed for you. The book is a handy compilation of the most frequently used Rules, Amendments to the Constitution, parts of the Bail Reform Act, the Jencks Act, the drug quantity table and the USSG Sentencing Table.

Additional copies are available for \$5 each, while supplies last. Ordering instructions can be found inside the book.

### 1998 DFCC and Guideline Grapevine Compilation Available

The 1998 Edition of Defending a Federal Criminal Case (also referred to as the "San Diego Manual") is currently being printed. The Manual is published by the Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. The 1998 edition is an extremely valuable tool for anyone who represents defendants in federal criminal cases. The 1998 edition contains information on the

Anti-Terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act.

The Guideline Grapevine is published periodically by the Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho. This office forwards each issue to panel attorneys. A consolidation of Issues 70-101 is now available for purchase from the Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho. Enclosed is an order form to order both Defending a Federal Criminal Case and the Guideline Grapevine (consolidation of Issues 70-101). Those publications must be purchased *as a set, at a cost of* \$105, shipping and handling included. A limited number of sets are available.

Also enclosed is a Memorandum from the Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc., stating that they are awaiting a decision from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts (AO) as to whether CJA Panel Attorneys are entitled to a complimentary set of these books. If you elect to purchase a set using the enclosed order form, and the AO agrees to provide a complimentary set to each panel attorney, be aware that NO REFUNDS will be given on the purchased set. You should also be aware that there are a limited number of sets and if you wait to purchase one until the AO decides, it is possible that no copies will be available.

You will be notified of the decision of the AO as to complimentary copies as soon as we receive word.

## **Guideline Grapevine, Issues 102 & 103**

Included with this mailing are Issues 102 & 103 of the Guideline Grapevine.

## **Diskette of Motions and Briefs**

A limited number of diskettes containing sample motions and briefs are available at no charge from the Pittsburgh Federal Defender Office. The diskettes were distributed at the 1995 and early 1996 Regional Panel Attorney Training Seminars, the last of which was held in Houston.

The 3.5" diskette is in WordPerfect 5.1 format. If you are interested in obtaining a diskette, *please contact Janey Sarniak, Administrative Assistant, at 412/644-6565*. Supplies are limited; if you have attended a regional Panel Attorney Training Program sponsored by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, and have previously received this diskette, please do not request another.

## **Sentence Enhancement Provisions and Sentence Reducers**

An Assistant Federal Public Defender in East St. Louis recently created two charts, "Sentence Enhancement Provisions" and "Sentence Reducers." Copies are enclosed.

The "cheat sheet" can be folded and tucked into your Guideline book for easy reference.

The Sentence Enhancement Chart gives statutory authority and other information on Doubling Mandatory Minimums, Career Offender, Armed Career Criminal and Three Strikes provisions.

The Sentence Reducers Chart lists the Safety Valve, Boot Camp, Drug Rehabilitation, USSG 5K1.1, Rule 35, Good Time Allowances and Halfway House possibilities.

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