
The Rap Sheet

Issue No. 4

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NEWSLETTER TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT PANEL OF THE UNITED STATES
DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

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I. THE DEFENDER'S ADVOCATE

Enclosed is the Inaugural Issue of *The Defender's Advocate*, the newsletter of the Federal Defender Training Group. The Federal Public Defender's Office will send you all future issues.

II. GUIDELINE GRAPEVINE PUBLICATION DISCONTINUED

Now that the Federal Sentencing Guidelines are nearly twelve years old, the number of court decisions interpreting them has decreased, and the number of resources reporting those cases have increased. As a result, the editors of the *Guideline Grapevine* have decided to discontinue it. Enclosed is a Memorandum (without the attachments) to all *Grapevine* recipients advising you of alternate available resources, including internet sources.

We want to thank the Editors of the *Grapevine* for their efforts and dedication to educating the criminal defense bar during infancy of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, when that education and guidance was most needed.

III. CORRECTIONS TO SENTENCING GUIDELINES MANUAL

The U.S. Sentencing Commission recently discovered an error in the Chemical Quantity Table of § 2D1.11 in the Guidelines Manual. Please see the enclosed memo.

IV. MILEAGE RATE DECREASE

The General Services Administration has announced a *decrease* in the mileage rate payable to federal employees, panel attorneys, and their experts. The rate will decrease from 32.5 cents to 31 cents, *effective April 1, 1999*. Please notify any expert whose services are pending, or has been contracted.

Enclosures:

The Defender's Advocate Newsletter
Memorandum from *Guideline Grapevine* Editors
Memorandum from U.S. Sentencing Commission

FEDERAL DEFENDERS OF EASTERN WASHINGTON AND IDAHO

Spokane, Washington

TO: Grapevine Subscribers
FROM: Judy Clarke/Gerald Smith
DATE: March 22, 1999
RE: Guideline Case Resources

As you know, the last issue of the "Guideline Grapevine" was published in September 1998. For the past two years we had only summarized significant cases, and began to see a decline in those cases. In addition, there are other readily available sources of guideline caselaw summaries, listed below. We recommend that you consider one or more of these sources of information, and also, if you are a CJA Panel Attorney, to take advantage of the resources of the Federal Defender Training Group in Washington, D.C.

1. The Federal Judicial Center publishes the "Guideline Sentencing Update" and "Guideline Sentencing: An "Outline of Appellate Case Law on Selected Issues." The "Update" is published about 5 times a year, in newsletter format. A recent copy is enclosed. The "Outline" is a compilation of the "Update" issues, and is published about twice yearly. Both of these publications are available **free** on the Internet at <http://www.fjc.gov>.

2. James Publishing Company in Santa Ana, California publishes the "Federal Sentencing Guide", a complete digest service giving quick access to every federal sentencing guideline case published since the guidelines became effective. It includes three hard bound volumes, a twice annual cumulative supplement and biweekly newsletters, indexed bimonthly, in a 3 ring binder. A recent copy of the biweekly newsletter is enclosed. You can order on line, <http://www.jamespublishing.com>, or by calling 1-800-440-4780. The yearly subscription price is approximately \$269.00.

3. The United States Sentencing Commission can also be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.ussc.gov>. The Commission has a number of available publications.

4. If you are a CJA Panel Attorney, the Federal Defender Training Group in Washington, D.C. is available to assist you with guideline questions, as well as general issues facing you as a panel attorney in federal court. The FDTG can be reached at 800-788-9908, fax 202-628-4094. The Director of the Group is Barbara O'Connor, email address- Barbara.O'Connor@fd.org. Other attorneys on staff are Carmen Hernandez, Carmen.Hernandez@fd.org; Tom Hutchison, Tom.Hutchison@fd.org; Mary Kennedy, Mary.Kennedy@fd.org; and Fran Pratt, Fran.Pratt@fd.org. Linda McGrew, Linda.McGrew@fd.org is the Capital Litigation Training Coordinator.

5. Finally, please feel free to call one of us if we can assist you with a guideline issue.

enclosure (*Enclosures omitted in Rap Sheet 4 mailing*)