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[Mn.gov/sentencing-guidelines](http://Mn.gov/sentencing-guidelines)

**AT A GLANCE**

- The Sentencing Commission is an 11 member body comprised of representatives from the criminal justice community.
- Members are appointed by the Governor and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
- The Commission serves criminal justice practitioners, both public and private, throughout the 87 Minnesota counties.

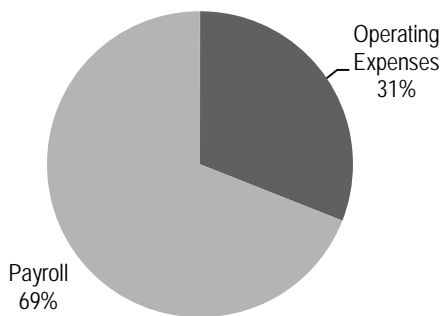
**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission is to establish rational and consistent sentencing standards that enhance public safety for the citizens of Minnesota by:

- reducing sentencing disparity;
- ensuring that the sanctions imposed for felony convictions are proportional to the severity of the offense and the offender’s criminal history; and
- creating policies that support the appropriate use of finite correctional resources.

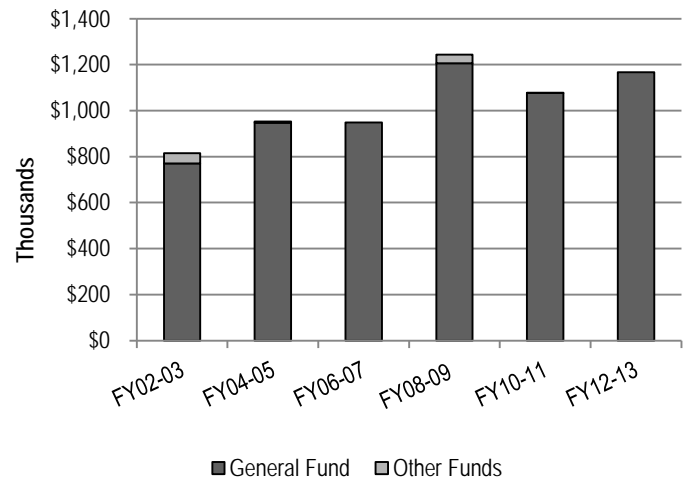
**BUDGET**

Spending by Program  
FY 14 Actual



Source: SWIFT

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines is funded through the General Fund at 100%. Our payroll budget consists of one (1) Executive Director, three (3) Research Analysts, and one (1) Management Analyst. Operating expenses include leased space, technology and maintenance costs, and education delivery costs.

**STRATEGIES**

The Commission utilizes the following strategies to accomplish its mission.

- The Commission maintains a comprehensive and accurate database on felony sentences.
- The Commission publishes reports on sentencing practices and related criminal justice issues. These reports aid policymakers, criminal justice officials, and the public in assessing felony sentencing policy and proposed legislation.
- Legislation directs that a sentencing worksheet be completed for every felony that will be sentenced. Commission staff reviews each worksheet to determine the appropriate application of the Guidelines.
- The Commission provides in-person and web-based educational opportunities to assist practitioners in understanding the correct application of the Guidelines policies.
- As needed, the Commission responds to changes in case law, legislation, and issues raised by interested parties.
- Annually, the Commission works with the Department of Corrections to generate prison bed projections.
- Commission members and staff serve on committees and task forces to further the goals of the criminal justice system.

## RESULTS

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Number of electronic Sentencing Worksheets reviewed by staff. <sup>1</sup>	18,192	18,236	2012-2013
Quantity	Data Request from practitioners, media, and the public. <sup>2</sup>	100	100	2012-2013
Quality	Percentage of felony offenses given the recommend Guidelines sentence. <sup>3</sup>	73.5%	72%	2011-2012
Results	Timely completion of fiscal impact statements (fiscal notes). <sup>4</sup>	100% (24) <sup>5</sup>	100% (42)	2013-2014

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The enabling statute for the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission is Minn. Stat. § 244.09  
<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=244.09>

<sup>1</sup> Statewide Supervision System: <https://search.s3.state.mn.us>

<sup>2</sup> Internal MSGC Data

<sup>3</sup> 2011 and 2012 Sentencing Practices Data Reports <http://mn.gov/sentencing-guidelines/reports/>

<sup>4</sup> Internal MSGC data

<sup>5</sup> Reflects the total number of fiscal notes prepared by MSGC staff  
 State of Minnesota

**Expenditures By Fund**

	Actual		Actual FY14	Estimate FY15	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY12	FY13			FY16	FY17	FY16	FY17
1000 - General	481	686	539	634	586	586	595	604
<b>Total</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>604</b>
<i>Biennial Change</i>				5		0		27
<i>Biennial % Change</i>				0		0		2
<i>Governor's Change from Base</i>								27
<i>Governor's % Change from Base</i>								2

**Expenditures by Program**

Program: Mn Sentencing Guideline Com	481	686	539	634	586	586	595	604
<b>Total</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>604</b>

**Expenditures by Category**

Compensation	409	475	468	501	501	501	510	519
Operating Expenses	72	210	63	133	85	85	85	85
Other Financial Transactions	0	1	8					
<b>Total</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>604</b>

**Full-Time Equivalents**

	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>
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(Dollars in Thousands)

**1000 - General**

	Actual		Actual FY 14	Estimate FY15	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY12	FY 13			FY16	FY17	FY16	FY17
Balance Forward In		105		47				
Direct Appropriation	586	586	886	586	586	586	595	604
Net Transfers			(300)					
Cancellations		5						
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>604</b>
Balance Forward Out	105		47					
<i>Biennial Change in Expenditures</i>				5		0		27
<i>Biennial % Change in Expenditures</i>				0		0		2
<i>Gov's Exp Change from Base</i>								27
<i>Gov's Exp % Change from Base</i>								2
FTEs	5.3	6.0	5.6	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0

# Sentencing Guidelines Commission

## FY16-17 Biennial Budget Change Item

### Change Item Title: Operating Adjustment

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
General Fund				
Expenditures	9	18	18	18
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	9	18	18	18
FTEs	0	0	0	0

### Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding for compensation related costs associated with the delivery of agency services. This amount represents an annual increase of 1.8% for General Fund compensation costs.

### Rationale/Background:

Each year, compensation costs rise due to labor contract settlements, and changes in employer-paid contributions for insurance, FICA, Medicare, retirement, and other factors. Absorbing this increase in compensation costs within existing agency base appropriations results in reduced staffing and/or reduced non-compensation spending.

### Proposal:

The Governor recommends increasing agencies' general fund budgets for employee wage and benefit costs by 1.8% per year for FY 2016-17. Agencies were instructed to include a 1.8% increase to total compensation each year in their base budgets, based upon the compound annual compensation spending rate increase per FTE over the last ten years for executive branch employees. This recommendation is intended to allow agencies to maintain their current level of agency operations.

For non-General Fund direct appropriated funds, the Governor's budget recommendations also include an adjustment of 1.8% per year, where the amount can be supported by the source of revenue.

### Results:

This proposal is intended to allow agencies to continue to provide current levels of service and information to the public.

### Statutory Change(s):

N.A.