



STATE OF WASHINGTON
SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMMISSION
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Sentencing Guidelines Commission Members

FROM: SGC Staff

DATE: July 10, 2009

SUBJECT: Proposed impact of additional offender score columns to the sentencing grid

At the June 2009 Commission meeting, a request was submitted for us to analyze the impacts of adding three additional offender score columns (10-12, 13-15, 16+) to the current sentencing grid.

A preliminary analysis showed prison bed impacts of more than one thousand additional beds by the second fiscal year. As this seemed to be the opposite of what may have been expected, we decided to hold off on any additional analysis until further instructions were received from the Commission.

Attached are two documents that may help explain the impact of adding the offender score columns. The first document, *Modification of Standard Grid According to SSB 6160: What is Happening?*, provides details as to why analysis on SSB 6160 resulted in a bed increase. The same explanations apply to the bed increase seen in the preliminary results of adding more offender score columns.

The second document, *Calculating Proposed Length of Stay for Fiscal Impact Analysis*, is meant to provide a more detailed explanation of how "where in the range" is applied, a major component of the bed impact formulation.

As regards the addition of the offender score columns, we await further instruction.