



State of California

# LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 21, 2013**

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Sumi Sousa

Stuart Drown  
*Executive Director*

**For Additional Information Contact:**

**Stuart Drown**  
**Executive Director**  
**(916) 445-2125**

**REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**(NEW LOCATION)**

On Tuesday, June 25, 2013, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a public hearing on criminal justice sentencing. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. in Room 100 of the Legislative Office Building at 1020 N Street, Sacramento.

The Little Hoover Commission is reviewing criminal sentencing laws in California as part of its ongoing assessment of public safety realignment initiated in 2011. In its recent review of bail and pre-trial services, the Commission found that sheriffs often wield great discretion in reducing sentences meted out by judges to comply with court-ordered population caps. Additionally, as realignment has unfolded, some low level offenders have been sentenced to more than five years in jails that were not designed for long-term commitments. The Commission also is interested in better understanding sentencing disparity between counties and courtrooms and whether it has increased as a result of realignment. Finally, the Commission hopes to assess the potential need for the state to better align California sentencing laws and correctional resources, including prison and jail beds as well as community-based programs and sanctions.

At this hearing, the director of the Center on Sentencing and Corrections at the Vera Institute of Justice will discuss national sentencing trends. The Commission also will hear from the co-director of the Stanford Criminal Justice Center on sentencing reform opportunities in California. The Commission additionally will hear from a representative from Crime Victims United and the director of Californians for Safety and Justice. Finally, San Francisco District Attorney George Gascón will testify about San Francisco's sentencing commission – the first sentencing commission in California.

There will be an opportunity for public comment at the end of the hearing. The Commission also encourages written comments.

All public notices for meetings are on the Commission's website, [www.lhc.ca.gov](http://www.lhc.ca.gov). If you need reasonable accommodation due to a disability, please contact Commission Executive Director Stuart Drown at (916) 445-2125 or [littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov](mailto:littlehoover@lhc.ca.gov) by Wednesday, June 19, 2013.



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## **Public Hearing on Criminal Justice Sentencing**

**Tuesday, June 25, 2013**

**Legislative Office Building, Room 100**

**1020 N Street, Sacramento**

### **Public Hearing: 9 a.m.**

#### ***Sentencing Trends – A Global Perspective***

1. Peggy McGarry, Director, Center on Sentencing and Corrections, Vera Institute of Justice

#### ***Sentencing Reform Opportunities in California***

2. Robert Weisberg, Professor of Law and Faculty Co-Director, Stanford Criminal Justice Center

#### ***The Perspective of Crime Victims***

3. Dawn Koepke, Partner, McHugh, Koepke & Associates and Lobbyist, Crime Victims United

#### ***California Sentencing Trends – Risks of the Status Quo***

4. Lenore Anderson, Director, Californians for Safety and Justice

#### ***San Francisco Starts its Own Sentencing Commission***

5. George Gascón, District Attorney, City and County of San Francisco

## **Business Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 25, 2013**

**Legislative Counsel Conference Room**

**925 L Street, Lower Level**

**Sacramento**

**(The Commission will consider agenda items I-IV at approximately 12:30 p.m. The precise time will vary depending upon the testimony of witnesses and will be determined at the discretion of the chair.)**

- I. Business Meeting Minutes from May 30, 2013
- II. Subcommittee Reports/Project Selection
  - a. Veterans Services – Draft Report
  - b. Higher Education – Revised Outline
  - c. Civil Service Reform – Scoping Memo
- III. Implementation Activity
- IV. Reports from Bureau of State Audits