
District of Columbia Sentencing Commission

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Table FZ0-1

Description	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Approved	FY 2024 Approved	% Change from FY 2023
OPERATING BUDGET	\$1,112,921	\$1,628,620	\$1,618,202	\$1,611,787	-0.4
FTEs	6.0	6.5	9.0	9.0	0.0
CAPITAL BUDGET	\$215,963	\$0	\$0	\$350,000	N/A
FTEs	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	N/A

The mission of the District of Columbia Sentencing Commission (the Commission) is to implement, monitor, and support the District’s voluntary sentencing guidelines; promote fair and consistent sentencing policies; increase public understanding of sentencing policies and practices; and evaluate the effectiveness of the guidelines system in order to recommend changes based on actual sentencing and corrections practice and research.

Summary of Services

The Commission advises the District of Columbia on policy matters related to criminal law, sentencing, and corrections policy. The D.C. Voluntary Sentencing Guidelines were created in 2004 as a pilot program and became permanent in 2007. The Commission is mandated to monitor and adjust, as needed, the Sentencing Guidelines to promote sentencing policies that limit unwarranted disparity, increase proportionality, and allow for adequate judicial discretion. The Sentencing Guidelines provide recommended sentences that enhance fairness, predictability, and consistency. When utilized, the Sentencing Guidelines help ensure that victims, the community, and other parties understand why a certain sentence was imposed. As part of its mandate, the Commission also provides analysis and Guidelines compliance to the government agencies, academic and research institutions, practitioners, and the public, to help identify sentencing and criminal justice trends.

The agency's FY 2024 approved budget is presented in the following tables:

FY 2024 Approved Gross Funds Operating Budget and FTEs, by Revenue Type

Table FZ0-2 contains the approved FY 2024 budget by revenue type compared to the FY 2023 approved budget. It also provides FY 2021 and FY 2022 actual data.

Table FZ0-2

(dollars in thousands)

	Dollars in Thousands						Full-Time Equivalents					
	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Approved FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Change from FY 2023	% Change*	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Approved FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Change from FY 2023	% Change
Appropriated Fund												
GENERAL FUND												
Local Funds	1,113	1,629	1,618	1,612	-6	-0.4	6.0	6.5	9.0	9.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND	1,113	1,629	1,618	1,612	-6	-0.4	6.0	6.5	9.0	9.0	0.0	0.0
GROSS FUNDS	1,113	1,629	1,618	1,612	-6	-0.4	6.0	6.5	9.0	9.0	0.0	0.0

*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

Note: If applicable, for a breakdown of each Grant (Federal and Private) and Special Purpose Revenue type, please refer to **Schedule 80 Agency Summary by Revenue Source** in the **FY 2024 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website.

FY 2024 Approved Operating Budget, by Comptroller Source Group

Table FZ0-3 contains the approved FY 2024 budget at the Comptroller Source Group (object class) level compared to the FY 2023 approved budget. It also provides FY 2021 and FY 2022 actual expenditures.

Table FZ0-3

(dollars in thousands)

	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Approved FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Change from FY 2023	Percentage Change*
Comptroller Source Group						
11 - Regular Pay - Continuing Full Time	591	613	886	909	23	2.6
13 - Additional Gross Pay	1	75	0	0	0	N/A
14 - Fringe Benefits - Current Personnel	119	136	185	196	11	5.9
15 - Overtime Pay	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
SUBTOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES (PS)	712	825	1,071	1,105	34	3.1
20 - Supplies and Materials	0	0	5	3	-2	-40.0
40 - Other Services and Charges	351	78	159	116	-44	-27.4
41 - Contractual Services - Other	50	689	377	386	9	2.4
70 - Equipment and Equipment Rental	0	37	6	2	-4	-63.6
SUBTOTAL NONPERSONAL SERVICES (NPS)	401	804	547	507	-40	-7.3
GROSS FUNDS	1,113	1,629	1,618	1,612	-6	-0.4

*Percent change is based on whole dollars.

FY 2024 Approved Operating Budget and FTEs, by Division/Program and Activity

Table FZ0-4 contains the approved FY 2024 budget by division/program and activity compared to the FY 2023 approved budget. It also provides FY 2021 and FY 2022 actual data. For a more comprehensive explanation of divisions/programs and activities, please see the Division/Program Description section, which follows the table.

Table FZ0-4

(dollars in thousands)

Division/Program and Activity	Dollars in Thousands					Full-Time Equivalents				
	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Approved FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Change from FY 2023	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Approved FY 2023	Approved FY 2024	Change from FY 2023
(1000) MANAGEMENT										
(1010) Personnel	94	120	124	138	14	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.0
(1015) Training	0	39	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(1030) Property Management	6	6	7	4	-3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(1040) Information Technology	52	33	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(1060) Legal Services	0	11	4	7	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
No Activity Assigned	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SUBTOTAL (1000) MANAGEMENT	153	208	135	149	14	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.0
(2000) DATA COLLECTION (AIP)										
(2010) ACS Offense and Offender Database	342	618	335	466	130	2.6	2.8	3.0	4.0	1.0
(2020) Sentencing Guidelines Monitoring	332	391	418	430	12	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(2040) Policy Reports and Proposals	202	212	178	186	8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.0
(2050) Sentencing Guidelines Training	84	198	544	381	-163	0.9	0.9	4.0	3.0	-1.0
(2060) Prep Sentencing Guidelines Materials	0	0	8	0	-8	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
SUBTOTAL (2000) DATA COLLECTION (AIP)	960	1,420	1,483	1,463	-20	5.2	5.6	8.0	8.0	0.0
TOTAL APPROVED OPERATING BUDGET	1,113	1,629	1,618	1,612	-6	6.0	6.5	9.0	9.0	0.0

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Note: For more detailed information regarding the approved funding for the activities within this agency's programs, please see **Schedule 30-PBB Program Summary by Activity** in the **FY 2024 Operating Appendices** located on the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's website. "No Activity Assigned" indicates budget or actuals that are recorded at the division/program level.

Program Description

The District of Columbia Sentencing Commission operates through the following 2 programs:

Data Collection, Analysis, and Implementation – undertakes sentencing-related research for the Commission and the Council; monitors and evaluates sentencing practices and trends in the District; and provides the sentencing guideline manual, assistance with the application of the guidelines, and training for criminal justice professional to effectively and efficiently work within a structured sentencing system.

This program contains the following 4 activities:

- **ACS Offense and Offender Sentencing Database** – transfers data electronically from the court into the agency’s database, which includes both historic and real-time sentencing information. Criminal history information provided by Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) is integrated into the agency database and matched with court sentencing information, enabling offender and offense-based analysis of the application of the sentencing guidelines and sentencing trends in the District;
- **Sentencing Guidelines Monitoring** – monitors compliance with the recommended sentencing guidelines by using the agency's database. Departures from the sentencing guidelines are examined to determine if the guidelines may require modification or revision by the Commission to ensure their effectiveness;
- **Policy Reports and Proposals** – develops reports and recommendations for the Commission to improve and modify criminal justice programs focused on sentencing policy. In addition, the Commission revises and proposes recommendations to the D.C. Criminal Code to ensure clarity and consistency in the District’s criminal laws making their application more fair and efficient; and
- **Sentencing Guidelines Training** – provides training to criminal justice professionals focusing on the calculation of criminal history, proper application of the guidelines, determination of the recommended guideline sentence, and recent revisions or modification to the sentencing guidelines. The Commission also monitors both Appellate and Supreme Court sentencing-related decisions and provides training on the impact of these rulings on the D.C. Sentencing Guidelines.

Agency Management – provides for administrative support and the required tools to achieve operational and programmatic results. This program is standard for all agencies using performance-based budgeting.

Program Structure Change

The District of Columbia Sentencing Commission has no program structure changes in the FY 2024 approved budget.

FY 2023 Approved Budget to FY 2024 Approved Budget, by Revenue Type

Table FZ0-5 itemizes the changes by revenue type between the FY 2023 approved budget and the FY 2024 approved budget. For a more comprehensive explanation of changes, please see the FY 2024 Approved Budget Changes section, which follows the table.

Table FZ0-5

(dollars in thousands)

DESCRIPTION	DIVISION/PROGRAM	BUDGET	FTE
LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2023 Approved Budget and FTE		1,618	9.0
Removal of One-Time Costs	Data Collection (AIP)	-50	0.0
LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2024 Recurring Budget		1,568	9.0
Increase: To align personal services and Fringe Benefits with projected costs	Multiple Programs	34	0.0
Decrease: To realize programmatic cost savings in nonpersonal services	Multiple Programs	-8	0.0
Enhance: To support the GRID Scoring System database	Data Collection (AIP)	18	0.0
LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2024 Mayor’s Proposed Budget		1,612	9.0
No Change		0	0.0
LOCAL FUNDS: FY 2024 District’s Approved Budget		1,612	9.0
GROSS FOR FZ0 - DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SENTENCING COMMISSION		1,612	9.0

(Change is calculated by whole numbers and numbers may not add up due to rounding)

Note: For more detailed information regarding the approved funding for interagency projects funded within this agency, please see Appendix J, FY 2024 Interagency Budgets, in the Executive Summary budget volume.

FY 2024 Approved Operating Budget Changes

Table FZ0-6 contains the approved FY 2024 budget by fund compared to the FY 2023 approved budget.

Table FZ0-6

Appropriated Fund	FY 2023 Approved	FY 2024 Approved	% Change from FY 2023
Local Funds	\$1,618,202	\$1,611,787	-0.4
GROSS FUNDS	\$1,618,202	\$1,611,787	-0.4

Recurring Budget

The FY 2024 budget for the Commission includes a reduction of \$50,000 to account for the removal of one-time funding appropriated in FY 2023 to support an assessment of the Guidelines Reporting Information Data (GRID) Scoring System database.

Mayor's Proposed Budget

Increase: The Commission's proposed budget includes an increase of \$33,637 in personal services across multiple programs to align salary and Fringe Benefits with projected costs.

Decrease: The Commission's budget proposal reflects cost savings of \$8,449 in nonpersonal services across multiple programs, primarily in contracts.

Enhance: The proposed budget includes an increase \$18,397 in the Data Collection, Analysis, and Implementation program, which will be used to support operations and maintenance contract costs for the GRID Scoring System database.

District's Approved Budget

The District of Columbia Sentencing Commission's budget proposal reflects no change from the Mayor's proposed budget to the District's approved budget.