



Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

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Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Announces Creation of Committee to address Criminal Justice Reform Issues *Hearings to be held to examine data and develop clear definitions*

Phoenix, AZ, Thursday, September 12, 2019 – In response to calls from legislators and policymakers for a clearer understanding of Arizona’s criminal justice system, today the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission announced it will hold hearings on criminal justice topics, pursuant to its statutory mandate. The hearings will focus on identifying available data and providing a reliable foundation for discussions on Arizona’s criminal justice system. Based on the findings of the hearings, the Commission will produce a series of reports to provide a common framework for discussions on criminal justice reform.

“Over the past several years, groups have published several competing reports around criminal justice reform topics showing competing results,” stated Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Chairwoman Sheila Polk. “Our goal with these hearings is to develop a common data framework that will help legislators fully understand how potential policy changes may impact how Arizona’s citizens interact with our criminal justice system.”

The Commission’s first hearing is scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 25, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

2nd Floor Conference Room in the Governor’s Executive Tower

Topic: Setting the Stage: Understanding Arizona’s Criminal Justice System -
What data is available to best determine who is in our prison and probation systems
and why?

The Commission’s second hearing is scheduled for:

Wednesday, October 30, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Conference Room 250, 1110 W Washington St # 250, Phoenix, AZ 85007

Topic: Understanding the Sentencing Code, Recidivism, and Reentry Programs

As part of ACJC’s statutorily defined responsibilities, the agency routinely monitors and reports on criminal justice issues and the progress and implementation of legislation that impact Arizona’s criminal justice system.

“ACJC houses Arizona’s Statistical Analysis Center that is recognized by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics as the state agency responsible for collecting, analyzing, and reporting on data and statistics that impact the state’s criminal justice system,” said Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Executive Director Andrew LeFevre. “It is our goal to help our policymakers better understand this complicated data and how it can and should be used to make informed, data-driven decisions on criminal justice policy changes.”

Created in 1982, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) is a statutorily authorized entity mandated to carry out various coordinating, monitoring and reporting functions regarding the administration and management of criminal justice programs in Arizona. The ACJC serves as a resource and service organization for Arizona's criminal justice community on a myriad of issues ranging from drugs, gangs and victim assistance to criminal history and crime laboratory enhancements.

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