

**UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION**

**Sentencing Guidelines for United States Courts**

**AGENCY:** United States Sentencing Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of period during which individuals may apply to be appointed to the voting membership of the Practitioners Advisory Group; request for applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Practitioners Advisory Group of the United States Sentencing Commission is a standing advisory group of the United States Sentencing Commission pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 995 and Rule 5.4 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Having decided to adopt a formal charter for the Practitioners Advisory Group, the United States Sentencing Commission is reconstituting the voting membership of the advisory group under that charter. The purpose of the advisory group is (1) to assist the Commission in carrying out its statutory responsibilities under 28 U.S.C. § 994(o); (2) to provide to the Commission its views on the Commission's activities and work, including proposed priorities and amendments; (3) to disseminate to defense attorneys, and to other professionals in the defense community, information regarding federal sentencing issues; and (4) to perform other related functions as the Commission requests. Under the charter, the advisory group will consist of not more than 17 voting members, each of whom may serve not more than two consecutive three-year terms. Of those 17 voting members, one shall be Chair, one shall be Vice Chair, 12 shall be circuit

members (one for each federal judicial circuit other than the Federal Circuit), and three shall be at-large members. To be eligible to serve as a voting member, an individual must be an attorney who (1) devotes a substantial portion of his or her professional work to advocating the interests of privately-represented individuals, or of individuals represented by private practitioners through appointment under the Criminal Justice Act of 1964, within the federal criminal justice system; (2) has significant experience with federal sentencing or post-conviction issues related to criminal sentences; and (3) is in good standing of the highest court of the jurisdiction or jurisdictions in which he or she is admitted to practice. Additionally, to be eligible to serve as a circuit member, the individual's primary place of business or a substantial portion of his or her practice must be in the circuit concerned. Each voting member is appointed by the Commission. The Commission hereby invites any individual who is eligible to be appointed to the initial voting membership of the Practitioners Advisory Group to apply. Applications should be received by the Commission not later than **[60 days after publication]**. Applications may be sent to Michael Courlander at the address listed below.

**DATES:** Applications for the initial voting membership of the Practitioners Advisory Group should be received not later than **[60 days after publication]**.

**ADDRESS:** Send applications to: United States Sentencing Commission, One Columbus Circle, NE, Suite 2-500, South Lobby, Washington, DC 20002-8002, Attention: Public Affairs.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Courlander, Public Affairs Officer,

Telephone: (202) 502-4597.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 995(a)(1) of title 28, United States Code, authorizes the Commission to establish general policies and promulgate rules and regulations as necessary for the Commission to carry out the purposes of the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984. Having adopted a formal charter for the Practitioners Advisory Group, the United States Sentencing Commission is reconstituting the voting membership of the Practitioners Advisory Group under that charter. The Commission invites any individual who is eligible to be appointed to the initial voting membership of the Practitioners Advisory Group to apply.

**AUTHORITY:** 28 U.S.C. § 994(a), (o), (p), § 995; USSC Rules of Practice and Procedure 5.2, 5.4.

Ricardo H. Hinojosa,  
Acting Chair