



**FY09 PERFORMANCE PLAN**  
**District of Columbia Sentencing and Criminal Code Revision Commission**

**MISSION**

The mission of the District of Columbia Sentencing Commission is to implement, monitor and support the District's voluntary sentencing guidelines, to promote fair and consistent sentencing policies, to increase public understanding of sentencing policies and practices and to evaluate the effectiveness of the guidelines system.

**SUMMARY OF SERVICES**

The Commission advises the District of Columbia on policy matters relating to criminal law, sentencing and corrections. The Sentencing and Criminal Code Revision Commission Amendment Act of 2007 established permanent sentencing guidelines and requires the Commission to monitor judicial usage and make adjustments as needed. The Advisory Commission on Sentencing Amendment Act of 2006 requires the Commission to conduct a multi-year study of criminal code reform, including analysis of the current criminal code and proposals to create a uniform and coherent body of criminal law in the District of Columbia.

**OBJECTIVE 1: Promote the accurate, timely and effective use of the sentencing guidelines in felony cases.**

**INITIATIVE 1: Reduce confusion and inconsistency in the District of Columbia’s criminal code.**

As one of our Commission members noted last year in testimony in support of Bill 16-172 (Advisory Commission on Sentencing Amendment Act of 2006), “Like any document crafted by different authors at different times spanning a century or more, the criminal code of the District of Columbia has some archaic, inconsistent and occasionally confusing language and ... some instances where the punishment does not fit the crime.” It has been almost 30 years since a previous study ended without definitive action. The Commission has been given until September of 2010 to submit its recommendations for comprehensive criminal code revision to the Mayor and the Council.

**OBJECTIVE 2: Promulgate compliance with the guidelines in at least 85 percent of all felony cases, in recognition that a small number of exceptional cases will merit a judicial departure from the guidelines.**

**OBJECTIVE 3: Analyze the District of Columbia’s current criminal code and administration of existing criminal laws, and propose reforms in the criminal code to create a uniform and coherent body of criminal law in the District of Columbia.**

**PROPOSED KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Measure	FY07 Actual	FY08 Target	FY08 YE Actual	FY09 Projection	FY10 Projection	FY11 Projection
Percent of Felony Sentences Complying with Guidelines	87%	85%	N/A	85%	85%	85%
Percent of DCSC offense and offender data downloaded	0%	100%	0%	100%	100%	100%

