

NEW MEXICO SENTENCING COMMISSION

November 12, 2015 SOMB MINUTES

PERA Building
5th Floor, CYFD Conference Room
1120 Paseo De Peralta
Santa Fe, NM

SOMB Members Present	SOMB Members Absent	Others	Staff
Tony Ortiz, Acting Chair	Honorable Abigail Aragon	Kristine Denman	Amir Chapel
Regina Chacon, (for Secretary Greg Fouratt, DPS)	Secretary Retta Ward, DOH	Tala Ibrahim	Linda Freeman
Kim Chavez-Cook (for Chief Public Defender Jorge Alvarado)	Marron Lee, NMSC Chair	Rick Dean	
Clara Moran (for Attorney General Hector Balderas)	Secretary Gregg Marcantel, NMCD		
Dr. Troy Rogers	Secretary Hanna Skandera, PED		
Connie Monahan (for Donna Richmond)	Secretary Kelly Zunie, Indian Affairs		
	Secretary Monique Jacobson, CYFD		
	Chaplain Jose Villegas		
	Daniel Barela, Adult Probation and Parole		
	Rick Tedrow, District Attorneys Association		

Welcome. Tony Ortiz, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. He welcomed SOMB members and guests.

Approval of minutes. The minutes for the August 12, 2015 meeting were approved by consensus.

Staff report. Tony Ortiz advised the SOMB members that pre-filing of legislation begins in mid-December and that the 2016 legislative session begins on January 19th. The 2016 legislative session will be a 30-day session.

Staff spoke with Orlando Bowman of the Navajo Police Department. Mr. Bowman has requested that a future SOMB meeting be held in the northwestern corner of the state.

SOMB members who are appointed by the Governor were reminded to file their financial disclosure form with the Secretary of States office.

Overview of visit to the Otero County Prison Facility in Chaparral, NM. Amir Chapel briefed the members on a visit that NM Sentencing Commission (NMSC) staff made to the Otero County Prison Facility (OCPF) on October 30, 2015. NMSC staff, along with members and staff for the interim legislative Courts, Corrections and Justice Committee, toured the prison facility on that date. The OCPF has an operational capacity for 1,420 inmates and it is a maximum security level facility. There is a mix of state and federal inmates housed at the OCPF, including: New Mexico state inmates, Arizona state inmates, and federal inmates under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Prisons, Marshall's Service and a few military prisoners. On October 30th, there were 536 New Mexico state inmates. The majority of those inmates are convicted sex offenders and there is a small number of New Mexico inmates who are former law enforcement officers. The OCPF is accredited by the American Corrections Association and is also accredited pursuant to the provisions of the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act.

Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP) at the Otero County Prison Facility. Tala Ibrahim, Lead Therapist for the SOTP, briefed the members. She supervises five counselors who all possess masters-level degrees. All continuing education credits for staff are provided in-house. The SOTP uses a curriculum developed by the Medlin Institute. It is an evidence-based, cognitive behavioral therapy. The focus of the program is to help offenders take ownership of their behavior, which is essential to healing. SOTP uses a risk instrument to assess offenders. Participants in SOTP have been convicted of a sexual offense and are within 5 years of their discharge date. Ms. Ibrahim noted that she was familiar with a NM Sentencing Commission report on recidivism rates for sex offenders. She also indicated her desire to improve data collection and analysis regarding offenders who graduate from SOTP.

Discussion of sex-offense related bills likely to be introduced during the 2016 legislative session. There have been ongoing discussions concerning proposed amendments to the statute regarding sexual exploitation of children, necessitated by the *Ollson* decision. Issues discussed have included potential units of prosecution and increased basic sentences. A bill will be introduced during the 2016 session.

Public comment. There was no public comment.

Next meeting. The next SOMB meeting will be held on April 7, 2016, at 1.30 p.m.

Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3.05 p.m

