



Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission Meeting

December 18, 2025, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Ohio Judicial Center, Room 101

Members Present

Sharon L. Kennedy, Chief Justice, Chair
Darren Shulman, Municipal Prosecutor, Vice-Chair
Justin Stanek, Designee of Director, Department of Youth Services
Jamael Tito Brown, Mayor
Brooke Burns, Ohio Public Defender, Juvenile Department
Matthew Byrnes, Defense Attorney
Robert DeLamatre, Judge, Juvenile Court
Julia Dorrian, Judge, 10th District Court of Appeals
Kyle Erdeljac, Lieutenant, Columbus Police Department, FOP
Timothy France, Judge, Municipal Court
Joe Gruber, Designee of Director, Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections
Gwen Howe-Gebers, County Prosecutor, Juvenile
Latyna Humphrey, House of Representatives
Kristen Johnson, Judge, Probate and Juvenile Court
Timothy Lanzendorfer, Ohio State Bar Association
Teri LaJeunesse, Victim Representative
Nathan Manning, Ohio Senate
Stephen McIntosh, Judge, Common Pleas Court
Elizabeth Miller, Ohio Public Defender
Jennifer Muench-McElfresh, Judge, Common Pleas Court
Kyle Rohrer, Judge Municipal Court
Nick Selvaggio, Judge, Common Pleas Court

Members Absent

John Hinton, Sheriff
Catherine Ingram, Ohio Senate
Charles Jones, Colonel, State Highway Patrol
Charles McConville, County Prosecutor
Helen Wallace, Judge, Juvenile Court
Josh Williams, House of Representatives
Donnie Willis, County Commissioner
Tyrone Yates, Judge, Municipal Court

Staff Present

Michael Crofford, M.Ed., LPC, Research Specialist
Will Davies, Esq., Criminal Justice Counsel
Angela Kay Garvey, Coordinator
Emily S. Haynes, Esq., M.L.S., Criminal Justice Counsel
Todd Ives, MPA, Research Specialist
Alex T. Jones, Esq., Criminal Justice Counsel



Call to Order and Roll Call

1. Chief Justice Sharon Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Interim Director William Davies took a roll call, and a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes from September 25, 2025

2. Chief Justice Kennedy asked if there were any corrections to the September 25, 2025, minutes. None were suggested. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Elizabeth Miller and seconded by Judge Kyle Rohrer. The motion passed, with Matthew Byrnes abstaining.

Committee Reports

Adult Criminal Justice Committee

3. Judge Stephen McIntosh introduced updated competency and Not Guilt by Reason of Insanity (NGRI) flowcharts for Commission consideration. The flowcharts had been shared at prior meetings but had been revised to clarify restoring competency can be completed in the community. Judge Nick Selvaggio suggested changing the flowcharts to say, “additional evaluation(s)” instead of “second evaluation.”
4. After discussion, Judge McIntosh motioned to approve the Competency flowchart for publication with the suggested revisions. It was seconded by Chief Justice Kennedy. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Judge McIntosh then moved to approve the NGRI flowchart for publication with the suggested revisions. Commissioner Darren Shulman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Judge McIntosh also reported that Criminal Justice Counsel Emily Haynes provided an update on the History of Sentencing in Ohio project.

Juvenile Justice Committee

7. Judge Robert DeLamatre reported that the committee was working on flowcharting juvenile processes, beginning with diversion and charging decisions. The committee is reviewing bench cards and incorporating information from counties to develop a script for juvenile judges.
8. Judge DeLamatre introduced the Juvenile Justice Terminology Resource Guide, explaining it is intended for the General Assembly and the public, though the resource is also useful to juvenile justice practitioners. After discussion, several revisions were identified, including reconsidering the photos used and restructuring the diversion section, among others. The guide will be taken back to the committee for further review before returning to the Commission.

Data Committee

9. Chief Justice Kennedy introduced two data maps for approval and publication, each of which were reviewed by their respective departments for accuracy. A motion to approve the Bureau of Criminal Investigation Data Map was made by Chief Justice Kennedy and seconded by Judge Selvaggio. The motion passed unanimously.
10. Chief Justice Kennedy moved to approve the Department of Youth Services Data Map and was seconded by Judge Jennifer Muench-McElfresh. The motion passed unanimously.
11. The committee is continuing efforts to meet with stakeholders outside of the Commission's regular community partners to see what data is available.

Personnel Committee

12. Chief Justice Kennedy reported on revisions to the Operating Guidelines following its November 12 meeting. The proposed changes remove the Supreme Court of Ohio language and align the guidelines with the Department of Administrative Services policies. The committee also increased the requisition threshold from \$2,500 to \$5,000 pursuant to statute and streamlined the interview process. Minor formatting and typographical issues were also corrected. A motion to adopt the revised guidelines was made by Chief Justice Kennedy and seconded by Judge McIntosh. The motion passed unanimously.
13. Chief Justice Kennedy motioned to enter an executive session, which was seconded by Commissioner Shulman. The motion passed unanimously.
14. After discussion, Chief Justice Kennedy moved to end the executive session, which was seconded by Commissioner Shulman. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Shulman then motioned to accept Criminal Justice Counsel Alex Jones resignation and was seconded by Chief Justice Kennedy. The motion passed unanimously.
15. The Commission also discussed revisions to the Operating Guidelines. Changes introduced included removing the requirements to present guideline amendments at two meetings, as well as clarifying language in sections II(B) and IX(A). Additional discussion concerned dollar thresholds or objective terms for financial matters in II(B)(1). The proposed language largely reflects statutory requirements.

Legislative Update

16. Mr. Jones reported that H.B. 556 and S.B. 291 had been introduced, both of which modify time periods associated with different felony levels and grant courts discretion to extend community control over three years. Mr. Jones also noted that two new sections have been added to the Legislative Update.

Old Business

17. No old business was discussed.

New Business

18. Mr. Davies presented a request for approval for up to three Commission staff members to attend the American Corrections Association conference, to be held February 5-8, 2026 in Long Beach, California, with anticipated travel dates February 4-9, 2026. After brief discussion, Commissioner Gwen Howe-Gebers moved to approve the travel and was seconded by Joe Gruber. The motion passed unanimously.

19. Judge Selvaggio noted this meeting marked his final Commission meeting and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve, the ability to bring Commission work back to his county, and the Chief Justice's leadership in revitalizing the Commission. He recommended the Commission continue to have judges from small, medium, and large counties represented.

Adjourn

20. Chief Justice Kennedy motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Judge Selvaggio. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.