

ARKANSAS BUDGET SYSTEM
AGENCY PROGRAM COMMENTARY
2001 - 2003

The Information Age is increasing the demand for quality data analysis in every area especially criminal justice whose agencies have grown significantly in the past decade. The Sentencing Commission is in a unique position to offer quality data analysis of criminal justice laws, policies and practices from a neutral viewpoint. Whereas the major correctional agencies have massive budgets and internal information services to serve their own needs, the Sentencing Commission, representing the courtroom practitioners can review the data obtained from the Department of Correction, the Department of Community Punishment and the Administrative Office of the Courts from a neutral "criminal justice systems" viewpoint, i.e., the overall picture from the courtroom to the state agency. It is charged with presenting this information to the Governor, the legislature, the Judicial council and the public. With better technology and procedures, this data can be closely monitored for changes and immediate impact on the State resources.

The Commission has also staffed the Coordinating Council for Integration of Justice Information Systems during this biennium. Integration of justice information systems is a nationwide effort to improve public safety and the system by having timely, accurate and complete records on offenders. Justice information starts with the courtroom practitioners and local agencies. This information then could be electronically transmitted to the state agencies who also will need to share their information with each other and the local agencies. It is anticipated that this effort will continue and be phased in over a period of time. The Commission will play a critical role in this process as its focus is and always has been on the system wide flow of good information. The Department of Justice will be funding some of these efforts. It will be critical for the Commission to continue monitoring the national efforts and to maintain communications with all local practitioners.

The Commission must have a networked internal system with up to date hardware and software to handle the major data bases which are currently available and additional data bases which may become available. Our current hardware was purchased in 1993 and needs to be replaced. There are currently three major data bases involved in the system, those of the Department of Correction, Department of Community Punishment, and the Administrative Office of the Courts. In order for the Sentencing commission to make accurate prison population projections and to track the impact which current and new laws may have on the criminal justice system, it must be able to analyze the enormous amounts of data provided by these three systems. This information is vital in planning for the best use of corrections resources.

Dissemination of data to the public is one of the primary functions of this agency. An Internet web page achieves this function efficiently and at less expense. The standards are available for downloading and answers to frequently asked questions are readily available. This site needs to be monitored and updated on a regular basis. Annual reports, statistical analyses and impact studies may be added to the site in the future.

Quality data analysis depends upon quality data. In order to improve timeliness, accuracy and completeness, the Commission conducts training seminars at the local level in the various judicial districts of the State. Communications with the local districts depends upon up to date information technology. E-mail functions have greatly increased between state agencies during this biennium and will increase greatly with the local communities in the future.

It is the Commission's understanding that quality statewide communications between agencies and the availability of quality information to the public and policy makers is a goal of the Governor, the legislature and the judiciary. The Commission believes that the projects outlined above will assist it in fulfilling in its statutory duties and meeting this worthy goal.

AGENCY Arkansas Sentencing Commission	DIRECTOR <i>Leslie Middleton</i> Leslie Middleton	AGENCY PROGRAM COMMENTARY BR21	PAGE 338
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ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION
SUMMARY OF AUDIT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998

Assets				Liabilities			Total Equity
Cash and Investments	Fixed	Other	Total	Current	Long-Term	Total	
\$ 0	\$ 42,918	\$ 10,396	\$ 53,314	\$ 96	\$ 5,246	\$ 5,342	\$ 47,972

Revenues					Expenditures					Other Sources (Uses)
Intergovernmental	Federal	Licenses and Fees	Other	Total	Salaries and Matching	Grants and Aid	Capital	Other Operating	Total	
\$ 238,392	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 238,392	\$ 165,299	\$ 0	\$ 504	\$ 74,035	\$ 239,838	\$ 17

Findings

None.

Recommendations

None.

ARKANSAS BUDGET SYSTEM
 EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY
 AS REQUIRED BY ACT 358 OF 1993
 (A.C.A 19-4-307)

AGENCY TITLE 328 - ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
WHITE EMPLOYEES	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>80%</u>
BLACK EMPLOYEES	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>20%</u>
EMPLOYEES OF OTHER RACIAL MINORITIES	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0%</u>
TOTAL EMPLOYED AS OF 08/05/00			<u>1</u>	<u>20%</u>
DATE			TOTAL MINORITIES	
			<u>5</u>	<u>100%</u>
			TOTAL EMPLOYEES	

Hester Middleton
 AGENCY DIRECTOR

STATE AGENCY PUBLICATIONS

Fiscal Year 2001

Act 1276 of 1999

AGENCY: Arkansas Sentencing Commission AGENCY # 328

NAME OF PUBLICATION	STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION ACT # OR A.C.A.	REQUIRED FOR GOVERNOR AND/OR GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONLY	NUMBER OF COPIES PUBLISHED & DISTRIBUTED	REASON(S) FOR CONTINUED PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION
Mission Statement and Annual Report	A.C.A. 25-01-105	Judicial Council also	50	Required by law
Arkansas Sentencing Commission Sentencing Standards Grid, Seriousness Rankings & Related Material	A.C.A. 16-90-801 et seq		1000	This publication is the reference manual for the sentencing standards. It is provided at no cost to all all criminal justice practitioners. It will be available through a web site which is currently being developed.
Statistical Supplement to the Annual Report	Act 550 of 1993		750	Educate criminal justice practitioners on the impact of courtroom practices on the correctional resources of the state.
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**ARKANSAS BUDGET SYSTEM
ANALYSIS OF BUDGET REQUEST
2001 - 2003**

The Arkansas Sentencing Commission was established by Act 709 of 1993 for the purpose of instituting sentencing standards to ensure that sanctions imposed following conviction are proportional to the seriousness of the offense of conviction and the extent of the offender's criminal history. The Commission has developed the sentencing grid, the seriousness reference table and established transfer eligibility for all offenses. The Commission provides impact assessments on proposed legislation for the Governor and General Assembly through a professional service contract with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD). This contract also has provided training to the staff of the Sentencing Commission and the Department of Correction in the use of a software program that is utilized in data analysis of criminal justice laws, policies and procedures.

This is the primary operating appropriation of the Commission. It is funded entirely by General Revenue.

The Agency Request is for Base Level which includes a pay plan increase of 2.6 % each year over the 2001 fiscal year salary levels for all incumbents plus appropriate Personal Services Matching costs.

The Agency Request of \$ 9,262 in FY02 and \$ 8,260 in FY03 includes a request for the following:

- Operating Expense of \$762 in FY02 and \$ 760 in FY03 for the repair of office equipment
- Conference Fees & Travel of \$ 1,000 each year respectively to attend training seminars
- Prof Fees and Services \$ 1,500 in FY 02 and FY03 for costs associated with the National Council On Crime and Delinquency
- Capital Outlay request of \$ 6,000 in FY02 and \$ 5,000 in FY03 for the integration of information associated with peer to peer network complex and associated hardware upgrades.

The Executive Recommendation provides for Base Level and appropriation for the Agency Request of Capital Outlay of \$ 6,000 in FY02 and \$ 5,000 in FY03 and recommends the reallocation of resources as requested by the Agency for the remainder the Agency Change Level request.

AGENCY	APPROPRIATION	TREASURY FUND	ANALYSIS OF BUDGET REQUEST	PAGE
Name: Arkansas Sentencing Commission Code: 328	Name: State Operations Code: 806	Name: State General Services Code: HUA		342

ARKANSAS BUDGET SYSTEM

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14

CHARACTER TITLE	-----EXPENDITURES-----			-----01-02 FISCAL YEAR-----			-----02-03 FISCAL YEAR-----			-----R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S-----			
	99-00	00-01	00-01	BASE	CHANGE	TOTAL	BASE	CHANGE	TOTAL	EXECUTIVE		LEGISLATIVE	
	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	AUTHORIZED							01-02	02-03	01-02	02-03
REGULAR SALARIES	156,049	164,360	165,117	168,627	0	168,627	173,011	0	173,011	168,627	173,011		
NUMBER OF POSITIONS	5	5	5	5	0	5	5	0	5	5	5		
PERSONAL SERV MATCHING	42,442	44,687	45,383	44,684	0	44,684	45,462	0	45,462	44,684	45,462		
OPERATING EXPENSES	52,562	60,540	60,540	60,540	762	61,302	60,540	760	61,300	60,540	60,540		
CONF FEES & TRAVEL	6,875	11,000	11,000	11,000	1,000	12,000	11,000	1,000	12,000	11,000	11,000		
PROF FEES & SERVICES	9,625	15,350	15,350	15,350	1,500	16,850	15,350	1,500	16,850	15,350	15,350		
CAPITAL OUTLAY	2,314	0	0	0	6,000	6,000	0	5,000	5,000	6,000	5,000		
TOTAL	269,867	295,937	297,390	300,201	9,262	309,463	305,363	8,260	313,623	306,201	310,363		
PROPOSED FUNDING SOURCES			*****										
FUND BALANCES			*****										
GENERAL REVENUES	269,867	295,937	*****	300,201	9,262	309,463	305,363	8,260	313,623	300,201	305,363		
SPECIAL REVENUES			*****										
FEDERAL FUNDS			*****										
STATE CENTRAL SERVICES FUND			*****										
NON-REVENUE RECEIPTS			*****										
CASH FUNDS			*****										
OTHER			*****										
TOTAL FUNDING	269,867	295,937	*****	300,201	9,262	309,463	305,363	8,260	313,623	300,201	305,363		
EXCESS APPRO/ (FUNDING)			*****							6,000	5,000		
TOTAL	269,867	295,937	*****	300,201	9,262	309,463	305,363	8,260	313,623	306,201	310,363		

DEPT 009 OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
 AGY 328 ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION
 APPRO 606 STATE OPERATIONS
 FUND HUA STATE GENERAL SERVICES(000)

APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

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ARKANSAS BUDGET SYSTEM

PROGRAM/SERVICE INFORMATION LIST

RANK BY APPROPRIATION

01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
ANK	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	FUND	ACCOUNTING INFORMATION	D E S	-----EXPENDITURES-----		-----2001 - 03 BIENNIAL REQUESTS-----						-----RECOMMENDATIONS-----					
					ACTUAL	BUDGETED	-----FY 2001 - 02-----			-----FY 2002 - 03-----			-----EXECUTIVE-----		-----LEGISLATIVE-----			
					99-00	00-01	REQUEST			REQUEST			2001-02	2002-03	2001-02	2002-03		
00		HJA	328 806	B	269,867 5	295,937 5	300,201 5			305,363 5			300,201 5		305,363 5			
101		HJA	328 806 A90 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	C08			1,500 0			1,500 0								
<p>The software used in impact analysis and population projections requires additional funds for the professional services contract with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Expansion and maintenance of a new web site will require some additional funds, but will provide improved communication with local courtroom practitioners and the public.</p>																		
001		HJA	328 806 010 COMMISSION ADMINISTRATION	C02			-3,298 0			-1,900 0								
<p>In keeping with the Governor's directive, these funds are being re-directed to other areas of the budget, primarily the replacement of obsolete equipment.</p>																		

DEPT 009 OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
 AGY 328 ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION
 APPRO 806 STATE OPERATIONS
 FUND HJA STATE GENERAL SERVICES(000)

RANK BY APPROPRIATION
 BR 264

ARKANSAS BUDGET SYSTEM

PROGRAM/SERVICE INFORMATION LIST

RANK BY APPROPRIATION

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

RANK	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	FUND	ACCOUNTING INFORMATION	D E S	-----2001 - 03 BIENNIAL REQUESTS-----				-----RECOMMENDATIONS-----					
					-----EXPENDITURES-----		-----FY 2001 - 02-----		-----FY 2002 - 03-----		-----EXECUTIVE-----		-----LEGISLATIVE-----	
					ACTUAL	BUDGETED	REQUEST	REQUEST	2001-02	2002-03	2001-02	2002-03		
	99-00	00-01												
002		HJA	328 806 010 COMMISSION ADMINISTRATION	C08			11,060 0		8,660 0	6,000	5,000			

The primary function of this Commission is analyzing large data sets from the courts, corrections and community punishment. As integration of information systems increases, these data sets will become larger and more complex. It is critical to have the proper equipment with sufficient speed and memory to handle these tasks. The Commission needs to create a peer-to-peer network and replace obsolete equipment.

DEPT 009 OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
 AGY 328 ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION
 APPRO 806 STATE OPERATIONS
 FUND HJA STATE GENERAL SERVICES(000)

RANK BY APPROPRIATION

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