



NORTH CAROLINA SENTENCING AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION

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JUDGE W. ERWIN SPAINHOUR
CHAIRMAN

SUSAN KATZENELSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 2, 2008

The Honorable Ralph Walker
Director
Administrative Office of the Courts

Dear Judge Walker:

The Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission is in need of one additional support staff. I am writing to request authorization to convert a portion of the contractual appropriation in our budget to a permanent position to address that need.

When the General Assembly established the Sentencing Commission, it funded two administrative staff positions to support five professional staff positions and twenty-three Commission members. Over the years, the professional staff grew to nine positions and the Commission grew to thirty members. In addition, the General Assembly expanded the Commission's mandate to include juvenile dispositional laws and policies. However, one support staff position was actually taken away from the Commission during that time.

In light of the expansion of the Commission's mandate, membership, and staff, I would like to request the restoration of the second support staff position. I believe establishing the position as a permanent position rather than a contract-for-services will result in increased efficiency in meeting the growing demands of the work of the Sentencing Commission.

Thank you for considering this request and please contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Susan Katzenelson
Executive Director