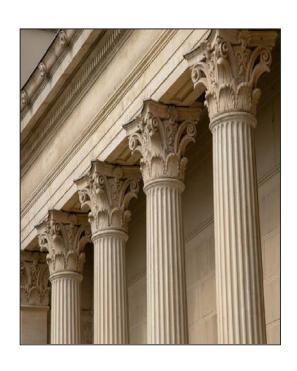
**Proposed Revisions to the Sentencing Guidelines Worksheets** 





#### Modifications to the Sentencing Guidelines



The Commission closely monitors the sentencing guidelines system and, each year, deliberates upon possible modifications to the guidelines.



Under § 17.1-806 of the *Code of Virginia*, any Guidelines modifications adopted by the Commission must be presented in its annual report, due to the General Assembly each December 1.



Unless otherwise provided by law, the changes recommended by the Commission become effective on the following July 1.



#### Proposals for New Guidelines Offenses



Proposals reflect the best fit for the historical data analyzed.



Proposals are designed to closely match the historical rate of incarceration in prison and jail.



The proposals presented today represent a <u>complete</u> <u>reanalysis</u>. Unlike previous methods that used factors from current guidelines worksheets to score historical cases, today's recommendations may include scores and factors that differ from those used previously.

Additionally, offenses with insufficient case data have been removed from the Guidelines.



### Proposal Review and Next Steps Outline

#### 1. Proposal Clarification

Answer any questions you have about the recommendations

#### 2. Feedback Request

We welcome feedback on implementation issues and design

#### 3. Next Steps if Approved: Quality Control

- Staff will review the syntax again
- Trainers will write the instructions
- IT will Identify any issues implementing the revised worksheet in SWIFT
- Staff will Develop the Recommendation C Tables

#### 4. Review Timeline

• On November 6, 2025, members may again review the recommendations in the Annual Report and the Recommendation C Tables.

Any changes will require a final vote.

#### 5. If Not Approved

We will continue refining the models and recommendations





# **Proposed Recommendation 1:**

Update the Fraud Guidelines





### Fraud Sentencing Events Examined

Sentencing Events with Fraud as the Primary Offense

|                  | Number of<br>Sentencing<br>Events |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fraud – Take All | 331                               |
| Fraud – 10 Years | 270                               |
| Fraud – 20 Years | 317                               |
| TOTAL            | 918                               |

# Section A - Proposed

# Incarceration In-Out Recommendation

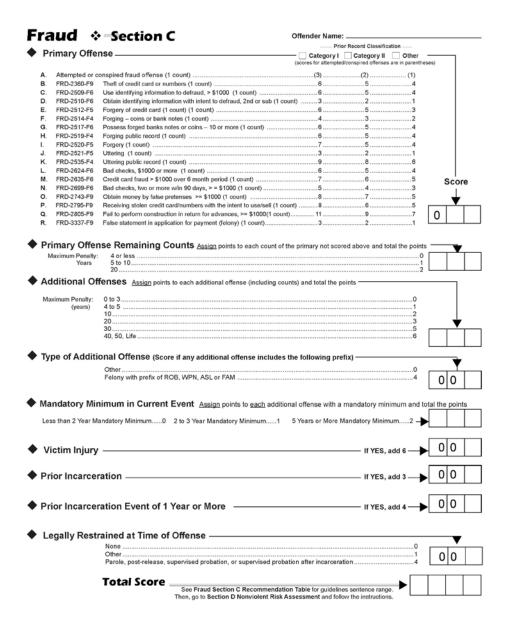
| rimary (  | Offens   | e                                 |   |   | (scores for atte                                | empted/conspired offense                         | s are in par | rentheses)- |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--------------|-------------|
|   |  | pired fraud offense (1 cour       | nt)   |   |   |  | (4)          |             |
| FRD-236   |  | eft of credit card or numbe       | ,   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-250   |  | e identifying information to      | . ,   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-251   |  | tain identifying information      |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-251   |  | rgery of credit card (1 cou       |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-251   |  | rging - coins or bank note        |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-251   |  | ssess forged banks notes          |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-251   |  | rging public record (1 cour       |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-252   |  | rgery (1 count)                   |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-252   |  | tering (1 count)                  |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-253   | 5-F4 Ut  | tering public record (1 cou       | nt)   |   |   |  | 4            |             |
| FRD-262   |  | d checks, \$1000 or more          |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-263   |  | edit card fraud > \$1000 ov       | . ,   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-269   | 5-F9° Fr   | audulently obtaining welfar       | re assistance -                                 | \$1000 or more (1 co                        | unt)  |  | 1            | Sc          |
| FRD-269   |  | d checks, two or more w/ii        |   |   | ,   |  |              | 00          |
| FRD-274   |  | tain money by false preter        |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| FRD-279   | 5-F9 R   | ceiving stolen credit card/       | numbers with th                                 | e intent to use/sell (                      | 1 count)  |  | 4            |             |
| FRD-280   | 5-F9 Fa  | il to perform construction i      | in return for adva                              | ances, >= \$1000 (1                         | count)  |  | 7            |             |
| FRD-333   |  | lse statement in applicatio       |   |   |   |  |              |             |
| ttempted an   | d conspi   | ed offenses are scored the        | e same as a con                                 | npleted act.                                |   |  |              |             |
| Remaining C   |  | Remaining Coun  0 to 1  2 or more |   |   |   |  |              | 0           |
|   |  | 0 to 1                            |   |   |   |  |              | 0           |
| Remaining 0   | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            |   |   |   |  |              | 0           |
| Remaining O   | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            |   | fenses, including co                        | unts  |  |              | 0           |
| dditiona  Primary   | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            |   | enses, including co                         | unts  |  |              | 0           |
| dditiona  Primary public re   | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            |   | renses, including co                        | unts ————————————————————————————————————       | Points   |              |             |
| dditiona  Primary public re   | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            | of additional off                               | enses, including co                         | unts  | Points 0   |              | 0           |
| Primary public re Counts 0  | I Offer  | 0 to 1                            | Points  | renses, including co                        | unts All other offenses —                       | Points   |              |             |
| Primary public re Counts 0  | I Offer  | 0 to 1                            | Points  | renses, including co                        | unts ————————————————————————————————————       | Points   |              |             |
| Primary public re Counts 0  | I Offer  | 0 to 1                            | Points  | renses, including co                        | unts All other offenses —                       | Points   |              |             |
| dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0  | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            | Points 6  | Primary offense: A Counts O                 | unts  | Points   | ]            | 0           |
| dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0  | Counts:  | 0 to 1                            | Points 6  | Primary offense: A Counts O                 | unts  | Points   | ]            |             |
| Remaining of dditiona  Primary, public re Counts 0  | I Offer offense: ecord   | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 8 8 ations Aga                         | Primary offense: A Counts O                 | unts  | Points   | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining of dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0   | Ocunts:  I Offer offense: scord  ony Co  | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 8 ations Aga                       | Primary offense: A Counts Counts 0          | aunts ————————————————————————————————————      | Points 0 2 2 3 3 4 4 ——————————————————————————— | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining C  dditiona  Primary- public re Counts 0 0  | Ocunts:  I Offer offense: ecord  ony Co  | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 8 ations Aga                       | Primary Offense:                            | all other offenses —                            | Points 0 2 2 3 3 4 4 ——————————————————————————— | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining of dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0 0 0 1 to 5 0 or more  rior Felo andatory                              | Ocunts:  I Offer offense: scord  ony Co  | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 8 ations Aga                       | Primary offense: A Counts Counts 0          | all other offenses —                            | Points 0 2 2 3 3 4 4 ——————————————————————————— | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining of dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0 0 0 1 to 5 0 or more  rior Felo andatory                              | Ocunts:  I Offer offense: ecord  ony Co  | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 8 ations Aga                       | Primary Offense:                            | all other offenses —                            | Points 0 2 2 3 3 4 4 ——————————————————————————— | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining of dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0   | Ocunts:  I Offer offense: ecord  ony Co y Minimary Offen Not Sco   | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 ations Aga                         | Primary Offense:                            | all other offenses —                            | Points 0 2 2 3 3 4 4 ——————————————————————————— | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining of dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0   | Ocunts:  I Offer offense: ecord  ony Co y Minimary Offen Not Sco   | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 ations Aga                         | Primary Offense:  Counts 0                  | e: All other offenses                           | Points0 2 2 3 4 ——If YES, add                    | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining C  dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0   | ony Co y Minimary Offen Not Sco  | 0 to 1                            | Points Points 0 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare | Primary Offense:  Counts 0                  | all other offenses —                            | Points0 2 2 3 4 ——If YES, add                    | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining C  dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0   | ony Co y Minimary Offen Not Sco  | 0 to 1                            | Points Points 0 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare | Primary Offense:  Counts 0                  | e: All other offenses                           | Points0 2 2 3 4 ——If YES, add                    | ]            | 0           |
| Remaining C  dditiona  Primary public re Counts 0   | offense: cord ony Co y Mininary Offen Not Sco  | 0 to 1                            | Points Points 0 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare | Primary Offens  Primary Offense: A Counts 0 | e: All other offenses                           | Points0 2 2 3 4 ——If YES, add                    | ]            | 0           |
| dditiona Primary public re Counts 0   | Il Offer offense: ccord  y Mini Not Sco  | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare      | Primary Offens  Primary Offense: A Counts 0 | e: All other offenses                           | Points   | dd1 →        | 0           |
| Remaining Codditiona  Primary public Counts Counts On Sor More Too Felo andatory Prim Do  rior Inca  Prim Do            | Il Offer offense: ccord  y Mini Not Sco  | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare      | Primary Offens  Primary Offense: A Counts 0 | e: All other offenses                           | Points0 2 2 3 4 ——If YES, add                    | dd1 →        | 0           |
| Remaining Codditiona  Primary public recounts Counts On 1 to 5 6 or more  rior Felo andatory Prim Do  rior Inca Prim Do | Il Offer offense: Il Offense: Il Offense: Il Offer offense: Il Offense: Il Offense: Il Offer offense: Il Off | 0 to 1                            | Points 0 6 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare      | Primary Offens  Primary Offense: A Counts 0 | e: All other offenses                           | Points   | dd1 →        | 0           |
| Remaining Codditiona  Primary public Counts Counts On Sor More Too Felo andatory Prim Do  rior Inca  Prim Do            | Il Offer offense: Il Offense: Il Offense: Il Offer offense: Il Offense: Il Offense: Il Offer offense: Il Off | 0 to 1                            | Points Points 0 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare | Primary Offense If YES, add                 | e: All other offenses 9                         | Points   | dd1 →        | 0           |
| dditiona Primary public re Counts 0   | Il Offer offense: Il Offense: Il Offense: Il Offer offense: Il Offense: Il Offense: Il Offer offense: Il Off | 0 to 1                            | Points Points 0 8 ations Aga vent ining Welfare | Primary Offense If YES, add                 | e: All other offenses 9 e: All other offenses 9 | Points   | dd1 →        | 0           |

If total is 12 or more, go to Section C.

# Section C - Proposed

Sentence Length Recommendation

Incarceration
1 Day or More



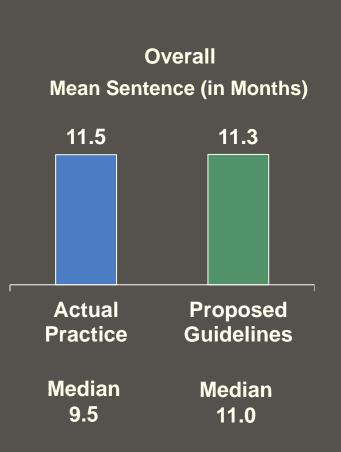
Probation/No Incarceration Incarceration 1 Day or More

Actual Practice —— 41.0% —— 59.0%

Recommended under Proposed —— 40.4% ——— 59.6% Guidelines

Proposed guidelines are closely aligned with the actual incarceration rates.

#### **Defendants Sentenced to Incarceration of 1 Day or More**



|  | Mean Sentence (in Months) |                        |  |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Most Serious Offense                           | Actual<br>Practice        | Proposed<br>Guidelines |  |
| Theft of credit card or credit card numbers    | 12.2                      | 11.8                   |  |
| Forgery, public record                         | 9.0                       | 8.8                    |  |
| Forgery  | 12.6                      | 12.2                   |  |
| Obtain identifying info with intent to defraud | 12.0                      | 12.1                   |  |
| Uttering                                       | 8.3                       | 8.0                    |  |
| False pretenses, obtain money by, >\$1000      | 12.0                      | 11.7                   |  |
| Credit card fraud, >\$1000 in 6-month period   | 15.5                      | 15.7                   |  |
| Attempts and Conspiracies                      | 14.0                      | 14.0                   |  |
| Forgery of coins or bank notes                 | 10.4                      | 10.5                   |  |
| Uttering, public record                        | 14.0                      | 14.0                   |  |

### **Defendants Sentenced to Incarceration of 1 Day or More**

| Most Sorious Offense   | Mean Sentence (in months) |                        |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Most Serious Offense   | Actual<br>Practice        | Proposed<br>Guidelines |
| Bad check, \$1000 or more                                    | 8.9                       | 8.4                    |
| Receive stolen credit card or number                         | 12.5                      | 12.5                   |
| Forgery or uttering of credit card                           | 13.9                      | 14.3                   |
| Financial loss >\$1000, use of identifying info to defraud   | 9.2                       | 9.6                    |
| Fail to perform construction in return for advances, >\$1000 | 16.2                      | 16.0                   |
| Possess forged bank notes or coins - 10 or more              | 9.9                       | 9.5                    |
| Fraudulently obtaining welfare assistance, >\$1000           | 0                         | 0                      |
| Bad checks, 2 or more w/in 90 days, >\$1000                  | 10.5                      | 10.5                   |
| False statement in application for payment                   | 4.3                       | 4.8                    |

### **Offenses Dropped From Guidelines**

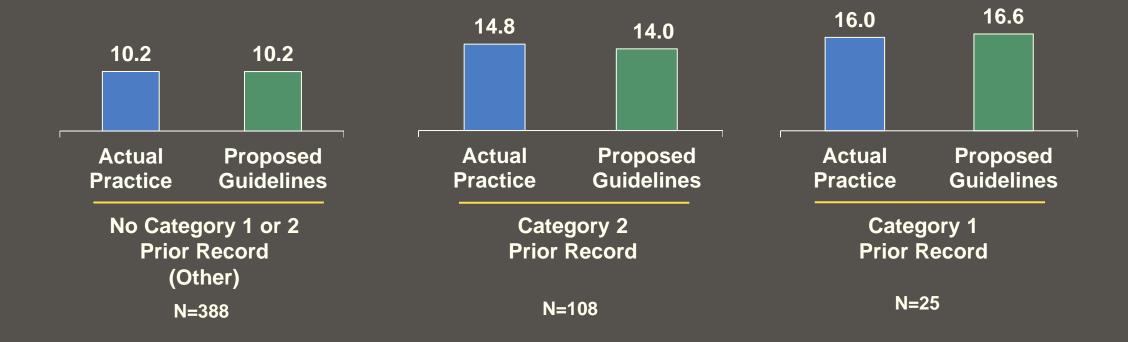
| Offense   | VCC     | Sample Size in Section C Dataset |
|---|---------|----------------------------------|
| Receiving goods from credit fraud - \$1000 or more          | FRD2807 | 0                                |
| False statements to obtain property/credit - \$1000 or more | FRD2811 | 0                                |
| False statement to obtain utilities, TV, \$1000 or more     | FRD2689 | 0                                |
| Make or possess forging instruments                         | FRD2515 | 0                                |
| Intent to defraud, funds not used to pay for labor/supplies | FRD2602 | 0                                |
| False statement to obtain hotel/motel service, >\$1000      | FRD2650 | 2                                |
| Unauthorized use of food stamps, >\$1000                    | FRD2693 | 2                                |
| False application for assistance                            | FRD2700 | 2                                |

### **Offenses Dropped From Guidelines, Continued**

| Offense   | VCC     | Sample Size in Section C Dataset |
|---|---------|----------------------------------|
| Possess credit card forging devices                           | FRD2513 | 0                                |
| Forging official seal   | FRD2516 | 0                                |
| Airline/railroad ticket, obtain at discount price by fraud    | FRD2622 | 0                                |
| Fraudulent use of birth certificate/license to obtain firearm | FRD2647 | 0                                |
| Fraud in commerical dealings with government                  | FRD2648 | 0                                |
| Buying pig iron with intent to defraud                        | FRD2675 | 0                                |
| Submitting a false certified statement to government agency   | FRD2684 | 0                                |
| Obtain signature, writing by false pretenses                  | FRD2742 | 0                                |

**Defendants Sentenced to Incarceration of 1 Day or More** 

Mean Sentence (in Months) by Prior Record Category



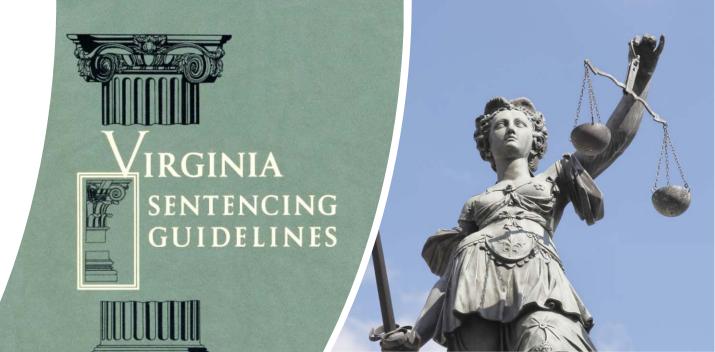
14



### **Proposed Recommendation 1:**

Update Sentencing Guidelines for fraud to better reflect recent sentencing practices.







# **Proposed Recommendation 2:**

Update the Larceny Guidelines



IRGINIA

SENTENCING

GUIDELINES

### Larceny Sentencing Events Examined

**Sentencing Events with Larceny as the Primary Offense** 

|                            | Number of<br>Sentencing<br>Events |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Larceny - Take All         | 201                               |
| Larceny - 5 Yr Max         | 144                               |
| Grand Larceny - Property   | 145                               |
| Grand Larceny - Person     | 144                               |
| Grand Larceny - Firearm    | 146                               |
| Grand Larceny - Auto       | 144                               |
| Embezzlement               | 142                               |
| Stolen Property / Shoplift | 146                               |
| TOTAL                      | 1212                              |

# Section A - Proposed

# **Incarceration In-Out Recommendation**

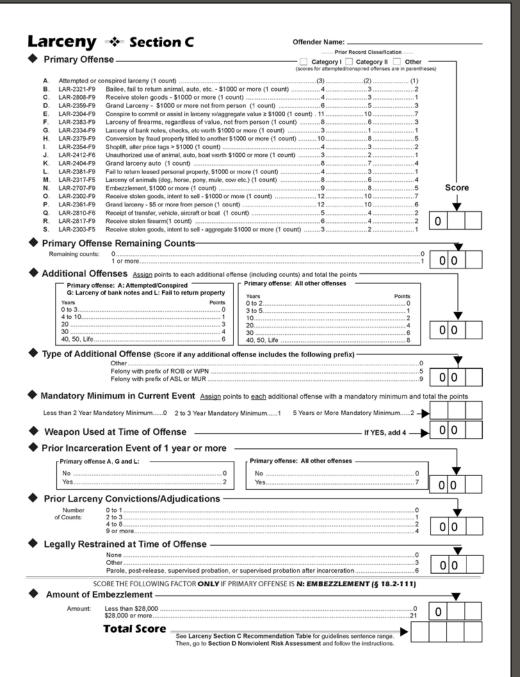
| arceny =   | *= Section A   | Offender Name:   |                |
|--|--|--|----------------|
| Primary Offens   | e  | (scores for attempted/conspired offenses are i   | n parentheses) |
|  |  |  |                |
|  |  | (4   |                |
| B. LAR-2321-F9*  |  | more (1 count)   |                |
| C. LAR-2808-F9   |  | (4   |                |
| D. LAR-2359-F9   |  | (1 count)  |                |
| E. LAR-2304-F9   |  | value ≥ \$1000 (1 count)   |                |
| F. LAR-2383-F9   |  | person (1 count)   |                |
| G. LAR-2334-F9 H. LAR-2379-F9                              |  | ore (1 count)  |                |
| II. Date Zoro I o  |  |  |                |
| <ul> <li>I. LAR-2354-F9</li> <li>J. LAR-2412-F6</li> </ul> |  | or more (1 count)  |                |
|  |  | ,  |                |
| K. LAR-2404-F9 L. LAR-2381-F9                              |  | - /4   |                |
| M. LAR-2317-F5   |  | e (1 count)  |                |
| N. LAR-2707-F9   |  | ) (1 count)  |                |
| O. LAR-2302-F9   |  | 1 count)   |                |
| P. LAR-2361-F9   |  |  |                |
| Q. LAR-2810-F6   |  |  |                |
| R. LAR-2810-F6   |  | 1  |                |
| S. LAR-2303-F5   |  | 0 or more (1 count)  |                |
|  | enspired offenses are scored the same as a complete  |  |                |
| Attempted and co   | nspired orienses are scored are same as a compred    | Fu BCL   |                |
| Primary Offense  | Remaining Counts ————                                |  |                |
| Remaining Counts:  | 0  |  |                |
|  | 1  |  | 2   0          |
|  | 2 or more  |  | 3              |
| Maximum Penalty:<br>(years)                                | 1 to 10  |  | 2 <b>*</b>     |
| Prior Conviction   | ns/Adjudications Number of convictions/a             |  |                |
| Number of Counts:  | •  | aujunications for misuemeanors and leionies  | ,              |
| Number of Counts;  | •  |  | _              |
|  |  |  |                |
|  |  |  |                |
|  |  |  |                |
| Mandatory Mini   | mum in Current Event ————                            | If YES, add 16   | <b>▶</b>       |
| Prior Incarcerat   | ions/Commitments                                     | ——————————————————————————————————————   | <b>▶</b> 0     |
| Prior Juvenile I   | Record   | If YES, add 2  | • 0            |
| Legally Restrai  | ned at Time of Offense                               |  |                |
| • .  |  | 0  |                |
| C  | ther   | 6  | 0              |
| Р  | arole, post-release, supervised probation, or superv | ised probation after incarceration8  |                |
| ,  | Total Score  |  |                |
|  | If total is 18 or less                               | s, the guidelines sentence is Probation/No Incarceration. If total is 19 or more, go to Section C. |                |

If total is 19 or more, go to Section C.

# Section C - Proposed

Sentence Length Recommendation

Incarceration 1 Day or More



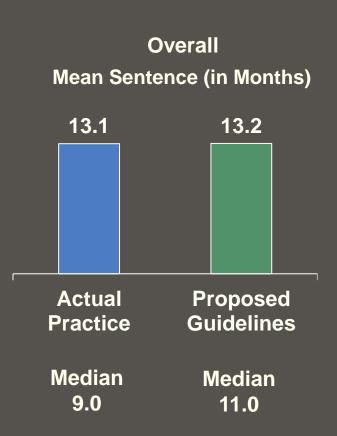
Probation/No Incarceration Incarceration 1 Day or More

**Actual Practice** — 36.9% — 63.1%

Recommended under Proposed —— 36.3% —— 63.7% Guidelines

Proposed guidelines are closely aligned with the actual incarceration rates.

#### Defendants Sentenced to Incarceration of 1 Day or More



|  | Mean Sentence (in months) |                        |  |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Most Serious Offense                               | Actual<br>Practice        | Proposed<br>Guidelines |  |
| Auto theft   | 15.0                      | 14.6                   |  |
| Grand larceny                                      | 12.5                      | 12.9                   |  |
| Larceny from person, >\$5                          | 16.9                      | 16.9                   |  |
| Larceny of firearm                                 | 20.4                      | 20.3                   |  |
| Unauthorized use of of animal, auto, boat, >\$1000 | 7.5                       | 8.1                    |  |
| Embezzlement, >\$1000                              | 12.4                      | 12.9                   |  |
| Shoplift, alter price tags, >\$1000                | 9.2                       | 9.2                    |  |
| Receive stolen property, >\$1000                   | 11.9                      | 11.7                   |  |

### **Defendants Sentenced to Incarceration of 1 Day or More**

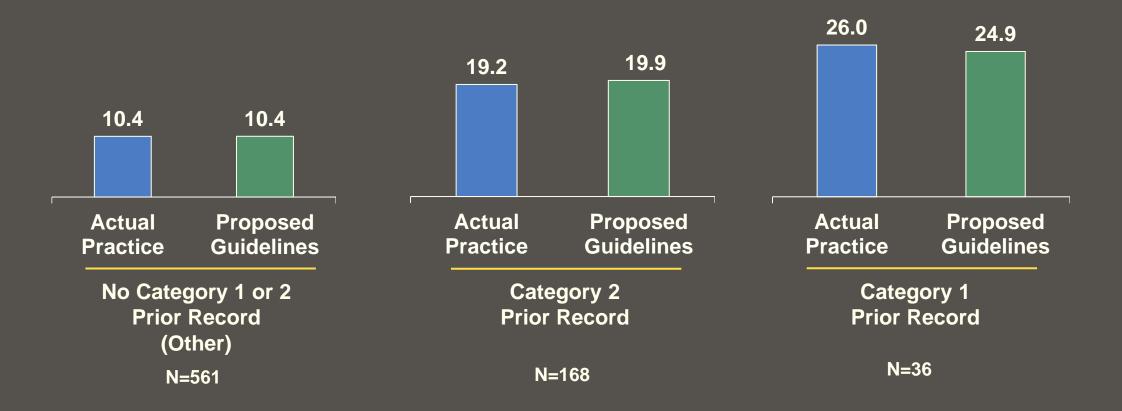
|   | Mean Sentence (in months) |                        |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Most Serious Offense                                  | Actual Practice           | Proposed<br>Guidelines |
| Receipt or transfer of stolen vehicle, aircraft, boat | 8.4                       | 9.1                    |
| Receive stolen firearm                                | 8.9                       | 9.1                    |
| Sell stolen property, >\$1000 in aggregate            | 9.3                       | 9.3                    |
| Attempted or Conspired Larceny                        | 7.9                       | 7.8                    |
| Sell stolen property, >\$1000                         | 17.7                      | 17.3                   |
| Bailee, fail to return animal, auto, etc., >\$1000    | 6.7                       | 6.7                    |
| Larceny of book of accounts, >\$1000                  | 11.8                      | 12.1                   |
| Leased property, fail to return, >\$1000              | 5.1                       | 6.4                    |
| Larceny of animals (dogs, horses, and cows)           | 6.5                       | 6.4                    |
| Conspire to commit larceny, >\$1000 in aggregate      | 19.0                      | 19.2                   |

### **Offenses Dropped From Guidelines**

| Offense   | VCC     | Sample Size in Section C Dataset |
|---|---------|----------------------------------|
| Animals and poultry, <\$1000                                | LAR2318 | 0                                |
| Fraudulent entry by financial officer                       | LAR2336 | 0                                |
| Altering, defacing, removing, possessing serial no. >\$1000 | LAR2372 | 0                                |
| Theft or destruction of public record                       | LAR2373 | 0                                |
| Embezzlement by public officer                              | LAR2706 | 0                                |
| Goods on approval, fail to pay or return goods >\$1000      | LAR2380 | 0                                |
| Special commissioner, fail to account for money, >\$1000    | LAR2382 | 0                                |
| Conversion by fraud of property titled to another, >\$1000  | LAR2379 | 3                                |

**Defendants Sentenced to Incarceration of 1 Day or More** 

Mean Sentence (in Months) by Prior Record Category





# **Proposed Recommendation 2:**

Update Sentencing Guidelines for larceny to better reflect recent sentencing practices.



