DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Criminal Justice System Review

Criminal Justice System Review

- Review criminal justice system and sentencing reforms over the past decade.

- Identify and examine systemic problems that make the system less efficient and seek ways to ensure just outcomes for those disproportionately impacted by the CJS.

- Enhance public safety, provide value for money and ensure that the system reflects core Canadian values.

(1) Core Principles of the CJS

- In what ways does the CJS reflect Canadian values?

- What changes are required to ensure that the purposes and principles of the CJS reflect Canadian values?

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(2) Efficiency in the CJS

- Can we improve efficiencies and make better use of existing resources:

  - at the investigative and pre-trial stage?
  - during trial?
  - post trial, including within the corrections system?
  - reintegration into society?

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(3) Sentencing

- How can sentencing laws and their application be improved to ensure just results for the offender, the victim and for society?

- How do we properly balance sentencing principles such as deterrence, denunciation, rehabilitation and reparation and acknowledgement of the harm done?

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(4) Impacts of the CJS on Vulnerable Populations

- What areas of the CJS have the greatest impact on vulnerable members of Canadian society, as victims or as accused?

- What changes can be made so that just outcomes at all stages are provided to those disproportionately involved in the CJS?

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Opportunities for Improvement

- Where should efforts be focussed in order to better address the causes and consequences of crime?

- What should be the priorities for improving the CJS?

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Contact Information

Steve Mihorean

Criminal Justice System Review

(613) 957-4940

steve.mihorean@justice.gc.ca

Matthew Taylor

Criminal Law Policy Section

(613) 957-4716

matthew.taylor@justice.gc.ca

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