

its policy priorities for the upcoming amendment cycle. The Commission hereby gives notice of these policy priorities.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Courlander, Public Affairs Officer, Telephone: (202) 502-4590.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Sentencing Commission, an independent commission in the judicial branch of the United States Government, is authorized by 28 U.S.C. 994(a) to promulgate sentencing guidelines and policy statements for federal courts. Section 994 also directs the Commission periodically to review and revise promulgated guidelines and authorizes it to submit guideline amendments to Congress not later than the first day of May each year. See 28 U.S.C. 994(o), (p).

As part of its statutory authority and responsibility to analyze sentencing issues, including operation of the federal sentencing guidelines, the Commission has identified certain priorities as the focus of its policy development work, including possible amendments to guidelines, policy statements, and commentary, for the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2003. While the Commission intends to address these priority issues, it recognizes that other factors, such as the enactment of legislation requiring Commission action, may affect the Commission's ability to complete work on all of the identified policy priorities by the statutory deadline of May 1, 2003. The Commission may address any unfinished policy work from this agenda during the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2004.

For the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2003, and possibly continuing into the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2004, the Commission has identified the following policy priorities: (1) Implementation of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-204, which pertains to corporate fraud, securities fraud, as well as other general types of fraud, and requires the Commission to promulgate amendments under emergency amendment authority; (2) implementation of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-155, which requires the Commission to promulgate amendments under emergency amendment authority; (3) in conjunction with its work on the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002, a review of the public corruption guidelines in Chapter Two, Part C (Offenses Involving Public Officials), through the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2004; (4) continuation of its policy work relating to the USA

PATRIOT ACT, Pub. L. 107-56, nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons offenses, and other terrorism offenses, including offenses created by the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-188, and the Terrorist Bombings Convention Implementation Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-197; (5) continuation of its work on the 15 Year Study, which is composed of a number of projects geared toward analyzing the guidelines in light of the goals of sentencing reform described in the Sentencing Reform Act and the statutory purposes of sentencing set forth in 18 U.S.C. 3553(a)(2); (6) continuation, through the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2004, of its research, policy work, and possible guideline amendments relating to Chapter Four (Criminal History and Criminal Livelihood), which may include (A) assessment of the calculation of criminal history points for first time offenders and offenders who are in the highest criminal history categories; (B) assessment of the criminal history rules for minor offenses, juvenile offenses, and expunged convictions; (C) assessment of the criminal history rules for related cases; and (D) consideration of other application issues relating to simplifying the operation of Chapter Four; (7) § 3E1.1 (Acceptance of Responsibility), which may include an assessment of downward adjustments given for timely entry of a guilty plea prior to trial preparation, provision of information regarding the defendant's role in the offense, and the criteria for demonstrating acceptance of responsibility; (8) consideration, through the amendment cycle ending May 1, 2004, of amendment proposals pertaining to compassionate release programs; and (9) other miscellaneous and limited issues pertaining to the operation of the sentencing guidelines, including (A) offenses involving trafficking in oxycodone; (B) offenses involving trafficking in red phosphorous; (C) offenses involving the unlawful sale or transportation of drug paraphernalia; (D) § 5G1.3 (Imposition of a Sentence on a Defendant Subject to an Undischarged Term of Imprisonment); and (E) policies for voluntary disclosure of offense conduct by defendants (§ 5K2.16 (Voluntary Disclosure of Offense)) and related guidelines. The Commission also will continue to provide its assistance to Congress and the Administration with respect to the Commission's report to Congress, *Cocaine and Federal Sentencing Policy*, which was submitted in May 2002.

**Authority:** 28 U.S.C. 994(a), (o); USSC Rules of Practice and Procedure 5.2.

**Diana E. Murphy,**  
*Chair.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Chiropractic Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Chiropractic Advisory Committee will hold its first meeting on Monday, September 23, 2002, through Wednesday, September 25, 2002, at the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Room 430 Washington DC 20420. The meeting will convene daily at 8:30 a.m. and conclude Monday and Tuesday at 5 p.m. and Wednesday at 12 noon. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide direct assistance and advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the development and implementation of the chiropractic health program. Matters on which the Committee shall assist and advise the Secretary include protocols governing referrals to chiropractors, direct access to chiropractic care, scope of practice of chiropractic practitioners, definitions of services to be provided and such other matters as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

On September 23, the Committee will convene its opening session with an overview of the mission and objectives of the Committee, an ethics briefing, and orientation briefings on requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and other administrative matters. The Committee will also receive briefings from the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) on the current status of chiropractic care within VHA. On September 24, the Committee will receive briefings on human resources policies pertinent to the charge of the Committee and begin discussion of a work plan for the Committee and how to address of scope of practice issues. On September 25, the Committee will continue discussion on scope of practice of chiropractic practitioners and conclude with a discussion of action items for the Committee.

Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting is requested to contact Ms. Sara McVicker, RN, MN, Committee Manager, at (202) 273-8558, no later than 2 days before the meeting

in order to facilitate entry to the building. No time will be allocated at this meeting for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, the Committee will accept written comments from interested parties on issues affecting the development and implementation of the chiropractic health program within the Veterans Health Administration. Comments can be transmitted electronically to the Committee at [sara.mcvicker@mail.va.gov](mailto:sara.mcvicker@mail.va.gov) or mailed to: Chiropractic Advisory Committee, Primary and Ambulatory Care SHG (112), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: August 23, 2002.  
By Direction of the Secretary.

**Ron Aument,**  
*Deputy Chief of Staff.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans; Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with Public Law 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act), gives notice that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Homeless

Veterans will be held from Wednesday, September 18, 2002, through Friday, September 20, 2002, at the VA Medical Center, Room 100, 10000 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. each day and conclude on Wednesday and Thursday at 4:30 p.m. and Friday at noon. the meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with an on-going assessment of the effectiveness of the policies, organizational structures, and services of the Department in assisting homeless veterans. The Committee shall assemble and review information relating to the needs of homeless veterans and provide on going advice on the most appropriate means of providing assistance to homeless veterans. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

On September 18, the Committee will visit program sites in the Cleveland, Ohio, area that provide housing and supportive services to homeless veterans. On September 19, the Committee will receive information about Federal efforts to coordinate services, veteran access to homeless services from VA health and benefits programs and review new initiatives to assist veterans. On September 20, the Committee will conclude with reviews of previous presentations and discuss future actions for the Committee,

including formulation of Committee recommendations.

Those wishing to attend the meeting should contact Mr. Pete Dougherty, Department of Veterans Affairs, at (202) 273-5764. No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, the Committee will accept written comments from interested parties on issues affecting homeless veterans. Such comments should be referred to the Committee at the following address: Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, Homeless Veterans Programs Office (075D), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: August 23, 2002.  
By Direction of the Secretary.

**Ron Aument,**  
*Deputy Chief of Staff.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Medical Research Service Merit Review Committee, Notice of Meetings**

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., of the following meetings to be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. as indicated below:

Subcommittee for	Date(s)	Location
Respiration .....	September 19, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Immunology & Dermatology .....	September 19, 2002 .....	Washington Plaza
Surgery .....	September 23, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Aging & Clinical Geriatrics .....	September 27, 2002 .....	Washington Plaza
Nephrology .....	September 27, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Cardiovascular Studies .....	September 30, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
General Medical Science .....	September 30, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Endocrinology .....	October 3-4, 2002 .....	Marriott Residence Inn
Alcoholism & Drug Dependence .....	October 4, 2002 .....	Washington Plaza
Mental Health & Behav Sciences .....	October 7, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Gastroenterology .....	October 14, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Clinical Research Program .....	October 16, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Infectious Diseases .....	October 17-18, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Neurobiology-C .....	October 18, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Oncology .....	October 21-22, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Hematology .....	October 24, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Neurobiology-D .....	October 24-25, 2002 .....	Marriott Residence Inn
Epidemiology .....	October 29, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central
Medical Research Service Merit Review Committee .....	December 5, 2002 .....	Holiday Inn Central

The addresses of the hotels are:  
Holiday Inn Central, 1501 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC  
Marriott Residence Inn—Thomas Circle, 1199 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC  
Washington Plaza, 10 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC

These subcommittee meetings are for the purpose of evaluating the scientific merit of research conducted in each specialty by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) investigators working in VA Medical Centers and Clinics. The subcommittee meetings will be open to the public for approximately one hour at the start of each meeting to

discuss the general status of the program. The remaining portion of each subcommittee meeting will be closed to the public for the review, discussion, and evaluation of initial and renewal projects. The closed portion of the meetings involves discussion, examination, reference to and oral review of site