

the advisory group charter) is available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ussc.gov/about/who-we-are/advisory-groups>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The United States Sentencing Commission is an independent agency in the judicial branch of the United States Government. The Commission promulgates sentencing guidelines and policy statements for federal sentencing courts pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(a). The Commission also periodically reviews and revises previously promulgated guidelines pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(o) and submits guideline amendments to the Congress not later than the first day of May each year pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 994(p). Under 28 U.S.C. 995 and Rule 5.4 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may create standing or ad hoc advisory groups to facilitate formal and informal input to the Commission. Upon creating an advisory group, the Commission may prescribe the policies regarding the purpose, membership, and operation of the group as the Commission deems necessary or appropriate.

The Commission recently adopted a formal charter for the Federal Public Defenders Advisory Group. Under the charter, the purpose of the advisory group is:

(1) To assist the Commission in carrying out its statutory responsibilities under 28 U.S.C. 994(o);

(2) to provide to the Commission its views on the Commission's activities and work, including proposed priorities and amendments;

(3) to disseminate to federal defenders, and to other professionals in public defender and community defender organizations, information regarding federal sentencing issues; and

(4) to perform other related functions as the Commission requests.

The Federal Public Defenders Advisory Group shall consist of no more than 17 voting members. Of those 17 voting members, one shall be Chair, one shall be Vice Chair, 12 shall be circuit members (one for each federal judicial circuit other than the Federal Circuit), and three shall be at-large members. To be eligible to serve as a voting member, an individual must be an attorney (1) from a federal public defender organization or community defender organization; (2) with significant experience with federal sentencing or post convictions issues related to

criminal sentences; and (3) in good standing of the highest court of the jurisdiction or jurisdictions in which he or she is admitted to practice. All voting members are appointed by the Commission. Circuit members shall be selected from the circuit in which their respective federal public defender organizations or community defender organizations are located.

All voting members of the Federal Public Defenders Advisory Group shall serve not more than two consecutive three-year terms. However, the terms of the initial voting membership shall be staggered so that—

(1) the initial Chair shall serve a term of three years;

(2) the initial Vice Chair shall serve a term of two years;

(3) of the initial circuit members, 4 shall serve a term of three years, 4 two years, and 4 one year; and

(4) of the initial at-large members, 1 shall serve a term of three years, 1 two years, and 1 one year.

The Commission invites any individual who is eligible to be appointed to the initial voting membership of the Federal Public Defenders Advisory Group to apply by sending a letter of interest and a resume to the Commission as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** section above.

**Authority:** 28 U.S.C. 994(a), (o), (p), § 995; USSC Rules of Practice and Procedure 5.2, 5.4.

**Patti B. Saris,**  
*Chair.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., App. 2, that the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War (FPOW) will meet on August 16-18, 2016 at 425 I Street NW., 4th Floor, Room 4E.400, Washington, DC. The meetings will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on August 16-17 and 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on August 18. All sessions are open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of VA on the

administration of benefits under Title 38, United States Code, for Veterans who are former prisoners of war, and to make recommendations on the needs of such Veterans for compensation, health care, and rehabilitation.

On Tuesday, August 16, the Committee will meet in open session and will hear from its Chairman and the Secretary of VA. In addition, the VA Office of General Counsel will provide annual ethics training. On Wednesday, August 17, the Committee will host an open public forum and will receive briefings by representatives of Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Health Administration. On Thursday, August 18, the Committee will assemble in open session from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. From 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., the Committee will convene a closed session in order to protect patient privacy as the Committee tours the VA Central Office. The Committee will reconvene at 10:30 a.m. to draft the beginning of their 2016 recommendations and decide the location of their next meeting.

Former Prisoners of War who wish to speak at the public forum are invited to submit a 1-2 page summary of their comments at the end of the meeting for inclusion in the official meeting record. Members of the public may also submit written statements for the Committee's review to Mr. Eric Robinson, Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War (and Program Analyst Compensation Service), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., (212), Washington, DC 20420, or via email at [eric.robinson3@va.gov](mailto:eric.robinson3@va.gov). Any member of the public seeking additional information should contact Mr. Robinson via email or call (202) 443-6016. Because the meeting will be held in a Government building, anyone attending must be prepared to show a valid photo ID. Please allow 15 minutes before the meeting begins for this process. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting or seeking additional information should contact Mr. Robinson.

Dated: June 14, 2016.

**Jelessa Burney,**

*Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

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