

## RECOMMENDATION TO THE LEGISLATURE OF ALASKA FROM THE ALASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

### **Recommendation 11-2020, adopted December 3, 2020: Create the Alaska Criminal Justice Advisory Taskforce**

The Alaska Criminal Justice Commission is scheduled to sunset beginning June 30, 2021 and conclude its affairs by June 30, 2022. The Commission recommends that certain of its key duties and functions should continue, and that these duties and functions should be taken up by a new successor body: The Alaska Criminal Justice Advisory Taskforce. The duties and functions of the Taskforce should include:

- Data analysis, research, and reporting on all aspects of Alaska's criminal justice system established in the Alaska Constitution, including state laws, public safety, rehabilitation, crime and incarceration rates, the needs of victims, and other factors as set forth in the Alaska Constitution;
- Receiving data related to the criminal justice system from the Alaska Department of Corrections, the Alaska Department of Public Safety, the Alaska Department of Law, and the Alaska Court System;
- Identifying areas for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system;
- Recommending expenditures from the Recidivism Reduction Fund;
- Making other recommendations and providing analysis as requested by the Legislature, the Executive, and the Judiciary; and
- Issuing an annual report.

The Commission recommends that membership of the Taskforce should be substantially the same as that of the Commission with the following minor changes:

- Appointments to the Taskforce should be made to ensure representation of rural Alaska on the Taskforce;
- The Commissioner of the Department of Health and Social Services should be a voting member;
- Rather than the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Division of the Department of Law or their designee should be a voting member;
- Rather than a municipal law enforcement representative, there should be two peace officer representatives, one representing a rural community off the road system and one representing an urban community, who should be appointed by the Alaska Chiefs of Police; and
- The victims' rights advocate should be appointed by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

**ACJC Recommendation 11-2020**  
**Criminal Justice Advisory Taskforce**

Rather than providing the definition of recidivism in the section of the statutes describing the annual report requirements, the Commission recommends that the definition of recidivism should be located in the definition section.