



# Guidelines E-News

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### **Revisions to the Sentencing Matrices for Drug and Property Offenses, Effective July 1, 2022**

Following a review of sentencing guidelines compliance, the Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy (MSCCSP) approved during its December 7, 2021, business meeting, revisions to the sentencing matrices for drug and property offenses. The revisions are displayed in **red** on the following two pages. The intent of the revisions is to more accurately reflect current sentencing practices for these offenses, while also maintaining proportionality across the rows and columns of the sentencing matrices (additional details of the review and implementation processes can be found [here](#)).

The revisions will be adopted in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) **effective July 1, 2022**, and should be used for cases sentenced on or after this date. Because guidelines are often calculated in advance of sentencing, this information is being shared with criminal justice practitioners one month prior to the effective date of the revisions. Practitioners will receive a follow-up email notice on June 30, 2022, with a reminder of the changes to the matrices taking effect the following day and a link to the revised Maryland Sentencing Guidelines Manual (MSGM).

**Please note that guidelines calculated in advance of sentencing may need to be recalculated if the sentencing date is postponed or moved up.** Instructions for how to account for the revisions to the guidelines ranges in the Maryland Automated Guidelines System (MAGS) and in the Guidelines Calculator Tool (GLCT) are detailed beginning on page 4 of this E-News. Additionally, upcoming training opportunities addressing the revisions to the matrices, as well as recordings of prior trainings, are available on the [MSCCSP website](#).

### Sentencing Matrix for Drug Offenses

Row 1 – Current range. Row 2 – Approved revised range, effective 7/1/2022.

<i>Offender Score</i>								
<i>Offense Seriousness Category</i>	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7 or more
<b>VII</b>	P [no change]	P [no change]	P P-1M	P-1M P-3M	P-3M P-4M	P-6M [no change]	3M-6M P-9M	6M-2Y P-1Y
<b>VI</b>	Available for future use. There are currently no seriousness category VI drug offenses.							
<b>V</b>	P-1M [no change]	P-6M P-3M	P-1Y P-4M	1M-1Y P-6M	2M-18M P-9M	3M-2Y P-1Y	4M-3Y 1M-18M	6M-4Y 2M-2Y
<b>IV</b>	P-3M [no change]	P-9M P-4M	1M-1Y P-6M	2M-18M P-9M	3M-2Y P-1Y	4M-2.5Y 1M-18M	6M-3Y 2M-2Y	8M-5Y 3M-3Y
<b>III-A</b> Marijuana import 45 kilograms or more, and MDMA 750 grams or more	P-18M P-6M	P-2Y P-9M	6M-2Y P-18M	1Y-4Y 1M-2Y	2Y-6Y 3M-3Y	3Y-8Y 6M-5Y	4Y-12Y 1Y-6Y	10Y-20Y 2Y-8Y
<b>III-B</b> Non-marijuana and non-MDMA, Except Import	6M-3Y P-9M	1Y-3Y P-18M	18M-4Y 1M-2Y	3Y-7Y 3M-3Y	4Y-8Y 6M-5Y	5Y-10Y 1Y-6Y	7Y-14Y 2Y-8Y	12Y-20Y 4Y-12Y
<b>III-C</b> Non-marijuana and non-MDMA, Import	1Y-4Y P-18M	2Y-5Y 1M-2Y	3Y-6Y 3M-3Y	4Y-7Y 6M-5Y	5Y-8Y 1Y-6Y	6Y-10Y 2Y-8Y	8Y-15Y 4Y-12Y	15Y-25Y 6Y-14Y
<b>II</b>	20Y-24Y 16Y-20Y	22Y-26Y 18Y-22Y	24Y-28Y 20Y-24Y	26Y-30Y 22Y-26Y	28Y-32Y 24Y-28Y	30Y-36Y 26Y-30Y	32Y-37Y 28Y-32Y	35Y-40Y 30Y-36Y

P=Probation, M=Months, Y=Years

## Sentencing Matrix for Property Offenses

Row 1 – Current range. Row 2 – Approved revised range, effective 7/1/2022.

<i>Offender Score</i>								
<i>Offense Seriousness Category</i>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7 or more</b>
<b>VII</b>	P-1M <span style="color: red;">P</span>	P-3M <span style="color: red;">[no change]</span>	3M-9M <span style="color: red;">P-6M</span>	6M-1Y <span style="color: red;">P-9M</span>	9M-18M <span style="color: red;">P-1Y</span>	1Y-2Y <span style="color: red;">P-18M</span>	1Y-3Y <span style="color: red;">1M-2Y</span>	3Y-5Y <span style="color: red;">6M-2.5Y</span>
<b>VI</b>	P-3M <span style="color: red;">[no change]</span>	P-6M <span style="color: red;">[no change]</span>	3M-1Y <span style="color: red;">P-9M</span>	6M-2Y <span style="color: red;">P-1Y</span>	1Y-3Y <span style="color: red;">P-18M</span>	2Y-5Y <span style="color: red;">1M-2Y</span>	3Y-6Y <span style="color: red;">3M-3Y</span>	5Y-10Y <span style="color: red;">9M-5Y</span>
<b>V</b>	P-6M <span style="color: red;">[no change]</span>	P-1Y <span style="color: red;">P-9M</span>	3M-2Y <span style="color: red;">P-1Y</span>	1Y-3Y <span style="color: red;">P-18M</span>	18M-5Y <span style="color: red;">1M-2Y</span>	3Y-7Y <span style="color: red;">3M-3Y</span>	4Y-8Y <span style="color: red;">6M-5Y</span>	8Y-15Y <span style="color: red;">1Y-6Y</span>
<b>IV</b>	P-1Y <span style="color: red;">P-9M</span>	3M-2Y <span style="color: red;">P-1Y</span>	6M-3Y <span style="color: red;">P-18M</span>	1Y-4Y <span style="color: red;">1M-2Y</span>	18M-7Y <span style="color: red;">3M-3Y</span>	3Y-8Y <span style="color: red;">6M-5Y</span>	5Y-12Y <span style="color: red;">9M-6Y</span>	10Y-20Y <span style="color: red;">18M-8Y</span>
<b>III</b>	P-2Y <span style="color: red;">P-1Y</span>	6M-3Y <span style="color: red;">P-18M</span>	9M-5Y <span style="color: red;">1M-2Y</span>	1Y-5Y <span style="color: red;">3M-3Y</span>	2Y-8Y <span style="color: red;">6M-5Y</span>	3Y-10Y <span style="color: red;">9M-6Y</span>	7Y-15Y <span style="color: red;">1Y-8Y</span>	15Y-30Y <span style="color: red;">2Y-9Y</span>
<b>II</b>	2Y-5Y <span style="color: red;">1Y-3Y</span>	3Y-7Y <span style="color: red;">18M-4Y</span>	5Y-8Y <span style="color: red;">2Y-5Y</span>	5Y-10Y <span style="color: red;">3Y-7Y</span>	8Y-15Y <span style="color: red;">5Y-8Y</span>	10Y-18Y <span style="color: red;">5Y-10Y</span>	12Y-20Y <span style="color: red;">7Y-12Y</span>	15Y-40Y <span style="color: red;">8Y-15Y</span>

P=Probation, M=Months, Y=Years

## Directions for How to Account for the Revisions to the Guidelines Ranges in MAGS and GLCT

In accordance with the July 1, 2022, effective date, the Maryland Automated Guidelines System (MAGS) and Guidelines Calculator Tool (GLCT) will be reprogrammed to account for the revisions to the sentencing drug and property matrices. As illustrated in the screenshot below, effective June 1, 2022, an alert message will populate when calculating guidelines for an offense seriousness category and offender score combination whose guidelines range will be revised effective July 1. Practitioners will select whether the sentence date will take place on or after July 1, 2022, and the guidelines will be calculated accordingly. Please note, should the date of sentencing be postponed or moved up, the guidelines will be automatically updated to correspond to those in effect based on the sentencing date entered on the *GLS/Overall Sentence* tab.

The screenshot displays the 'Maryland Sentencing Guidelines Worksheet - OFFENSE/OFFENDER SCORE' interface. A modal dialog box titled 'Guideline Change Confirmation' is centered on the screen, outlined in red. The dialog text reads: 'Effective 07/01/2022, the guidelines for this offense seriousness category and offender score have changed. Will the sentence date take place on or after 07/01/2022? Note: The sentencing guidelines in effect at the time of sentencing shall be used to calculate the guidelines.' At the bottom of the dialog are 'Yes' and 'No' buttons. The background interface includes a header with 'Save this page', 'Delete this Offense', and 'Cancel' buttons. Below the header, there are input fields for 'Event # 1', 'Count 3', 'Offense Date', 'Convicted Offense Title', 'Attempt/Conspiracy/Solicitation' radio buttons, 'Enhancement', 'Flag offense for multiple victim stacking rule', 'CJIS Code', and 'Offender Score'. The 'Offender Score' section contains four categories (A, B, C, D) with radio button options. At the bottom of the worksheet, there are fields for 'Guidelines Range for Offense' and 'Overall Guidelines Range', along with a 'Calculate Guidelines Range' button.