

## HISTORY OF MANDATORY SENTENCES

<b>1951</b>	<b>Boggs Act</b> imposes federal mandatory minimum penalties for drug offenses.
<b>1956</b>	<b>Boggs Act</b> enhancements increase federal penalties for drug law offenses.
<b>1970</b>	<b>Comprehensive Drug Abuse and Control Act</b> repeals the Boggs Acts.
<b>1973</b>	<b>New York</b> enacts <b>Rockefeller drug laws</b> , which establish mandatory 15-year and life sentences for certain drug offenses.
<b>1978</b>	<b>Michigan's 650 Lifer Law</b> establishes mandatory minimum penalty of life without parole for 650 grams of cocaine or heroin and establishes mandatory sentences for lesser amounts of drugs.
<b>1984</b>	<b>Comprehensive Crime Control Act</b> establishes U.S. Sentencing Commission, phases out parole and sets mandatory sentences for crimes with guns.
<b>1986</b>	<b>Anti-Drug Abuse Act</b> enacts new federal mandatory minimums for drug offenses.
<b>1987</b>	U.S. Sentencing Commission establishes <b>U.S. Sentencing Guidelines</b> to provide framework for sentencing all federal offenders.
<b>1988</b>	<b>Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act</b> adds mandatory minimum penalty for possession of crack and includes conspiracy convictions in mandatory sentencing scheme.
<b>1989</b>	In <i>Mistretta v. U.S.</i> , U.S. Supreme Court rules federal sentencing guidelines and mandatory minimums do not violate separation of powers.
<b>1990</b>	In <i>Harmelin v. State of Michigan</i> , U.S. Supreme Court rules Michigan 650 Lifer Law does not violate Eighth Amendment right against cruel and unusual punishment.
<b>1993</b>	<b>LSD</b> dosage weight standardized under U.S. Sentencing Guidelines. FAMM led campaign for change.
<b>1994</b>	Congress enacts <b>safety-valve</b> provision allowing federal judges to exempt certain nonviolent, first-time drug offenders from mandatory minimum penalties. FAMM led campaign for change.
<b>1995</b>	<b>Marijuana</b> plant weight standardized under U.S. Sentencing Guidelines. FAMM led campaign for change.
<b>1996</b>	Arizona voters pass <b>Proposition 200</b> , which diverts offenders convicted of first- and second-time drug possession from prison to treatment.
<b>1998</b>	Michigan legislature repeals state's <b>650-lifer law</b> after successful FAMM-led campaign. Nearly 200 lifers become eligible for parole after 15-20 years in prison.
	Congress increases mandatory minimum sentences for <b>gun offenses</b> and equates penalties for <b>methamphetamine</b> with those of crack cocaine.
<b>2000</b>	Supreme Court decision, in <i>Apprendi v. U.S.</i> , rules that any fact, except for prior offenses, increasing the maximum sentence beyond a crime's statutory maximum must be submitted to a jury and proved beyond a reasonable doubt.
	<b>Amendments to sentencing guidelines</b> assure that sentences are based only on the offense of the conviction and that defendants are not punished twice for the same conduct.

	California voters pass <b>Proposition 36</b> , which requires drug treatment, not harsh prison sentences, for first- and second-time nonviolent drug offenders.
<b>2001</b>	Congress increases penalties for <b>ecstasy</b> , also known as MDMA, under U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.
	<b>State legislatures</b> begin to rethink harsh sentencing policies in light of budget cuts, escalating corrections' costs, prison overcrowding and growing movements for sentencing reform.
<b>2002</b>	<b>Michigan</b> legislature replaces mandatory minimum sentences after FAMM-led campaign, enacting most <b>sweeping reforms of mandatory minimum drug laws</b> in U.S. since repeal of federal mandatory minimums in the 1970s. Over 1,200 prisoners released early; 3,200 more end lifetime probation.
	U.S. Sentencing Commission approves FAMM-supported <b>drug-sentence "cap"</b> that lowers sentences for more than 1,200 low-level drug offenders each year.
	U.S. Supreme Court, in <i>Harris v. United States</i> , upholds <b>constitutionality of mandatory minimum sentences</b> .
<b>2003</b>	<b>PROTECT Act</b> reduces ability of federal judges to depart from U.S. Sentencing Guidelines in certain cases, forcing U.S. Sentencing Commission to amend guidelines to substantially reduce number of downward departures.
<b>2004</b>	In <i>Blakely v. Washington</i> , U.S. Supreme Court rules unconstitutional a Washington state law that permitted judges to increase a sentence based on facts not admitted by a defendant or found beyond a reasonable doubt by a jury. Decision affects sentencing guidelines in 13 states and raises questions about federal sentencing guidelines.
	New York legislature reforms <b>Rockefeller drug laws</b> by reducing mandatory prison sentences for those serving longest sentences (A-1 felons). 450 prisoners become eligible for re-sentencing.
<b>2005</b>	In two cases, <i>Booker and Fanfan</i> , the U.S. Supreme Court finds federal sentencing guidelines unconstitutional, declaring them advisory, not mandatory. Mandatory minimum laws, however, are NOT affected by the ruling.
	<b>New York</b> Governor George Pataki signs bill softening Rockefeller drug laws for those with second highest sentences under the law (A-2 felons). 540 prisoners become eligible for re-sentencing.

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