

Good Afternoon. I am Russell L. Sheaffer, Chairman of the Board of the Dauphin County Commissioners. With me today are Dauphin County Commissioners, Sally Klein and Anthony Petrucci. Also accompanying us today is Dauphin County Chief Adult Probation Officer Terry Davis and Mary Beth Rhodes, Government Affairs Specialist for the Pennsylvania State Association of County Commissioners.

We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the results of alternative sentencing.

We are experiencing unprecedented change in our county and state correctional system. Along with the continued population growth in our jails and prisons, the Commonwealth has made available funding for prison construction and intermediate punishment sanctions. Dauphin County, as well as many other counties, has implemented several alternative sentencing programs. These programs have proven effective and have saved the taxpayers money. Alternative sanctions address the behavior and needs of the offenders, thereby decreasing recidivism.

At this time, we would like to informally discuss our involvement with alternative programs.

— 21 to 51% increase in incarceration in county facilities

— county, 90% of sentences

— Minnesota & Washington — sent. guidelines

— incorporated facts w/ sentencing guidelines
193, 201

⊗ Facts do not supply funding for counties

⊗ Counties use IP for DUI - Act. 102

using for substitute
alternative

⊗ no stable funding for programs
leg. must find ongoing funding
for counties or greater & greater
reliance on incarceration