

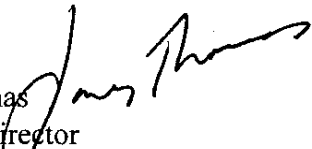


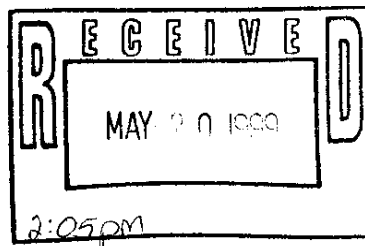
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION
ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

DATE: May 21, 1999

SUBJECT: House Resolution 167 Task Force Report

TO: Virgil F. Puskarich
Executive Director
Local Government Commission

FROM: James Thomas 
Executive Director
Commission on Crime and Delinquency



Mr. Thomas W. Corbett, Jr., Chairman of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), has requested that I forward the enclosed report to you for the next meeting of the House Resolution 167 Task Force.

This report, prepared by the PCCD, the Department of Community and Economic Development, and the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association, provides estimates of the various methods of distribution of a fee on criminal convictions, which would be used to support law enforcement efforts in the Commonwealth.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact Steve Spangenberg, Manager of the PCCD's Civil and Criminal Training Division, at 787-1777, extension 3040.

Enclosure

CC: Thomas W. Corbett, Jr., Esquire
Honorable Anthony A. Sarcione
Mr. Ronald Stern

Fee Support for Policing in Pennsylvania Collections and Methods of Distribution

As requested at the April 27, 1999 meeting of the House Resolution 167 Task Force, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Department of Community and Economic Development, and the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association have reviewed potential methods of distribution of a fee on criminal convictions to be used to support municipal policing in Pennsylvania. The basis used in calculating each of the potential methods of distribution is described below. For ease of comparison the projected dollar amounts for each method of distribution are contained in a table, Attachment A.

- 1) Distribution to all municipalities – 2,568 total municipalities.
- 2) Distribution to municipalities with existing police departments – 1,301 total police departments.
- 3) Distribution to municipalities with existing regional or contractual policing – focusing on a subset of #2 above, 26 existing regional departments serving 74 municipalities and 98 police departments which contractually serve 220 municipalities.
- 4) Distribution as seed money – two alternatives: the 1,267 municipalities presently patrolled by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), or further refining that focus onto the 47 municipalities with over 5,000 population presently patrolled by the PSP.
- 5) Task Force discussion concerning the possibility of splitting the fee generated into pools of funding for various uses. As identified in the agenda for the April 27, 1999 meeting, one method would divide the fees into 70% for local law enforcement purposes and 30% for regional policing. As a result of the discussions at that meeting a second method identified would divide the fees into 1/3 returned to the municipality for the use of the police department, 1/3 to support regional policing, and 1/3 to create a law enforcement loan pool.

The calculation of projected dollar amounts for each of the methods of distribution was based on a fee assessment on all convictions for M3 and above at two fee levels, \$25 and \$50. The projection of total fee collections is contained in Attachment B that was initially provided to the Task Force at its May 27, 1999 meeting.

These calculations were done on some rather broad bases for the distribution of fee collections. Looking at the amounts available per classification of distribution, this analysis points to the need to further focus the utilization of the funds in legislation and subsequently in policy. Such a focus is necessary to prevent the dilution of the funds available and to maximize the effect of the funds on a specific objective.

Prepared for the Local Government Commission
 House Resolution 167 Task Force June 2, 1999 Meeting
 By the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency,
 the Department of Community and Economic Development, and
 the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association

PROJECTED FEES AVAILABLE PER DISTRIBUTION METHOD		
	At \$25 Fee Level	At \$50 Fee Level
Fee Collection Projection	\$2,184,575	\$4,369,150
#1		
Distribution to all municipalities		
N = 2,568	\$850 per municipality	\$1,700 per municipality
#2		
Distribution to municipalities with existing police services		
N = 1,301	\$1,679 per municipality	\$3,358 per municipality
#3		
Distribution to existing regional departments		
N = 26	\$84,022 per department	\$168,044 per department
departments doing contract policing		
N = 98	\$22,292 per department	\$44,583 per department
both regional and contractual		
N = 124	\$17,618 per department	\$35,235 per department
#4		
Distribution to municipalities without police services		
N = 1,267	\$1,724 per municipality	\$3,448 per municipality
municipalities without police services and over 5,000 population		
N = 47	\$46,480 per municipality	\$92,961 per municipality
#5		
Total collections split by purpose		
70% local law enforcement	\$1,529,203	\$3,058,405
30% regional policing	\$655,372	\$1,310,745
1/3 returned to the municipality	\$728,191	\$1,436,383
1/3 to support regional policing	\$728,191	\$1,436,383
1/3 law enforcement loan program	\$728,191	\$1,436,383

Prepared for the Local Government Commission
House Resolution 167 Task Force June 2, 1999 Meeting
By the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency,
the Department of Community and Economic Development, and
the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association

CONVICTIONS AND ARDS FOR MISDEMEANOR & FELONY OFFENSES IN PA - 1996												
	CONVICTIONS & ARDs		ESTIMATED PAYEES (59%)		COLLECTIONS- \$10		COLLECTIONS- \$25		COLLECTIONS- \$30		COLLECTIONS- \$50	
	M2 & Above	M3 Only	M2 & Above	M3 Only	M2 & Above	M3 Only	M2 & Above	M3 Only	M2 & Above	M3 Only	M2 & Above	M3 Only
COMMON PLEAS												
LESS PHILA	94,748	21,437	55,901	12,648	\$559,010	\$126,480	\$1,397,525	\$316,200	\$1,677,030	\$379,440	\$2,795,050	\$632,400
PHILADELPHIA												
COMMON PLEAS	12,783	0	7,542	0	\$75,420	\$0	\$188,550	\$0	\$226,260	\$0	\$377,100	\$0
PHILADELPHIA												
MUNICIPAL	6,875	6,322	4,056	3,730	\$40,560	\$37,300	\$101,400	\$93,250	\$121,680	\$111,900	\$202,800	\$186,500
DISTRICT												
MAGISTRATES	0	5,941	0	3,505	\$0	\$35,050	\$0	\$87,625	\$0	\$105,150	\$0	\$175,250
TOTAL	114,406	33,700	67,500	19,883	\$675,000	\$198,830	\$1,687,500	\$497,075	\$2,025,000	\$596,490	\$3,375,000	\$994,150
TOTAL M3 & ABOVE		148,106		87,383		\$873,830		\$2,184,575		\$2,621,490		\$4,369,150

NOTES

Convictions and ARD data source, the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, docket transcript information for 1996. Data was requested for convictions of M2 and above. The data for M3 convictions is shown so that the Task Force is aware of the amount of cases and subsequent collections that are being excluded.

The percentage (59%) applied in the Estimated Payees column is the present collection level achieved for the crime victims fees which are assessed on all convictions and ARDs for DUI, crimes code, and drug offenses.