



February 17, 2004

U.S. Sentencing Commission
One Columbus Circle, NE.
Suite 2-500
Washington, DC 20002-8002
Attention: Public Affairs

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Dear Commissioners:

The Health Care Compliance Association (HCCA), established in 1996, is the only national, nonprofit organization dedicated solely to improving the quality of compliance. Its membership is made up of over 3,000 compliance professionals who oversee the compliance efforts of thousands of organizations both in and outside of health care. The HCCA has a rich history of facilitating the development and maintenance of compliance programs, providing a forum for understanding complicated regulatory environments, and collaborating with enforcement agencies to provide tools, resources, and educational opportunities for those involved with compliance. Its mission is to "champion ethical practice and compliance standards in the health care community and to provide the necessary resources for compliance professionals and others who share these principles."

HCCA Website: <http://www.hcca-info.org/>

The Executive Committee of the Health Care Compliance Association offers the following comments on the proposed changes to the US Sentencing Guidelines – See attached.

Sincerely,

Al Josephs
President
Health Care Compliance Association