Children of Incarcerated Caregivers

FEDERAL SENTENCING DEFENSE SUPPLEMENT



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Who We Are

Children of Incarcerated Caregivers (CIC) advocates for laws, policies, and programs that support the best interests of minor children with parents involved in the criminal legal system. This Defense Supplement demonstrates how courts can and should consider the impact on a defendant's children when sentencing a parent. CIC recognizes that not every parent will be eligible for a community sentence and that it won't always be in a child's best interest to have their parent in the community. However, in the cases where imposing an alternative to incarceration is within a judge's discretion and serves the best interests of the defendant's child/children, the information below provides a legal framework and social rationale for those decisions. CIC believes, and the research shows, that community-based alternatives to incarceration can support the needs of children while also benefiting society as a whole.

How to Evaluate Family Circumstances[1]

The following information is relevant for evaluating the client's relationship with his or her child or children and assessing the impact of sentencing on a child or children, and each topic is followed by relevant questions to ask the client or the client's family members:

- **How and the extent to which the caregiver is engaged with his or her child:**

    - *How often does the client see his or her child or children? What does that contact look like? When and where does that contact occur? How does the client typically interact with his or her child or children? Does the client live with his or her child or children?*

    - *For some specific examples, does the client help with rides to and from school or other extracurricular activities? Does the client help with homework? Does the client help his or her child or children with participation in extracurricular activities, such as practicing an instrument for band, preparing for an audition for theater, practicing a sport, etc.? Is the client involved with his or her child or*

[1] The information in the following list of relevant considerations for evaluating the caregiver-child relationship is based on two reports. *See* BEKAH MUTA, CHILD. OF INCARCERATED CAREGIVERS, FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS 2–3 (2024), https://cicmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Bekah-Muta-Family-Impact-Statement-Report-2024.pdf; Eleanor Bush, *Considering the Defendant's Children at Sentencing*, 2 FED. SENT'G REP. 194, 194–98 (Dec. 1989 – Jan. 1990), https://doi.org/10.2307/20639225.

children's religious beliefs or education, such as rides to religious education classes, religious peer groups, or religious services or meetings at a church, mosque, synagogue, or temple?

- **Contact between the caregiver and child, including contact prior to a caregiver's indictment, arrest, and if applicable, pretrial detention:**

    - *Has the client stayed in contact with his or her child or children? If the client has not been able to stay in contact with his or her child or children, what obstacles have prevented contact? Are these barriers directly imposed or indirectly caused by the client's pretrial detention, and if so, would they also result from the client's incarceration?*

    - *If the client has stayed in contact with his or her child or children while on pretrial release, how have the client's conditions of release and/or the client's hearings and court dates affected his or her contact with his or her child or children?*

    - *If the client has stayed in contact with his or her child or children while in custody, how has the client stayed in contact? Letters? Phone or video calls? In-person visits?*

        - *If the client has stayed in contact via phone or video calls, has that imposed financial costs on the client or the client's family, and if so, what are those costs?*

        - *If the client has stayed in contact via in-person visits, what factors, if any, impact the family's ability to have in-person visits? For example, what limitations are imposed by travel time and costs imposed by travel, such as gas money, the cost of staying in a hotel, the loss of income caused by a spouse or caregiver taking time off for visits, etc.? What limitations are imposed by time constraints, such as when designated visiting hours for the facility align with (or fail to align with) schooling, a spouse or caregiver's work schedule, a spouse or caregiver's flexibility*

with changing his or her work schedule or requesting time off, etc.? What are the emotional costs imposed by in-person visits on the child or children?

- *See questions above for additional relevant considerations regarding a client's contact with his or her child or children prior to indictment, arrest, and if applicable, pretrial detention.*

- **In the event of pretrial detention, opportunity and accessibility for contact during a caregiver's detention and what this would look like if the caregiver was incarcerated:**

  - *See questions above for questions related to evaluating the opportunity and accessibility for contact during a client's detention.*

  - *How would the client's contact with his or her child or children change with a sentence of imprisonment? Considering the locations of facilities where the client could be incarcerated if he or she receives a sentence of imprisonment, how would the geographic locations of prisons affect the client's contact with his or her child or children?*

- **Whether the caregiver is the child's primary caregiver.**

- **Whether the child has any special needs that the defendant assists in addressing:**

  - *Does the client's child have any learning, intellectual, or physical disabilities that the client helps to address? (For example, dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia, auditory processing disorder (APD), non-verbal learning disability (NVLD), down syndrome, fragile X syndrome, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD), autism spectrum disorder (ASD), etc.) If so, what are those disabilities, and how does the client assist in addressing them?*

- *Does the client's child have any mental health disorders that the client helps to address? (For example, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), generalized anxiety disorder (GAD), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), etc.) If so, what are those mental health disorders, and how does the client assist in addressing them?*

- *Does the client's child have any other medical circumstances that the client helps to address? (For example, if the client's child has a terminal illness, cancer, autoimmune disorders such as Celiac disease, severe and life-threatening allergies that commonly occur in day-to-day activities, etc.) If so, what are those medical circumstances, and how does the client assist in addressing them?*

- **Information regarding the defendant's ability to fulfill his or her requirements and responsibilities for maintaining custodial rights:**

  - *In instances where a client's child or children may be placed in foster care, what access, if any, will the client have to caseworkers and his or her children?*

- **The number of minor children who will be impacted and their ages:**

  - *In addition to the client's child or children, will any other children be affected, such as the children of the caregiver who takes the client's child or children in? If so, include the number and ages of minor children who will be indirectly affected by the client's incarceration.*

- **The child or children's current living situation(s):**

  - *How has this changed as a result of the client's pretrial detention, if applicable?*

  - *How will this change in the event of the client's incarceration?*

- **The financial and emotional qualities of the caregiver-child relationship:**
    - *How does the client support his or her child or children financially?*
        - *For example, does the client consistently pay child support or pay for the child's participation or involvement in an extracurricular activity?*
    - *How does the client support his or her child or children emotionally?*
        - *For example, is the child experiencing bullying at school, grieving the loss of a family member, pet, friend, or friendship, struggling with social or school situations, etc.?*
- **The financial needs of the child or children:**
    - *For example, what are the child or children's expenses related to school, extracurricular activities, childcare/daycare, transportation to school and extracurricular activities, etc.?*
    - *Does the child have any specific conditions that require additional financial support? (For example, if the child has Celiac disease and is unable to eat gluten, so the child's food costs more for gluten-free alternative foods; if the child has diabetes, so the child's care requires additional money to cover insulin; if the child has a mental health condition that requires medication, so the child's care requires additional money to cover those medications; etc.)*
- **The location of the child or children's residence:**
    - *Where is this in relation to the facilities where the client could be incarcerated?*
- **The economic costs relating to the loss of the caregiver's income or the financial status of the child or children's caregiver during the caregiver's pretrial detention and/or incarceration:**

- *How has the client's pretrial detention, if applicable, affected the total income of the household?*

- *How would the client's incarceration affect the total income of the household?*

- *Will the client no longer be eligible for welfare programs that will in turn affect the client's child or children?*

- *If the child or children's caregiver in the client's absence had to work additional hours to get additional jobs, has this adequately addressed the economic loss related to the client's pretrial detention and/or possible incarceration? What are the costs imposed on the child or children by the caregiver's increased workload? For example, how has the caregiver's time with the child or children been limited?*

- **The loss of care and support resulting from the separation of the caregiver and child or children:**

    - *Has the child or have the children had to give up anything as a result of the client's pretrial detention and/or possible incarceration? For example, are the client's children able to continue their participation in all the same extracurricular activities?*

    - *Will the client's incarceration (or has the client's pretrial detention) affect the child or children's routine? If so, how?*

- **The potential impact on the child or children's mental health, social behavior, and educational prospects:**

    - *How has the client's pretrial detention, if applicable, affected his or her child or children's mental health or behavior?*

- *Has the client's child or children's schooling been affected by the client's pretrial detention, if applicable? How might the client's child or children's schooling be affected by the client's incarceration?*

- *Has the client's child or children experienced any negative mental health consequences, such as depression or increased anxiety, concurrent to the client's pretrial detention, if applicable? How might the client's child or children experience any negative mental health consequences, such as depression or increased anxiety, concurrent to the client's incarceration?*

- *Has the client's child or children demonstrated any behavioral problems or presented any behavioral concerns concurrent to the client's pretrial detention, if applicable? How might the client's child or children demonstrate any behavioral problems or present any behavioral concerns concurrent to the client's incarceration?*

- **The structural changes that the child or children may experience as a result of the client's sentence:**

  - *Will the client's child or children change schools?*

  - *Will the client's child or children have to move to a different city or state?*

  - *Will the client's child or children be separated from siblings or other family members?*

  - *Will the client's child or children experience any trauma related to the client's sentence?*

  - *How might the client's child or children experience the negative stigma of parental incarceration?*

- **The child or children's upcoming events, experiences, and/or milestones that may be impacted by the client's sentence:**

    - *Will the client's child or children experience any of the following upcoming events, experiences, or milestones that the client's absence will affect directly or indirectly?*

        - *Learning to drive and getting a learner's permit or driver's license;*
        - *Graduation from any grade;*
        - *Upcoming sports games or tournaments;*
        - *Upcoming competitions or tournaments, such as mock trial, talent shows, spelling bees, debate competitions, etc.;*
        - *Birthdays;*
        - *Important tests or exams, either for school or for college applications;*
        - *College tours;*
        - *Important presentations for school;*
        - *Religion-affiliated events, such as a bat or bar mitzvah, Confirmation or other sacramental milestones, etc.*

- **The living and care arrangements for the child or children in the event of the client's incarceration and subsequent unavailability:**

    - *Who will be the primary caregiver for the client's child or children?*
    - *Who will the client's child or children live with, including other relatives in the home?*

- *Where will the client's child or children live? What city and state? What type of home or residence?*

- **The quality of the connection between the child or children and their prospective "stand-in" caregiver, such as a relative or friend, in the event of the client's incarceration:**

  - *What kind of relationship, if any, exists between the client's child or children and their caregiver in the event of the client's incarceration?*

- **The financial and care resources and stability of the child or children's alternative care arrangements in the event of their caregiver's incarceration:**

  - *Does the caregiver have stable housing and a consistent income?*

  - *If something were to happen to the client's child or children's caregiver, where will the child or children go? Who will they live with?*

- **Proposed conditions of release that would be in the best interest of the child or children:**

  - *Are there any conditions that could be imposed that would allow the client to serve a probationary sentence or supervised release term while also promoting the best interests of the client's child or children?*

How to Consider Potential Family Ties

The following information is relevant for assessing whether the client's potential family ties with his or her child or children may be beneficial to introduce and discuss at sentencing:

- **The number of minor children the client has;**
- **The age(s) of the client's child or children;**
- **Where the client's child or children reside;**
- **The relationship(s) the client has with his or her child or children's caregiver(s);**
- **The client's historical relationship(s) with his or her child or children;**
- **The client's interest in having a relationship or relationships with his or her child or children;**
- **The client's ability to have a relationship or relationships with his or her child or children;**
- **The client's willingness to provide financial, emotional, or other support to his or her child or children.**

How to Investigate Family Circumstances, Ties, and Responsibilities

To investigate family circumstances, defense counsel can ask the client, the client's family members (including the client's child or children, if they are old enough to understand), and/or community members who have a relationship with the client or the client's child or children for information related to family circumstances or potential family ties as outlined above. Defense counsel can collect this information through interviews, requesting written letters of support, or other relevant records or documentation. For example, recent pictures of a client's child or children with the client doing an extracurricular activity can demonstrate the client's involvement in his or her child's or children's lives. It also may be beneficial to seek additional consultation, such as seeking an expert to consult on the impact of parental incarceration or a

mitigation specialist to discuss how family circumstances relate to mitigation at sentencing. If the client's child or children are involved in any open child protection cases, consider contacting the social worker(s) involved in the proceedings.

How to Argue Family Circumstances at Sentencing

Family circumstances are relevant to 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).[2] Family circumstances relate to 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) in three broad ways. *First*, family circumstances are relevant to ensuring that the sentence imposed is "sufficient, but not greater than necessary" to serve the purposes of sentencing.[3] *Second*, family circumstances relate to every purpose of sentencing outlined by statute—retribution, deterrence, incapacitation, and rehabilitation.[4] *Third*, family circumstances inform judges about the client's history and individual characteristics and thus enables the judge to determine the appropriate kind of sentence to impose.[5]

Meaningful familial support extends beyond financial support. If judges are hesitant to recognize forms of support beyond financial support, defense counsel show highlight how other forms of support are equally as important, if not more important, to a child or children as financial support. Meaningful parental support extends beyond finances.[6] Parental support includes supporting a child's learning and promoting their physical and emotional well-being[7] and nurturing their holistic development through a balanced diet and physical activity.[8] Social support is a particularly significant aspect of parenting responsibilities. Social support helps children develop resilience.[9] Daily contact with a parent for play time, emotional support, and

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[2] For more information, *see* "Family Circumstances and § 3553(a)(2)" in CIC's Federal Sentencing Toolkit.
[3] For supporting research, *see* "Family Circumstances and the Parsimony Principle in § 3553(a)" CIC's Federal Sentencing Toolkit.
[4] For supporting research, *see* "Family Circumstances and § 3553(a)(2)" in CIC's Federal Sentencing Toolkit.
[5] For supporting research, *see* "Family Circumstances and § 3553(a)(3)" in CIC's Federal Sentencing Toolkit.
[6] *Cf.* U.S. SENT'G GUIDELINES MANUAL § 5H1.6 cmt. n.1(B) (U.S. SENT'G COMM'N 2003) (recognizing both financial support *and* caretaking as essential and significant enough to warrant a departure by itself under extraordinary circumstances).
[7] Anita Cleare, *15 Ways Parents can Support Children to do Well at School*, POSITIVE PARENTING PROJECT: THINKING PARENTING BLOG, https://anitacleare.co.uk/ways-parents-can-support-children-to-do-well-at-school/ (last visited Feb. 7, 2026).
[8] *See, e.g.*, *How to Support Your Child's Physical and Mental Well-Being*, KIDS FIRST (Mar. 20, 2025), https://www.kidsfirstservices.com/first-insights/how-to-support-your-child-s-physical-and-mental-well-being; *Family Engagement*, YOUTH.GOV, https://youth.gov/youth-topics/family-engagement (last visited Feb. 7, 2026).
[9] Eric Martin, Hidden Consequences: The Impact of Incarceration on Dependent Children, NAT'L INST. JUST. J., Mar. 2017, at 1, 4, https://nij.gov/journals/278/Pages/impact-ofincarceration-on-dependent-children.aspx.

guidance is a form of parental social support, one that is especially emotionally difficult to lose.[10] Parental support can also look like helping children with their homework, taking them to and from school and activities, and connecting them with other groups in the community, like religious groups (*e.g.*, church religious education classes or youth groups) and club sports. When a single parent is at risk of being separated from his or her children due to incarceration, children may be at risk of losing all support and entering the foster-care system, a system that is unstable, unfamiliar, and sometimes even abusive.[11] Under such circumstances, children may even be separated from their siblings.[12]

Potential family ties alone are also relevant to the purposes of sentencing.[13] Potential family ties to children function as a potential protective factor, or a feature that helps to lower the risk of reoffending,[14] by providing powerful motivation for a client to avoid recidivism.[15] Probation officers and correctional staff can use a client's potential family ties as a "hook for change" by supporting a client's desire to take on a prosocial parental role.[16]

Family circumstances alone may not be enough to convince a judge to grant a variance. Importantly, caselaw suggests that most courts grant variances on the basis of family

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[10] NEIL DAMRON, POVERTY FACT SHEET: LIFE BEYOND BARS: CHILDREN WITH AN INCARCERATED PARENT (Nov. 2014), https://www.irp.wisc.edu/publications/factsheets/pdfs/Factsheet7-Incarceration.pdf.
[11] Stephanie Taylor, *Separating Families: The Hidden Collateral Damage of Incarcerating Mothers*, HUM. RTS. MAG., 2025 Mar., https://www.americanbar.org/groups/crsj/resources/human-rights/2025-march/hidden-collateral-damage-incarcerating-mothers/.
[12] Julie Poehlmann et al., Factors Associated With Young Children's Opportunities for Maintaining Family Relationships During Maternal Incarceration, 57 FAM. RELS. 267, 275 (2008), https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1741-3729.2008.00499.x.
[13] For more information, *see* "Family Circumstances as a Potential Protective Factor" in CIC's Federal Sentencing Toolkit.
[14] ROSIE KITSON BOYCE & ALICE BETTERIDGE, DESISTANCE FROM CRIME: WORKING WITH PROTECTIVE FACTORS 2 (Aug. 2022), https://irep.ntu.ac.uk/id/eprint/48302/1/1728228_Kitson-Boyce.pdf; *see also* Stephane M. Shepherd, Stefan Luebbers & James R. O. Ogloff, *The Role of Protective Factors and the Relationship with Recidivism for High-Risk Young People in Detention*, 43 CRIM. JUST. & BEHAV. 863, 863 (2016), https://doi.org/10.1177/0093854815626489 (defining "protective factors" as "[i]tems that reduce the risk of offending" that also "largely entail the positive attributes and strengths of an individual").
[15] Tammy Rinehart Kochel & Edmund F. McGarrell, *Voices from Inside Focused Deterrence: Implications for Implementation*, 100 J. CRIM. JUST. 1, 7 (2025), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2025.102483 (finding that the top motivation for change was family (72 percent), and most notably offenders' children (44 percent)).
[16] Peggy C. Giordano, Stephen A. Cernkovich & Jennifer L. Rudolph, *Gender, Crime, and Desistance: Toward a Theory of Cognitive Transformation*, 107 AM. J. SOCIO. 990, 1000 (2002), https://doi.org/10.1086/343191; *see also* Eric J. Wodahl, Thomas J. Mowen & Brett E. Garland, *The Effect of Individual Characteristics and Supervision Experiences on the Perceived Quality of the Supervision Relationship*, 32 CRIM. JUST. POL'Y REV. 523, 537–41 (2020), https://doi.org/10.1177/0887403420967070 (finding that family support effects the supervision relationship, and high-quality relationship between individuals on probation/parole and their supervising officers, together with family support, can reduce recidivism and increase compliance).

circumstances in conjunction with other justifications for the sentence deviation.[17] Defense counsel should therefore supplement a family-circumstances argument basis with additional mitigating factors and other reasons the judge should grant a variance.

How to Present Family Circumstances Information to the Court

Defense counsel may present information about family circumstances to the sentencing judge through family impact statements.[18] Family impact statements, which are also referred to as family responsibility statements or child impact statements, provide information regarding the best interests of a client's child or children.[19] These statements can be prepared and produced by defense counsel, as well as by the client, the client's family members, community members who have a relationship with the client or the client's child or children, mitigation specialists, or non-profit organizations.[20] Family impact statements should provide an overview of family strengths, risks, and needs relating to the consequences of parental incarceration and alternative dispositions at sentencing.[21] Family impact statements can highlight any of the information listed above that is relevant to evaluating the client's family circumstances. If family members or community members have prepared family impact statements, the statements should include how the individual knows the information about the client and/or the client's child or children. Defense counsel can submit family impact statements by filing them with the sentencing position or inviting family members or community members to present their statements to the judge at sentencing.

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[17] *See, e.g.*, United States v. Barnes, 890 F.3d 910, 918 (10th Cir. 2018) (affirming variance based on § 3553(a) factors where defendant had three children, took custody of his four nieces and nephews after his sister's death, and the defendant provided significant social and educational support to the children); United States v. Lamoreaux, 422 F.3d 750, 756 (8th Cir. 2005) (approving of the consideration of non-Guidelines factors such as prior military service, the pregnancy of the defendant's wife, a defendant's need to care for his children, and a defendant's entrepreneurial spirit, in fashioning an appropriate sentence); United States v. Cox, 271 F. Supp. 3d 1085, 1087–88 (S.D. Iowa 2017) (granting variance based in part on defendant's difficult childhood, pretrial release conduct, and family circumstances).

[18] For more information, *see* LINDSEY CRAMER ET AL., TOOLKIT FOR DEVELOPING FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS 1 (2015), https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/53651/2000253-Toolkit-for-Developing-Family-Impact-Statements.pdf; MUTA, *supra* note 1, at 1–11.

[19] MUTA, *supra* note 1, at 1.

[20] *Id.* at 5.

[21] *Id.* at 4.

Other Considerations

Ensure your client has clear expectations for sentencing, including how sentencing may impact his or her parental rights and relationships with his or her children. It is important to discuss factors important to maintaining the child-caregiver relationship in the event that the caregiver is incarcerated. Consider requesting that the judge recommend commitment to a specific facility that would allow easier access for visitation,[22] and inform your client that a judge's recommendation does not guarantee placement at that facility. Research and discuss available programs for all potential dispositions that would also support the child-caregiver relationship. Lastly, ensure that your client has clear expectations about necessary steps for maintaining custody in the event of a prison commit.[23]

Conclusion

We appreciate you taking the time to learn more about the harms of parental incarceration and how you can take into account the best interests of the minor children of your clients. If you utilize any of the arguments or resources from this primer, please contact us to share your outcomes. Additionally, please reach out if you are aware of any other resources on the harms of parental incarceration of which we have not included here.

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[22] However, it is important that the defendant knows that the judge's recommended facility does not guarantee a defendant's placement there.

[23] *See* Bill de Blasio & David A. Hansell, N.Y.C. Admin. of Child.'s Servs., Out of Sight, NOT Out of Mind: Important Information for Incarcerated Parents Whose Children Are In Foster Care 2–9 (2007), https://www.nyc.gov/assets/acs/pdf/immigrant_services/translations/fps/OutofSight.pdf (outlining a parent's requirements and responsibilities for maintaining custodial rights during incarceration).

Publicly Accessible Federal Sentencing Materials

- U.S. Sentencing Commission's website: https://www.ussc.gov/
- *Glossary of Federal Sentencing-Related Terms*, U.S. SENT'G COMM'N, https://www.ussc.gov/education/glossary (last visited May 5, 2026)
- U.S. SENT'G GUIDELINES MANUAL (U.S. SENT'G COMM'N 2025), https://www.ussc.gov/guidelines/2025-guidelines-manual
- *Quick Reference Materials*, U.S. SENT'G COMM'N, https://www.ussc.gov/product-type/quick-reference-materials (last visited May 5, 2026)
- *Sentencing Commission Historical Materials*, SENT'G RES. COUNS., https://src.fd.org/resources/ussc-materials (last visited May 5, 2026) (online library or repository for primary documents and public records obtained from the U.S. Sentencing Commission).
- *Primer on Departures and Variances*, U.S. SENT'G COMM'N (Oct. 2024), https://www.ussc.gov/guidelines/primers/departures-and-variances
- *Compilation of Departure Provisions*, U.S. SENT'G COMM'N (Nov. 1, 2024), https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/guidelines-manual/2024/Departure_Provisions.pdf
- *Collateral Consequences: The Crossroads of Punishment, Redemption, and the Effects on Communities*, U.S. COMM'N ON C.R. (June 2019) https://www.usccr.gov/files/pubs/2019/06-13-Collateral-Consequences.pdf
- *Sentencing Resources*, CHILD. OF INCARCERATED CAREGIVERS, https://cicmn.org/sentencing-resources/ (last visited May 5, 2026)

Other Resources for Sentencing Arguments

- *How to Use Structured Fines (Day Fines) as an Intermediate Sanction*, U.S. DEP'T OF JUST. BUREAU OF JUST. ASSISTANCE (Nov. 1996), https://vera-institute.files.svdcdn.com/production/downloads/publications/How_to_use_day_fines.pdf
- Beth A. Colgan, *Graduating Economic Sanctions According to Ability to Pay*, 103 IOWA L. REV. 53, 56–57 (2017), https://ilr.law.uiowa.edu/sites/ilr.law.uiowa.edu/files/2023-02/ILR-103-1-Colgan.pdf
- BEKAH MUTA, CHILD. OF INCARCERATED CAREGIVERS, FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS (2024), https://cicmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Bekah-Muta-Family-Impact-Statement-Report-2024.pdf
- LINDSEY CRAMER ET AL., TOOLKIT FOR DEVELOPING FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENTS 1 (2015), https://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/53651/2000253-Toolkit-for-Developing-Family-Impact-Statements.pdf
- Jessica Jahn, Bringing Information to Prosecutors and Courts on the Impact of Sentencing Decisions on Offenders' Families and Children 7–13 (2023), https://icclr.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Bringing-Child-Impact-Information-to-the-Court.pdf
- Bill de Blasio & David A. Hansell, N.Y.C. Admin. of Child.'s Servs., Out of Sight, NOT Out of Mind: Important Information for Incarcerated Parents Whose Children Are In Foster Care (2007), https://www.nyc.gov/assets/acs/pdf/immigrant_services/translations/fps/OutofSight.pdf
- Emily W. Andersen, *"Not Ordinarily Relevant": Bringing Family Responsibilities to the Federal Sentencing Table*, 56 BOS. COLL. L. REV. 1501 (2015) (recommending an amendment to the federal sentencing guidelines to require consideration of family ties and the implementation of family impact assessments at sentencing in all federal criminal cases)