

“Time-Task Line for Effective Classification Implementation”
from the National Institute of Corrections publication,
Objective Prison Classification: A Guide for Correctional Agencies

Included in the Department of Corrections’ (SCDC) April 29, 2019 letter to the House Legislative Oversight Committee (LOC). This information was provided in response to the following question in LOC’s March 27, 2019 letter to the Department of Corrections: “22. Please explain the steps necessary for updating the classification system. In this explanation, please indicate any necessary approvals and the entity from whom the approval is needed. Also, please identify which step the agency is at in the update process.”

Exhibit 5. Time-Task Line for Effective Classification Implementation

Phase and Steps	Month of Project												Who Is Responsible
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Phase I: Mobilization													Stakeholders
1. Identify classification issue(s)													Project leader
2. Designate a steering committee													Steering committee
3. Review current classification policies													Steering committee
Phase II: Assessment													
1. Conduct onsite assessment													Steering committee
2. Compile baseline data													Research/MIS
3. Prepare assessment report													Project leader
Phase III: Planning													
1. Learn about promising systems													Project leader
2. Design and pilot test the system													Steering committee
3. Develop action plan													Steering committee
Phase IV: Implementation													
1. Reengage stakeholders													Project leader
2. Train staff													Project leader, steering committee
3. Implement the system													Steering committee

of the risk factors, custody scale, and mandatory and discretionary override factors include the following:

- ◆ **Changes in the characteristics and behavior of the prisoner population.** Since 1990, the number of younger, more impulsive, more difficult to manage prisoners in the U.S. prison population has been increasing. Changes in the characteristics and behavior of the prison population are evident in the average age of prisoners at admission, the severity of their current offenses, the extensiveness of their criminal histories, and the length of their sentences. In response to the changing prison population, correctional administrators questioned whether the risk factors used to assess prisoners' demographic and criminal histories were