Judgment of Conviction

Directive #3-99 (Modifies Directive #3-98) Issued by: March 26, 1999

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The Supreme Court at its Administrative Conference on March 1, 1999, approved the recommendation of the Criminal Practice Committee for a revision to the Judgment of Conviction. The Criminal Practice Committee recommendation was the result of the enactment of P.L. 1998, c. 72 which revises the procedure for sentencing sex offenders to the Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center and limits treatment at the Center to those sex offenders who are determined to be amenable to sex offender treatment and who are willing to participate in such treatment. This bill was one of a package of bills concerning sex offender commitment, sentencing and parole, officially known as the ANew Jersey Sexually Violent Predator Act,@signed into law by Governor Christine Whitman on August 12, 1998. While a majority of the provisions of the law go into effect on August 12, 1999, this bill along with another, P.L. 1998, c. 73, became effective on December 1, 1998. As a result of the enactment of these two laws the Criminal Practice Committee also recommended the establishment of a new plea form entitled AAdditional Questions for Certain Sexual Offenses Committed on or after December 1, 1998.@ The Court approved the new plea form at its March 1, 1999 meeting. It is listed in Directive # 2-99.

The amendment to the Judgment of Conviction is on page one in the final charges section. In this section there are two check-off statements. The language of the statements has been amended. The term Ayou@ used in the statements is replaced with the term Athe defendant.@ Additionally, two new statements are added that provide that the defendant is amenable to and willing to participate in sex offender treatment.

EDITOR=S NOTE

This Directive modifies Directive #3-98.