

Questions for the Record
Hearing: Nominations
May 8, 2013
Submitted by Senator Amy Klobuchar

Questions for Rachel Elise Barkow, nominated to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission

- **Part of your role on the Sentencing Commission would be serving as a resource of information for all branches of government, criminal justice practitioners, the academic community, and the public.**
 - **What would you do to ensure that critical new research and updated information is getting to each of these different groups? How will you incorporate input from these parties into the Commission's policies?**

Response: It is a central responsibility of the Sentencing Commission to “serv[e] as a clearinghouse and information center for the collection, preparation, and dissemination of information on Federal sentencing practices.” 28 U.S.C. § 995(1)(12)(A). Were I to be confirmed, I would work with the other members of the Commission to make sure that the Commission’s research is readily accessible to all interested groups. This would include the general practice of putting the Commission’s research on the website and responding as helpfully as possible to any specific requests for information. It is essential for the Commission to make its research public so that it can obtain feedback from interested actors and engage in a dialogue that allows it to produce the highest quality information on federal sentencing practices. The Commission’s output will be best when it takes into account the input of all interested parties.