**§1B1.13 - Reduction in Term of Imprisonment Under 18 U.S.C § 3582(c)(1)(A) (Policy Statement)**

Upon motion of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons under [18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3582#c1), the court may reduce a term of imprisonment (and may impose a term of supervised release with or without conditions that does not exceed the unserved portion of the original term of imprisonment) if, after considering the factors set forth in [18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3553#a), to the extent that they are applicable, the court determines that—

(1)

(A) extraordinary and compelling reasons warrant the reduction; or

(B) the defendant (i) is at least 70 years old; and (ii) has served at least 30 years in prison pursuant to a sentence imposed under [18 U.S.C. § 3559(c)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3559#c) for the offense or offenses for which the defendant is imprisoned;

(2) the defendant is not a danger to the safety of any other person or to the community, as provided in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(g); and

(3) the reduction is consistent with this policy statement.

**Commentary**

**Application Notes:**

1. **Extraordinary and Compelling Reasons.—**Provided the defendant meets the requirements of subdivision (2), extraordinary and compelling reasons exist under any of the circumstances set forth below:

(A) **Medical Condition of the Defendant.—**

(i) The defendant is suffering from a terminal illness (*i.e.*, a serious and advanced illness with an end of life trajectory). A specific prognosis of life expectancy (*i.e.*, a probability of death within a specific time period) is not required. Examples include metastatic solid-tumor cancer, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), end-stage organ disease, and advanced dementia.

(ii) The defendant is—

(I) suffering from a serious physical or medical condition,

(II) suffering from a serious functional or cognitive impairment, or

(III) experiencing deteriorating physical or mental health because of the aging process,

that substantially diminishes the ability of the defendant to provide self-care within the environment of a correctional facility and from which he or she is not expected to recover.

(B) **Age of the Defendant.—**The defendant (i) is at least 65 years old; (ii) is experiencing a serious deterioration in physical or mental health because of the aging process; and (iii) has served at least 10 years or 75 percent of his or her term of imprisonment, whichever is less.

(C) **Family Circumstances.—**

(i) The death or incapacitation of the caregiver of the defendant’s minor child or minor children.

(ii) The incapacitation of the defendant’s spouse or registered partner when the defendant would be the only available caregiver for the spouse or registered partner.

(D) **Other Reasons.—**As determined by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, there exists in the defendant’s case an extraordinary and compelling reason other than, or in combination with, the reasons described in subdivisions (A) through (C).

2. **Foreseeability of Extraordinary and Compelling Reasons.—**For purposes of this policy statement, an extraordinary and compelling reason need not have been unforeseen at the time of sentencing in order to warrant a reduction in the term of imprisonment. Therefore, the fact that an extraordinary and compelling reason reasonably could have been known or anticipated by the sentencing court does not preclude consideration for a reduction under this policy statement.

3. **Rehabilitation of the Defendant.—**Pursuant to [28 U.S.C. § 994(t)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/28U.S.C.§994), rehabilitation of the defendant is not, by itself, an extraordinary and compelling reason for purposes of this policy statement.

4. **Motion by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons.—**A reduction under this policy statement may be granted only upon motion by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons pursuant to [18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3582#c1). The Commission encourages the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to file such a motion if the defendant meets any of the circumstances set forth in Application Note 1. The court is in a unique position to determine whether the circumstances warrant a reduction (and, if so, the amount of reduction), after considering the factors set forth in [18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3553#a) and the criteria set forth in this policy statement, such as the defendant’s medical condition, the defendant’s family circumstances, and whether the defendant is a danger to the safety of any other person or to the community.

This policy statement shall not be construed to confer upon the defendant any right not otherwise recognized in law.

5. **Application of Subdivision (3).—**Any reduction made pursuant to a motion by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons for the reasons set forth in subdivisions (1) and (2) is consistent with this policy statement.

**Background:** The Commission is required by [28 U.S.C. § 994(a)(2)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/28U.S.C.§994#a2) to develop general policy statements regarding application of the guidelines or other aspects of sentencing that in the view of the Commission would further the purposes of sentencing ([18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(2)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3553#a2)), including, among other things, the appropriate use of the sentence modification provisions set forth in [18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/18U.S.C.§3582#c). In doing so, the Commission is authorized by [28 U.S.C. § 994(t)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/28U.S.C.§994#t) to “describe what should be considered extraordinary and compelling reasons for sentence reduction, including the criteria to be applied and a list of specific examples.” This policy statement implements [28 U.S.C. § 994(a)(2)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/28U.S.C.§994#a2) and [(t)](https://guidelines.ussc.gov/ab/28U.S.C.§994#t).