# Articulation of Reasons for Out-of-Guidelines Sentence[1]

Judge: _____ Circuit #: _____

Defendant: _____ Docket #: _____

**The following aspects of this case led me to impose a sentence outside the recommended range:**

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**The following explains why the *particular* sentence imposed is more proportionate[2] to the offense and the offender than a sentence within the guidelines range:**

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Sentencing Judge: _____ Date: _____

[1]This is a sample form; it is not mandatory. The sentencing guidelines range is advisory only; however, courts are required to consult and take into account the applicable guidelines range, and sentences must be justified in order to facilitate appellate review. *People v Lockridge*, 498 Mich 358, 392 (2015). See the Michigan Judicial Institute's *Criminal Proceedings Benchbook, Vol. 2*, Chapter 5, for more information.

[2] See *People v Laidlaw*, 489 Mich 901 (2011); *People v Smith*, 482 Mich 292, 303-311 (2008).