

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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May 8, 1943

Honorable Paul W. Barrett, Commissioner
Division No. 2
Supreme Court of Missouri
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of May 4, 1943 this is to advise you that there is no statutory provision in Maine involving allocution.

As far as is known the question has not arisen. The judges do sometimes ask the prisoner whether he has anything to say before sentence is pronounced but nothing under the Maine law requires such procedure to be followed.

In connection with indeterminate sentences (§25, Ch.147, R. S. 1930) the law does provide that: "The judge, before or at the time of pronouncing such sentences, shall ascertain by examination of the prisoner, and by such other evidence as can be obtained, any facts tending to indicate briefly the causes of the criminal character or conduct of such prisoner, which facts, and such other facts as shall appear to be pertinent to the case, he shall cause to be entered upon the minutes of the court."

Very truly yours,

Frank A. Farrington
Deputy Attorney General

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