



2024 General Session Minutes

September 25, 2024

10:30 a.m. CT

Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel

Mobile, Alabama

Call to Order and Presentation of the Flag

- The 2024 Annual Business Meeting of the Interstate Commission for Juveniles was called to order by Commission Chair Nina Belli (OR) at 10:30 a.m. CT, September 25, 2024.
- Chair N. Belli (OR) welcomed and introduced Alabama's B.C. Rain Battalion Color Guard, who presented the flags and led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Executive Director MaryLee Underwood called roll. Forty-nine Member States were represented, along with seven Ex Officio Members representing national organizations. Quorum was established.

Members in Attendance:

1. Alabama	Patrick J. Pendergast, Designee
2. Arizona	Howard Wykes, Designee
3. Arkansas	Judy Miller, Designee
4. California	Antonio DeJesus, Commissioner
5. Colorado	Brooke Montelongo, Commissioner
6. Connecticut	Tasha Hunt, Commissioner
7. Delaware	Francis "Mike" Casey, Commissioner
8. District of Columbia	Jefferson Regis, Commissioner
9. Georgia	Tracy Cassell, Designee
10. Hawaii	Kristin Davidson, Commissioner
11. Idaho	Anne Connor, Commissioner
12. Illinois	Tomiko Frierson, Commissioner
13. Indiana	April Simmons, Designee
14. Iowa	Kellianne Torres, Designee
15. Kansas	Megan Milner, Commissioner
16. Louisiana	Angela Bridgewater, Commissioner
17. Maine	A. Roy Curtis, Commissioner
18. Maryland	Sherry Jones, Commissioner
19. Massachusetts	Rebecca Moore, Designee
20. Michigan	Michael Tymkew, Commissioner
21. Mississippi	Maxine Baggett, Designee
22. Missouri	Julie Hawkins, Commissioner
23. Montana	Mike Barthel, Commissioner

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| 24. | New Hampshire | Caitlyn Bickford, Commissioner |
| 25. | New Jersey | Edwin Lee, Jr., Designee |
| 26. | New Mexico | Dale Dodd, Commissioner |
| 27. | New York | James Maloney, Designee |
| 28. | North Carolina | Stephen Horton, Commissioner |
| 29. | North Dakota | Jessica Wald, Designee |
| 30. | Ohio | Sasaun Lane, Commissioner |
| 31. | Oklahoma | Robert Hendryx, Designee |
| 32. | Oregon | Nina Belli, Commissioner |
| 33. | Rhode Island | William Dolan, Designee |
| 34. | South Carolina | Felicia Dauway, Designee |
| 35. | South Dakota | Charles Frieberg, Commissioner |
| 36. | Tennessee | Corrie Copeland, Commissioner |
| 37. | Texas | Daryl Liedecke, Designee |
| 38. | Vermont | Trissie Casanova, Designee |
| 39. | Virgin Islands | Eavey-Monique James, Commissioner |
| 40. | Washington | Dawn Bailey, Designee |
| 41. | West Virginia | Lynn Fielder, Designee |
| 42. | Wisconsin | Casey Gerber, Commissioner |
| 43. | Wyoming | Maureen Clifton, Commissioner |
| 50. | ICJ Victims Representative | Nataki Brown |
| 51. | Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC), Niesha Robinson | |
| 52. | Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS), Tom Langer | |
| 53. | National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC), Chris Newlin | |
| 54. | National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), Judge Robert Hofmann | |
| 55. | National Partnership for Juvenile Services (NPJS), Juan Sepulveda | |
| 56. | Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators (CJJA), Lisa Bjergaard | |
| 57. | American Probation of Parole Association (APPA), Veronica Cunningham | |

Members Not in Attendance

1. Alaska
2. Florida
3. Kentucky
4. Minnesota
5. Nebraska
6. Nevada
7. Pennsylvania
8. Utah
9. Virginia
10. Conference of Chief Justices
11. Conference of State Court Administrators
12. International Association of Chiefs of Police
13. National Association of Attorneys General
14. National Conference of State Legislatures
15. National Governors Association
16. National Sheriffs' Association
17. National Runaway Safeline

ICJ National Office and Legal Counsel in Attendance:

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|------------------------|---|
| 1. MaryLee Underwood | Executive Director |
| 2. Kirsten Wade | Logistics and Administrative Specialist |
| 3. Jennifer Adkins | Operations and Policy Specialist |
| 4. Joe Johnson | Systems Project Manager |
| 5. Amanee Cabbagestalk | Training and Administrative Specialist |
| 6. Richard L. Masters | Legal Counsel |

ICJ Office Staff in Attendance:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Alabama | Latosha Mallory |
| 2. Alabama | Chanda Leshoure |
| 3. Alabama | Steven Lafreniere |
| 4. Delaware | Erin Breitigan |
| 5. Florida | Rhonda Turner |
| 6. Georgia | Cindy Wang |
| 7. Hawaii | Shirleen Cadiz |
| 8. Indiana | Nataly Sevilla |
| 9. Indiana | Laura Hausladen |
| 10. Illinois | Angel Jones |
| 11. Kansas | Fareeda Washington |
| 12. Kansas | Elizabeth Wilson |
| 13. Louisiana | Yolanda Latimer |
| 14. Mississippi | Janet Self |
| 15. New Jersey | Shyra Bland |
| 16. New York | Shaina Kern |
| 17. South Carolina | Mason Harrington |
| 18. South Carolina | Bridget Webb |
| 19. Virgin Islands | Vaughn Walwyn |

Guests

1. Carla Fults (AAICPC)
2. Michael O'Key, California

Opening Remarks

Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) welcomed everyone to 2024 Annual Business Meeting of the Interstate Commission for Juveniles, including those viewing via the live stream. She thanked the State of Alabama for hosting by presenting a plaque in thanks for hosting the ABM.

Agenda

M. Clifton (WY) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. D. Dodd (NM) seconded. The motion passed.

Minutes

S. Jones (MD) made a motion to approve the minutes as presented of the 2023 Annual Business Meeting General Session held September 27, 2023, in Salt Lake City, Utah. A. DeJesus (CA) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report by Commission Chair Nina Belli (OR)

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) reported on Executive Committee activities for Fiscal Year 2024.

- **P. Pendergast (AL) made a motion to approve the Executive Committee Report as presented. R. Hendryx (OK) seconded. The motion carried.**

Compliance Committee Report by Committee Vice Chair Michael Tymkew (MI)

- Compliance Committee Vice Chair M. Tymkew (MI) reported on Compliance Committee activities.
- **S. Horton (NC) made a motion to approve the Compliance Committee Report as presented. C. Frieberg (SD) seconded. The motion carried.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented M. Tymkew (MI) with a token of appreciation for his service as the Compliance Committee Vice Chair.

Finance Committee Report by Committee Chair Dale Dodd (NM)

- Finance Committee Chair D. Dodd (NM) provided a report on Finance Committee activities.
- Chair Dodd stated that the Commission voted on the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026 budget, which is located in the Docket Book. The Finance and Executive Committees have reviewed and recommend the budget to be voted on by the Commission.
- **D. Dodd (NM) made a motion to adopt the recommended FY 2025 budget as presented. S. Jones (MD) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 41-0-0 vote.**
- **S. Jones (MD) made a motion to approve the Finance Committee Report as presented. B. Montelongo (CO) seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented D. Dodd (NM) with a token of appreciation for his leadership and contributions as the Finance Committee Chair.

Information Technology Committee Report by Committee Chair Kellianne Torres (IA)

- Information Technology Committee Chair K. Torres (IA) shared a report on Information Technology Committee activities.
- **E. James (VI) made a motion to approve the Information Technology Committee Report as presented. T. Casanova (VT) seconded. The motion carried.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented K. Torres (IA) with a token of appreciation for her leadership and contributions as the Technology Committee Chair.

Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Report by Chair Sherry Jones (MD)

- Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee Chair S. Jones (MD) shared a report on RDEI Committee activities.
- **T. Hunt (CT) made a motion to approve the Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Report as presented. B. Montelongo (CO) seconded. The motion carried.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented S. Jones (MD) with a token of appreciation for her leadership and contributions as the Racial DEI Committee Chair.

Rules Committee Report by Committee Chair Stephen Horton (NC)

- Rules Committee Chair S. Horton (NC) shared that a report on Rules Committee activities.
- **S. Jones (MD) made a motion to approve the Rules Committee Report as presented. J. Maloney (NY) seconded. The motion carried.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented S. Horton (NC) with a token of appreciation for his service as the Rules Committee Chair.

Training, Education, & Public Relations Committee Report by Committee Chair Corrie Copeland (TN)

- Training Committee Chair C. Copeland (TN) provided a report on Training Committee activities.
- **S. Jones (MD) made a motion to approve the Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee Report as presented. A. Bridgewater (LA) seconded. The motion carried.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented C. Copeland (TN) with a token of appreciation for her service as the Training Committee Chair.

{Meeting was recessed at 11:52 a.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m. CT}

Staff Recognition

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) announced that throughout the year, Commission members are invited to recognize someone who goes beyond the general call of duty to reach a conclusion or solution that best serves public safety. This year, three exceptional individuals were recognized by their peers for going above and beyond the call of duty.
 - Donna Reed, ICJ Probation Coordinator – Massachusetts
 - Megan Sheets, Social Services Supervisor – Wyoming
 - Luis Villalobos, Compact Office Staff - California

Legacy Award

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) announced that last year marked the 15th anniversary of the Commission. To commemorate the 15th anniversary, the Executive Committee initiated a “Legacy Award.” The Legacy Award recognizes all commissioners, compact administrators, deputy compact administrators, designees, and ICJ office staff who have worked in a state ICJ office for 15 or more years.
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented the Legacy Awards to the recipients listed, noting that not all were in attendance.
 - Robert Hendryx, Oklahoma
 - Liz Wilson, Kansas

Region Reports

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) reported regional representatives decided to utilize region meetings as opportunities for the discussion of hot topics, share resources, and updates from committee ambassadors. The regional meetings provide an opportunity for members to provide feedback on prominent issues. This feedback is critical for ensuring effective implementation of important initiatives.

East Region Report by Regional Representative Caitlyn Bickford (NH)

- East Regional Representative C. Bickford (NH) reported on East Region activities for FY 2024.
- The East Regional Representative for 2024 – 2026 is Trissie Casanova (VT).
- **S. Jones (MD) made a motion to accept the East Regional Report as presented. F. Dauway (SC) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented C. Bickford (NH) with a token of appreciation for her leadership and contributions as the East Regional Representative.

Midwest Region Report by Regional Representative Chuck Frieberg (SD)

- Midwest Regional Representative C. Frieberg (SD) reported on Midwest Region activities for FY2024.
- The Midwest Regional Representative for 2024-2026 is Jacey Rader (NE).
- **H. Wykes (AZ) made a motion to approve the Midwest Regional Report as presented. S. Lane (OH) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Commission Chair Belli (OR) presented C. Frieberg (SD) with a token of appreciation for his leadership and contributions as the Midwest Regional Representative.

South Region Report by Regional Representative Felicia Dauway (SC)

- South Regional Representative F. Dauway (SC) reported on South Region activities for FY2024.
- The South Regional Representative for 2024-2026 is Felicia Dauway (SC).
- **C. Copeland (TN) made a motion to accept the South Regional Report as presented. R. Hendryx (OK) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented F. Dauway (SC) with a token of appreciation for her leadership and contributions as the South Regional Representative.

West Region Report by Regional Representative Howard Wykes (AZ)

- West Regional Representative H. Wykes (AZ) reported on West Region activities for FY2024.
- The West Regional Representative for 2024-2026 is Nina Belli (OR).
- **C. Frieberg (SD) made a motion to approve the West Regional Report as presented. B. Montelongo (CO) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented H. Wykes (AZ) with a token of appreciation for his leadership and contributions as the West Regional Representative.

Recognition

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented Commission Vice Chair J. Hawkins (MO) with a token of appreciation for her leadership and contributions as the Commissions vice chair.
- **Commission Vice Chair J. Hawkins (MO) recognized these 2024 leaders and presented each with the perpetual wall plaque and/or plate. She noted that not all the vice chairs and alternate regional representatives were in attendance.**
 - Compliance Committee, Michael Tymkew (MI)
 - Finance Committee, Pat Pendergast (AL)
 - Information Technology Committee, Roy Curtis (ME)
 - Racial DEI Committee, Mike Casey (DE)
 - Rules Committee, Caitlyn Bickford (NH)
 - Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee, Robert Heide (AK)
 - Alternate regional representatives are:
 - East Region, Trissie Casanova (VT)
 - Midwest Region, Sasaun Lane (OH)
 - South Region, Jean Hall (FL)
 - West Region, Maureen Clifton (WY)
- Commission Vice Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) with a token of appreciation for her leadership, dedication, commitment, and contributions as the Commissions Chair.
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented Treasurer S. Jones (MD) with a token of appreciation for her leadership and contributions as the Commissions Treasurer.

Legal Counsel Report

- Richard L. Masters, Legal Counsel, reported on the Legal Counsel activities for FY2024.
- **P. Pendergast (AL) made a motion to approve the Legal Counsel Report as presented. D. Dodd (NM) seconded. The motion passed.**

Rising Star Award

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented the Rising Star Award to recognize an up-and-coming ICJ staff who have worked in a ICJ office for less than two years and have demonstrated excellent leadership skills.
- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented the 2024 ICJ Rising Star Award to Jenny McFadden, ICJ Deputy Compact Administrator for the state of Wisconsin. She noted that McFadden works tirelessly to learn UNITY, quickly became an active member of ICJ committees and played a key role in the development of the new *Toolkit on Returns and Child Welfare*.

Leadership Award

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) shared that the ICJ Leadership Award was established in 2015 to recognize outstanding leadership skills and dedication to the Interstate Commission for Juveniles

through extraordinary service. Five outstanding Commission members were nominated, which speaks highly of dedication and commitment to the work of the Compact.

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) presented the 2024 ICJ Leadership Award to Rachel Johnson, ICJ Compact Administrator for North Carolina.
- S. Horton (NC) accepted the award on her behalf.

{Meeting was recessed at 2:25 p.m. and reconvened at 3:05 p.m. CT}

Call to the Public

Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) opened the meeting for comments from the public. There were none.

Unfinished Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There is no new business.

2025 Officer Elections

- Commission Chair N. Belli (OR) invited Judge Robert Hofmann to the podium to conduct elections. Judge Hofmann currently serves as the President of the NCJFCJ and the District Judge in the 452nd Judicial District in Mason County, Texas.
- Judge Hofmann read Article III of the ICJ Bylaws which outlines the election and succession of Commission officers which reads:

Officers shall be elected annually by the Commission at any meeting at which a quorum is present and shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected by the Commission. The officers so elected shall serve without compensation or remuneration, except as provided by the Compact. The 2024 term begins immediately after the Annual Business Meeting and runs until the next election.

2025 Commission Treasurer

- Judge Hofmann presented the nominees for the position of Commission Treasurer:
 - Dale Dodd, Commissioner from New Mexico
 - Sherry Jones, Commissioner from Maryland
- Judge Hofmann opened the floor for further nominations. There were none.
- **S. Horton (NC) made a motion to close nominations for the position of Commission Treasurer. F. Dauway (SC) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Each candidate addressed the Commission with their qualifications and experience to serve as Treasurer.
- The Commission's audience response system (ARS) electronic device was used to vote.
- Judge Hofmann announced that Sherry Jones (MD) was elected as the ICJ Treasurer for 2025.

2025 Commission Vice Chair

- Judge Hofmann presented the nominee for the position of Commission Vice Chair:
 - Caitlyn Bickford, Commissioner from New Hampshire
- Judge Hofman opened the floor for further nominations. There were none.
- **H. Wykes (AZ) made a motion to close nominations for the position of Commission Vice Chair. C. Copeland (TN) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Caitlyn Bickford (NH) addressed the Commission sharing her qualifications and experience.
- Judge Hofmann announced that no voting was required because there was only one nominee.
- Judge Hofmann announced that Caitlyn Bickford (NH) was elected by acclamation for the position of Vice Chair for 2025.

2025 Commission Chair

- Judge Hofmann presented the nominee for the position of Commission Chair:
 - Howard Wykes, Commissioner from Arizona
- Judge Hofman opened the floor for further nominations. There were none.
- **P. Pendergast (AL) made a motion to close nominations for the position of Commission Chair. D. Dodd (NM) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Howard Wykes (AZ) addressed the Commission sharing his qualifications and experience.
- Judge Hofmann announced that no voting was required because there was only one nominee.
- Judge Hofmann announced that Howard Wykes (AZ) was elected by acclamation for the position of Commission Chair for 2025.

Oath of Office

- The newly elected 2025 ICJ Officers were asked to stand to receive the oath of office administered by Judge Hofmann.
- Commissioner Nina Belli (OR) thanked Judge Hofmann for leading the 2025 officer elections and administering the oath of office.

2025 Annual Business Meeting

The 2025 ICJ Annual Business Meeting will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, August 25-27, 2025.

Adjourn

- Chair N. Belli (OR) recognized the dedication and contributions of Rachel Jones, Deputy Compact Administrator for the North Carolina ICJ Office who unexpectedly passed recently. Adjournment of the meeting will be in honor of Ms. Rachel Jones.
- **A. DeJesus (CA) made a motion to adjourn. T. Hunt (CT) seconded. Chair H. Wykes (AZ) adjourned the 2024 General Session of the Interstate Commission for Juveniles by acclamation without objection @ 3:33 p.m. CT.**