



2018 STATE COUNCILS FOR INTERSTATE JUVENILE SUPERVISION REPORT

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COMPACT AND POLICY

Pursuant to the Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ), Article IX:

“Each member state shall create a State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision. While each state may determine the membership of its own state council, its membership must include at least one representative from the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government, victims groups, and the compact administrator, deputy compact administrator or designee. . .”

ICJ Administrative Policy 01-2011 was enacted to ensure “compliance with the statute requirement that each member state or territory maintain a state council.” In Section III, the policy requires:

- A. By January 1 of each year, member states and territories shall submit the following information regarding their state council to the National Office:
 1. State council membership roster; and
 2. Meeting dates from previous year.
- B. Enforcement guidelines:
 1. If a member state or territory has not submitted the above information by January 30, the National Office will send a written reminder to the Commissioner.
 2. If a member state or territory has not submitted the above information by March 30, or has not established their state council, the Executive Director shall refer the matter to the Compliance Committee.

2019 STATE COUNCIL REPORTS

As of March 30, 2019, all member states and territories submitted 2018 State Council Reports to the National Office. Most reports met the minimum requirements set forth in the policy. Some states also provided additional information, such as narrative reports and/or meeting minutes. Many states reported that their State Councils were successful and productive collaborations.

Pursuant to ICJ Policy 01-2011, the National Office referred the matters described below to the Compliance Committee:

- 5 states reported that no State Council has been created
- 15 states reported their State Councils did not meet in 2018
- 7 of 15 states that did not meet in 2018 have not met in the past 5 years

STATE FEEDBACK

States reported the following tangible benefits, recommendations, and/or products that have resulted from their State Councils:

- Improved understanding of local court processes
- Strengthened collaborations with state agencies (ICPC, law enforcement, courts)
- Expanded judicial education
- Assisted with identifying training needs
- Increased awareness and visibility of ICJ
- Improved connectedness in bifurcated states
- Refined business processes
- Reinforces compliance with ICJ Rules
- Provides venue for review of difficult cases
- Provides venue for review ICJ Rule proposals

States reported the following obstacles/challenges:

- Attendance and scheduling conflicts
- Lack of actionable agenda topics
- Elected official commitments
- Appointment issues, especially related to changes of administration (governor appointments required) and high turnover

COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

In 2018, the Commission developed several new resources to support State Council operations, including:

- “Toolkit on State Councils for Interstate Juvenile Supervision,” available online and in printed format. Appendices provide sample documents, such as agenda and bylaws.
- Tip Sheets on Developing and Operating State Councils, available online and distributed in print at the 2018 Annual Business Meeting.
- State Council Online Reporting Tool, created to promote simple, uniform reporting of information related to State Councils.
- “ICJ Fundamentals” training, presented by the Executive Director at Delaware, Massachusetts & Tennessee State Council meetings.

The Rules Committee has proposed a new ICJ Rule to clarify requirements established in Article IX of the Compact, which will be presented to the full Commission for adoption at the 2019 Annual Business Meeting.

STATE HIGHLIGHT: NEW HAMPSHIRE

“New Hampshire’s State Council voted to support a research project aimed at creating better relationships between police officers and youth. The research project will seek involvement from local schools and law enforcement in communities identified as at-risk for racial tensions.”

– New Hampshire

BENEFITS

“The State Council has assisted in bridging the gap between the ICJ Office, local law enforcement and court system.”

– Florida

“It has also allowed us to figure out who has not been trained and would benefit from providing that training.”

– North Dakota

“As New Jersey is a bifurcated state with Parole and Probation functions in different branches of government, it is imperative that the State Council meet on an ongoing basis to ensure that the State remains in compliance with ICJ Rules and Best Practices.”

– New Jersey

“Judges have volunteered to speak to other judges when there is a misunderstanding of the Compact.”

– Oklahoma