



2019 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 31 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 March 1, 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 April 1, or has not established their state council, the Executive Director shall refer the matter to the Compliance Committee.

The Commission promulgated a rule, effective March 1, 2020 to support state councils. ICJ Rule 2-107: State Councils states,

“Each member state and territory shall establish and maintain a State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision as required by Article IX of the Interstate Compact for Juveniles. The State Council shall meet at least once annually and may exercise oversight and advocacy regarding the state’s participation in Interstate Commission activities and other duties, including but not limited to the development of policy concerning operations and procedures of the compact within that state or territory. By January 31st of each year, member states and territories shall submit an annual report to the National Commission to include the membership roster and meeting dates from the previous year.”

2019 STATE COUNCIL REPORTS

As of February 10, 2020, all member states and territories submitted 2019 State Council Reports.

POSITIVE MOMENTUM

- 7 State Councils met in 2019 that did not meet in 2018
- Iowa's ICJ State Council joined the Adult Compact State Council, and reported their first meeting since 2014

CONCERNS

- 3 states reported no State Council has been created
- 12 states reported the State Council did not meet in 2019
- 7 of the 12 states that did not meet in 2019 have not met in the past 5 years
- 16 states reported at least one membership vacancy

STATE FEEDBACK

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

- Influence in state legislation and policy
- Building relationships with stakeholders
- Increased visibility within the juvenile justice community
- Training for local law enforcement
- Training efforts by members to educate judges
- Discussed compliance audits, the Performance Measurement Assessment, and review of Corrective Action Plans
- Improving internal controls for compliancy
- Sharing ICJ Rule amendments
- Review of newly published Advisory Opinions and ICJ Policies
- Educating on national issues, such as JJDPa and REAL ID

States reported the following obstacles/challenges:

- Formation of state council
- Attendance and scheduling conflicts
- Appointment issues, especial related to changes of administration (governor appointments required) and high turnover
- Commissioner vacancies
- Failure to meet quorum
- Integrating ICJ into existing councils
- Educating members on applicability/enforceability of the compact

STATE HIGHLIGHT: IOWA

"The 2019 State Council meeting was Iowa's first meeting as a joint council. Both Adult and Juvenile compact staff took the opportunity to give council members an overview of their respective compacts. As a joint council Iowa will have the opportunity to learn and grow with insight from both compacts."

BENEFITS

"The legislative representative is currently sponsoring a bill in the Indiana General Assembly to update Indiana's compact transportation fund."

— Indiana

"The judges on the Council are willing to intercede in cases where other judges are not initially willing to follow Compact rules."

— Oklahoma

"It was decided that our Family Court Judge would email 'Did You Know' information about ICJ to other Family Court Judges. This is to educate and refresh judges about ICJ Rules."

— South Carolina

MOVING FORWARD

On March 5, 2020, the Compliance Committee approved a plan to proactively contact 7 states that either do not have a state council or have not met in 5 years to offer assistance.

The Compliance Committee report presented at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting will highlight the new rule, ensuring all states are aware of the meeting, membership, and reporting requirements.

To track compliance with required membership, the National Office will amend the online state council report form to include individual fields for reporting required membership.