



2020 STATE COUNCILS FOR INTERSTATE JUVENILE SUPERVISION REPORT

March 18, 2021

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 Rule 2-107: State Councils was promulgated to promote operation of state councils. Effective March 1, 2020, Rule 2-107 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.”

ICJ Administrative Policy 01-2011 was adopted to help ensure “compliance with the statute requirement that each member state or territory maintain a state council.” Section III of 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.

2020 STATE COUNCIL REPORTS

This year, the Commission utilized an online report form to streamline reporting and collect information regarding membership.

As of March 1, 2021, all 52 member states/territories have submitted 2020 State Council Reports.

- January 27, 2021: National Office sent reminder email to 19 states with no report.
- March 1, 2021: National Office sent written reminder to 2 state Commissioners and received reports back on the same day.

State Council Formation

- 44 states reported fully-formed State Councils which have met within the last 6 years.
- 5 states reported fully or partially-formed State Councils, but no meetings in past 6 years.
- 3 states reported having no State Council.

State Council Meetings

- 17 states did not meet in 2020:
 - 10 states cited COVID-19 as the reason for not meeting.
 - 5 states have not met in the past 6 years or longer.
 - 3 states reported that they do not have state council.

State Council Vacancies

- 19 states reported at least one membership vacancy.

STATE FEEDBACK

COVID-19 and UNITY were hot-topics at 2020 State Council Meetings. States discussed strategies to manage compact business during the pandemic, and shared information about the new ICJ Rule 2-108: Emergency Suspension of Enforcement.

States also discussed results of the 2019 Performance Measurement Assessment; new Advisory Opinions; Commission appointments; the Commission's strategic plan; the ICJ Annual Report; Rule amendments, including the new Rule 2-107, which went into effect in 2020; intrastate trainings; REAL ID requirements; the Commission's action plan to promote racial justice; and the 2020 virtual Annual Business Meeting.

STATE HIGHLIGHTS

Connecticut's State Council cooperatively developed an airport protocol to assist returning youth and hopes to leverage the Council to develop a protocol to coordinate non-delinquent returns when juveniles are under the care of the State.

"Indiana's COVID-19 response has created an increased sense of comradery and positive attitudes. The use of technology has increased compliance and helped resolve issues faster"

— Nita Wright, Indiana Probation DCA from September 2020 State Council Minutes

Maine's State Council centralized ICJ court hearings to the Portland District Court to resolve issues surrounding educating attorneys and judges.

Judges on Tennessee's State Council assist with helping their peers understand the ICJ.

STATE COUNCIL BENEFITS

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

- Involving courts in State Council helps in getting field cooperation
- Foster state-wide support for JJDPA core requirements
- Cooperatively develop interstate policies and protocols
- Provide input on Rule Proposals
- Educate members on compliance with the Compact
- Training Law Enforcement Officers
- Developing interstate compact allies
- Opportunities to educate attorneys and judges
- Examining impacts of ICJ on other compacts
- Problem solving for complex cases

STATE COUNCIL CHALLENGES

States reported the following obstacles/challenges:

- COVID-19
- Council Formation
- Securing Appointments
- Scheduling Meetings

COMMITTEE RESPONSE

On March 5, 2020, the Compliance Committee decided to offer training and technical assistance (TTA) to 7 states that failed to hold a State Council meeting in the past 5 years. However, plans were put on hold due to the onset of COVID-19 (national emergency was declared on March 13, 2020).

On April 23, 2020, the Commission suspended enforcement of ICJ Rules in Sections 400-800. Enforcement of Rule 2-107 was not suspended.

On March 4, 2021, the Compliance Committee decided to take the following action:

- Send letters to states that did not meet in 2020 acknowledging lack of compliance, but indicating committee's decision to take no action.
- By December 31, 2021, offer Training and Technical Assistance to 6 states where no council has been formed and/or where state councils have not met in the past 6 years.
- Review Strategic Plan, Initiative 4A related to state councils and change Action Step #5 end date to June 30, 2022. Action Step #7 is considered complete.