

## INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

### *East Region Meeting Minutes*

April 29, 2025

11:00 a.m. EDT

Via Zoom



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### **Preliminary Business**

#### **Call to Order**

Regional Representative T. Casanova (VT) called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. EDT.

#### **Roll Call**

Amanee Cabbagestalk, National Office, called the roll and a quorum was established.

#### **Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:**

1. Trissie Casanova (VT), Designee, Regional Representative
2. A. Roy Curtis (ME), Commissioner, Alternate Regional Representative
3. Tasha Hunt (CT), Commissioner
4. Christine Norris (DE), Designee
5. Becki Moore (MA), Commissioner
6. James Maloney (NY), Designee
7. Wendy Lautsbaugh (PA), Commissioner
8. William Dolan (RI), Designee
9. Eavey Monique-James (VI), Commissioner

#### **Additional State ICJ Personnel in Attendance:**

1. Nadia Napier (CT)
2. Erin Breitigan (DE)
3. Bob Lemieux (MA)
4. Shaina Kern (NY)
5. Shyra Bland (NJ)

#### **Voting Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:**

1. Francis "Mike" Casey (DE), Commissioner
2. Caitlyn Bickford (NH), Commissioner
3. Jennifer LeBaron (NJ), Commissioner
4. Edwin Lee, Jr. (NJ), Designee
5. Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden (NY), Commissioner
6. Jessica Nash (RI), Commissioner

#### **Guest in Attendance:**

1. Rhonda Turner (FL)

#### **National Office Staff in Attendance:**

1. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist
2. Jenny Adkins, Operations and Policies Specialist
3. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist

### **Agenda**

R. Curtis (ME) made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Representative T. Casanova (VT) approved the agenda by unanimous consent without objection.

#### Minutes

R. Curtis (ME) made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on January 30, 2025. Representative T. Casanova (VT) approved the minutes by unanimous consent without objection.

#### Unfinished Business

##### **Discuss Barriers to Accessing Child Abuse Registry Information**

- Representative T. Casanova (VT) discussed the importance of checking child abuse registries during home evaluations. She suggested that an memorandum of understanding (MOU) between agencies could potentially resolve issues related to accessing child abuse registry information.
- T. Hunt (CT) agreed that guidelines around child welfare involvement are necessary but noted that the scope of the registry is narrower than general child protection history.
- R. Moore (MA) shared that her agency conducts background checks for non-guardian placements, including child welfare and sex offender registry checks.
- E. Monique-James (VI) shared that in the Virgin Islands, all child-related services are under one agency, making it easier to access child abuse registry information.
- N. Napier (CT) raised concerns about the impact on report timelines if an MOU is not established.
- T. Hunt (CT) emphasized the need for clear guidelines on the use of the information and potential impact on child placement decisions.
- Representative T. Casanova (VT) asked members to ask their state councils how difficult it would be to obtain child abuse registry information for the home evaluation process. She asked members to be ready to discuss at the next meeting.

##### **Discuss Suggestion to Submit an Enhancement Request to the Information Technology Committee to Make the Human Trafficking Field be Mandatory and Have a Definition for Human Trafficking as a Tool Tip**

- Representative T. Casanova (VT) asked members to share their thoughts on submitting a request to make the Human Trafficking field mandatory in UNITY and to add a tooltip with a definition of Human Trafficking.
- Members agreed that it would be a good idea to have the human trafficking field mandatory in UNITY and to have a definition for Human Trafficking added as a tool tip.
- **R. Curtis (ME) made a motion for the East Region to submit a UNITY enhancement request to the Information Technology Committee to make the Human Trafficking field be mandatory for a return and provide a definition for Human Trafficking as a tool tip. The motion passed.**
- Representative T. Casanova (VT) mentioned that the Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee was also interested in submitting an enhancement request. R. Curtis (ME) stated that he would discuss with the Information Technology Committee on if the RDEI Committee and East Region should submit an enhancement request together or separately.

#### New Business

##### **Provide Feedback on Removal of Compliance Standards**

- Jenny Adkins (National Office) stated that the Compliance Committee recommended removing Standards A-07 and Standard A-11 because UNITY was designed to ensure compliance through

task requirements and date restrictions, and cases can only progress if they met the requirements described in Standards A-07 and A-11.

- Standard A-07 states: “With regard to probation cases, Sending States shall ensure referral documents are complete and forwarded to the receiving state. (Rule 4-102(2)(b)).”
- Standard A-11 states: “Travel permits shall not exceed 90 calendar days. (Rule 8-101(3)).”
- Representative T. Casanova (VT) agreed with removing Standards A-07 and A-11. She noted that, in a small state, one case can push the state over the compliance limit.
- R. Curtis (ME), W. Lautsbaugh (PA), W. Dolan (RI), and S. Bland (NJ) support the Compliance Committee’s recommendation to remove Standards A-07 and A-11.

#### **Conduct Poll to Increase Awareness of State Human Trafficking Screening Practices and Resources**

- E. Monique-James (VI) stated the Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (RDEI) was exploring ways to more accurately capture data that tracks instances of human trafficking. The committee's goal is to encourage all ICJ Offices to learn about and/or develop their procedures for identifying human trafficking concerns. She shared that the RDEI Committee was conducting a poll in each region to gather information regard state human trafficking screening and data collection practices.
- The poll developed by the RDEI Committee was conducted.

#### **Assess the need for a rule proposal regarding Transfer of Supervision eligibility requirements for Youthful Offenders**

- Representative T. Casanova (VT) stated that this topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Reports**

#### **Executive Committee**

- T. Casanova (VT) provided a report on recent Executive Committee activities.

#### **Compliance Committee**

- N. Napier (CT) provided a report on recent Compliance Committee activities.

#### **Information Technology Committee**

- R. Curtis (ME) provided a report on recent Information Technology Committee activities.

#### **Rules Committee**

- T. Casanova (VT) provided a report on recent Rules Committee activities.
- Jenny Adkins (National Office) shared that the Public Hearing will be held virtually on August 6, 2025, at 1:00 pm EDT.

#### **Finance Committee**

- S. Bland (NJ) provided a report on recent Finance Committee activities.

#### **Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee**

- Amanee Cabbagestalk (National Office) provided a report on recent RDEI Committee activities.

#### **Training Committee**

- Amanee Cabbagestalk (National Office) provided a report on recent Training Committee activities.

### Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youths

- Representative T. Casanova (VT) and R. Curtis (ME) provided a report on recent Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youths activities.

### Hot Topics from “ICJ Updates”

- Representative T. Casanova (VT) reported that the 2025 [Annual Business Meeting](#) will be held in Cleveland, Ohio on August 25-27, 2025.
- *ICJ Wednesday Workshop*
  - Representative T. Casanova (VT) shared that the Tribal Nations 101 *Wednesday Workshop* is on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at 1:00 pm EDT.
- On May 7, 2025, the [Real ID](#) requirement will be in full effect for all air travel.
  - Representative T. Casanova (VT) reported that UNITY users can produce the ICJ Transportation Identification Form as an alternate means of verification of a juvenile's identity when traveling by air.
- Meeting Minutes Update
  - Representative T. Casanova (VT) stated that the National Office has updated practices for meeting minutes and reports to improve workloads and consistency with Robert's Rules.

### Next Steps

- No next steps were discussed.

### Adjourn

Representative T. Casanova (VT) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 12:31 p.m. EDT.