INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 23, 2026
12:00 p.m. EDT
via Zoom

Preliminary Business

Call to Order

Commission Chair H. Wykes (AZ) called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. EDT.

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll, and quorum was established.

Committee Members in Attendance:

1. Howard Wykes (AZ), Commission Chair
2. Stephen Horton (NC), Commission Vice Chair
3. Dale Dodd (NM), Commission Treasurer
4. Michael Tymkew (MI), Compliance Committee Chair
5. Corrie Copeland (TN), Finance Committee Acting Chair
6. Kellianne Torres (IA), Information Technology Committee Chair
7. Francis “Mike” Casey (DE), Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee Chair
8. Julie Hawkins (MO), Rules Committee Chair
9. Trissie Casanova (VT), East Regional Representative
10. Felicia Dauway (SC), South Regional Representative
11. Nina Belli (OR), West Regional Representative
12. Megan Riker-Rheinschild, Victims Representative

Guests in Attendance:

1. A. Roy Curtis (ME), Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youths Chair
2. Antonio DeJesus (CA), Commissioner

Committee Members Not in Attendance:

1. Raymundo Gallardo (UT), Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee Chair

National Office Staff and Legal Counsel in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Jenny Adkins, Director of Operations, Rules, and Compliance
3. Joseph Johnson, Technology Systems Manager
4. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Development Manager
5. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist
6. Thomas Travis, Legal Counsel

S. Horton (NC) made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Chair H. Wykes (AZ) indicated the agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

D. Dodd (NM) made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on June 25, 2026, as presented. Chair H. Wykes (AZ) indicated the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Reports

Commission Chair Report *by Howard Wykes (AZ)*

- Chair H. Wykes (AZ) announced that he had appointed M. Tykmew (MI) as Compliance Committee Chair.
- Chair H. Wykes (AZ) presented plans for Commission's strategic planning update for 2028-2032 to be conducted in 2027, advising that Dr. Nicholas Powell would facilitate discussions at the 2027 Executive Committee's Spring Planning Meeting.

National Office Report *by MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director*

- Director Underwood reported the following state updates:
  - Idaho had hired new personnel to fill commissioner and compact administrator roles. Though set to start on August 3, 2026, no timeline was provided for appointments.
- Director Underwood reported the following Commission updates.
  - She reported that FY26 year-end expenses were aligned with projections and the year ended with a small surplus due to high investment returns.
  - She presented a cost containment memorandum highlighting significant operational changes used to contain costs over the years, including disaffiliation from the Council of State Governments and transitioning to a virtual operations model. She also reviewed major budget drivers, including inflation, technology transformation, and in-person meeting costs.
    - Members suggested exploring additional cost containment strategies, such as implementing registration fees for non-members attending the annual business meeting (ABM). Director Underwood suggested the topic be referred to the Finance Committee for further exploration.
  - She reported that 24 out of 52 compacting states had paid dues assessments for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027.
- Director Underwood reported the following partnership updates:
  - She represented the Commission at the 89th Annual National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) Conference and identified several new opportunities for partnership. She noted that NCJFCJ leaders expressed willingness to share expertise regarding the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA), which could be helpful for improving responses to cases in which there appears to be an underlying child custody issue. She also noted that NCJFCJ has a well-developed system for leadership development and commitments to diversity and tribal issues.
  - The American Probation and Parole Association has agreed to assign a staff member to serve on the Commission's Training Committee in 2027 and offered to dedicate three sessions to ICJ at the 2027 Winter Institute.
- Director Underwood reported the following updates related to the 2026 ABM updates:
  - All 52 compacting states will be represented and 10 ex officio members are attending.
  - Nominations for officers, regional representatives, and awards were closed. At least one nomination was received for each position and award. Information regarding the

election process and candidates would be available in the *2026 ABM Docket Book* for review during regional meetings.

- Director Underwood noted the Commission's 4 strategic priorities:
    - Improve UNITY Data System for better outcomes.
    - Promote leadership development and racial justice.
    - Address gaps in ICJ Rules and resources.
    - Leverage relationships to promote awareness and improve outcomes.
- Director Underwood presented a draft *FY27 Annual Action Plan for Committees*, noting that included both strategic initiatives and core responsibilities for each committee. Members provided feedback to be incorporated prior to the next meeting.

Legal Counsel

- Legal Counsel T. Travis reported that employment law experts at his firm were reviewing draft of the personnel policy revisions.
- In relation to New Business, Legal Counsel T. Travis reported that the Compact required annual election of the Commission chairperson and vice-chairperson.

Compliance Committee

- Compliance Committee Chair M. Tykmew (MI) reported that the Compliance Committee determined responses to challenges to the 2026, Quarter 1 performance measurement assessment (PMA).
- Compliance Committee Chair M. Tykmew (MI) reported that the Compliance Committee discussed the Executive Committee's response to their memorandum and questions regarding enforcement of state council requirements. Their discussion of the related policy will continue after the annual business meeting.
- The Compliance Committee reviewed a quarterly report submitted in relation to an ongoing corrective action plan. No action was taken.

Rules Committee

- Rules Committee Chair J. Hawkins (MO) reported that the Rules Committee discussed the use of the terms *in custody* and *detainment* in the ICJ Rules.
- The Rules Committee also received reports from the Subcommittee on Home Evaluations for Relocations in the Receiving State and the Subcommittee on Re-envisioning the Process for Returning Non-Delinquent Youth.

Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youth

- Work Group Chair R. Curtis (ME) reported that the group reviewed the draft report and recommendations, including draft goals, objectives, and strategies for improving responses to non-delinquent runaways.
- Work Group Chair R. Curtis (ME) reported that the Work Group recommended continuation of the Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youth in FY27.
- **T. Casanova (VT) made a recommendation to continue the Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youth into Fiscal Year 2027. The motion did not pass.**

Unfinished Business

Provide feedback on revised UNITY Privacy Policy

- J. Adkins reported that several members of the Executive Committee participated in an information session regarding the proposed revisions. She noted that their suggestions had been presented to the project consultants, who agreed to incorporate them into the draft revisions.
- C. Copeland (TN) suggested all states should have an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft policy revision, given they would be required to follow it.
- National Office will schedule an information session open to all ICJ personnel in September. At the 2026 Annual Business Meeting, the topic will be introduced and ICJ personnel will be invited to participate and provide feedback. An introduction to the UNITY Privacy policy will be added to the region meeting agendas, with a plan to set up a virtual UNITY Privacy Policy informational session of the policy changes in mid-September.

New Business

Overview of Personnel Policies Handbook

- Director Underwood provided an update on the Personnel Policy Handbook revision project. The human resources consultant and national office have drafted updates reflect current employment laws and best practices. Draft revisions have been forward to legal counsel for review.

Recommendation to modify election schedules and committee work plans to two years

- Chair H. Wykes (AZ) advised that the topic will be added to Unfinished Business on the next Executive Committees meeting agenda.

Next Steps

- The next Executive Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 31, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. EDT.

Adjourn

Chair Wykes adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent without objection at 1:35 p.m. EDT.