

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES



Midwest Region Meeting

Minutes

July 9, 2020

2:00 p.m. ET

WebEx

Commissioners in Attendance:

1. Charles Frieberg (SD), Representative
2. Tomiko Frierson (IL), Commissioner
3. Kellianne Torres (IA), Designee
4. Jeff Cowger (KS), Commissioner
5. Roy Yaple (MI), Commissioner
6. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
7. Jacey Rader (NE), Commissioner
8. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee
9. Nate Lawson (OH), Commissioner
10. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner

Commissioners Not in Attendance:

1. Mary Kay Hudson (IN), Commissioner

Compact Office Staff in Attendance:

1. Holly Kassube (IL)
2. Nita Wright (IN)
3. April Simmons (IN)
4. Matt Billinger (KS)
5. Rebecca Hillestead (MN)
6. Kathy Christenson (SD)
7. Joy Swantz (WI)

ICJ Staff in Attendance:

1. Mary Lee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Jennifer Adkins, Operations and Policy Specialist
3. Leslie Anderson, Logistics and Administrative Coordinator

Call to Order

Representative C. Frieberg (SD) called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. ET.

Roll Call

Executive Director Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda

- J. Rader (NE) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.**
T. Hudrlik (MN) seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

J. Rader (NE) made a motion to approve the minutes from April 9, 2020. N. Lawson (OH) seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion

- **Executive Committee Update**
 - Representative C. Frieberg (SD) reported the following updates:
 - Region members were encouraged to submit reports for any in-state trainings conducted during FY20.
 - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and transitions to teleworking, some states have indicated they need an additional copy of the invoice for FY21 dues. States were encouraged to contact the national office staff.
 - The Strategic Plan priorities and initiatives had been amended to include:
 - Several action items related to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - Three (3) action items under leadership development and racial justice. Those action items include:
 - 2C-6: Leadership Development – Leadership Exchange Series;
 - 2C-7: Internal Procedural Justice Review – Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Justice; and
 - 2C-8: External Leadership – Collaboration to Improve Community Supervision.
 - In FY 20, thirty-seven action items were completed; thus, more than half of the identified action steps were completed in the first year of the three-year plan. Representative C. Frieberg (SD) thanked the Committee members and Region members for their work on behalf of the Commission to advance the Strategic Plan.
 - The Compliance Committee has been revising the Sanctions Guidelines Policy to be presented to each region for review and feedback.
 - The Finance Committee approved amendments to the FY21 budget and will be presenting the FY22 budget for approval at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting.
 - The Rules Committee is continuing their systematic review of the rules, including recommendations proposed by committees.
 - The Training Committee reported about instructor-led trainings and continued development of the UNITY and ICJ in Action On Demand courses.
 - The Technology Committee oversaw the JIDS server upgrade, completed a detailed review of forms changes in preparation for the UNITY system, and outlined UNITY development and transition plans for the coming months. A UNITY state Personnel Directory Data Request will be sent to Commission members. Existing JIDS user profiles will not be transferred over to the UNITY system.

- The Juvenile/Adult Issues Ad Hoc Committee has provided recommendations to the Rules Committee for consideration which include:
 - four (4) rule amendment proposals;
 - a draft Best Practices document for review by the Executive Committee;
 - panel discussion to be presented at the 2020 Annual Business Meeting to discuss the differences between adult extradition and returns of juveniles under the ICJ; and
 - revisions to the Age Matrix to provide clarification and consistency in the ages of the populations being captured.
 - The 2020 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) will be held virtually with sessions scheduled for Monday through Wednesday. An additional series of Region Meetings has been scheduled in September to discuss the UNITY transition and roll-out. Registration for the September Region Meetings will begin August 3, 2020 and will utilize the same platform and registration as the ABM. States were encouraged to contact their IT Departments to ensure access to the platforms that will be utilized while hosting the ABM.
- **Sanctioning Guidelines Policy**
 - Representative C. Frieberg (SD) noted that a video regarding the draft *ICJ Policy: 02-2017 Sanctioning Guidelines* and draft Work Sheet were sent to the Region members to review in advance. The floor was open for discussion.
 - J. Rader (NE) provided a brief history of the current policy highlighting concerns encountered when applied to real-life scenarios. Commission members found the current policy and the violation types to be subjective. In response to the concerns encountered, the Executive Committee tasked the Compliance Committee with a review of the policy to ensure that the violation types were clear and straight-forward. J. Rader (NE) provided a highlight of the amendments made in the draft policy.
 - R. Yapple (MI) stressed concern regarding the qualifying terms injury, death or sexual harm. Suggesting the terms may be somewhat vague which could lead to disproportional scoring. In a case resulting in death, the penalty of \$75,000 might be viewed as inappropriate or insensitive, and the circumstances of the death could potentially be aggravating or mitigating.
 - J. Rader (NE) advised that in Section III of the current policy, some of those same questions were asked; however, there was no means of qualifying responses. The point system developed in the draft policy provides the Compliance Committee and Executive Committee guidance when a monetary sanction is assessed on a defaulting state.
 - Region Representative C. Frieberg (SD) reported that the region members feedback will be recommended to the Compliance Committee for consideration.
- **Committee Guidelines Policy**

- Representative C. Frieberg (SD) noted that a video regarding draft ICJ Policy 03-2012: Committee Guidelines was provided to region members prior to the meeting, and asked Commission Chair J. Rader (NE) to outline the draft policy and reported amendments
 - J. Rader (NE) reported that amendments include the reorganization of the current policy sections to ensure consistency with related ICJ policies. The amendments also provide clear responsibilities for the Commission Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, and Committee Members. It also provides clarification regarding appointments and eligibility requirements, terms of service, and state representation. The floor was opened for discussion.
 - There was no discussion.
 - Representative C. Frieberg (SD) encouraged region members to submit any feedback to him to report to the Executive Committee for consideration.

- **State Updates/Concerns**
 - **Illinois**
 - T. Frierson (IL) reported that the staff are still working remotely, court proceedings are being conducted via videoconferencing and airport surveillance has resumed.

 - **Ohio**
 - N. Lawson (OH) reported that state parole staff are slowly phasing back into the field and conducting some face to face interaction with youth and families. The county probation staff are also slowly phasing back into the field however, the phases vary on a county by county basis. The state is continuing furloughs and increased layoffs at the county and court level that is hindering communication and obtaining information in a timely manner. The state is discussing furloughing state employees by 80 hours which could impact ICJ operations. Updates will be provided as the furlough discussion continues.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

Age Matrix

- All region members were encouraged to update the Age Matrix with the most accurate information for their state.

Adjourn

N. Lawson (OH) made a motion to adjourn. T. Frierson (IL) seconded. Representative C. Frieberg (SD) adjourned the meeting at 2:49 p.m. ET.