INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Justice Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2021 3:00 p.m. ET *Via WebEx*



Voting Members in Attendance:

- 1. Tasha Hunt (CT), Commissioner, Co-Chair
- 2. Becki Moore (MA), Designee, Co-Chair
- 3. Mike Casey (DE), Commissioner
- 4. Sherry Jones (MD), Commissioner
- 5. Roy Yaple (MI), Commissioner
- 6. Cathy Gordon (MT), Commissioner
- 7. Jacey Rader (NE), Commissioner
- 8. Felicia Dauway (SC), Commissioner
- 9. Eavey-Monique James (USVI), Commissioner

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

- 1. Edwin Lee, Jr. (NJ)
- 2. Maxine Baggett (MS)
- 3. Terrance Clayton (FL)

Members Not in Attendance:

- 1. Agnes Denson (FL), Commissioner
- 2. Corrie Copeland (TN), Commissioner

National Office Staff & Legal Counsel in Attendance:

- 1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
- 2. Emma Goode, Logistics and Administrative Specialist
- 3. Jenny Adkins, Operations and Policy Specialist
- 4. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist

Call to Order

Co-Chair Moore (MA) called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. ET.

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda

- J. Rader (NE) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
- F. Dauway (SC) seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

C. Gordon (MT) made a motion to approve the March 23, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. F. Dauway (SC) seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion

Mission / Vision / Values / Results Statements

- Co-Chair Moore updated that the ad hoc committee's recommendations related to the ICJ Mission/Vision/Values were shared with the Executive Committee during their meeting on April 15, 2021. The recommendations were well received. The Executive Committee continue their discussion regarding edits to the mission, vision, and values statements at a future meeting.
- Co-Chair Moore opened the floor for further discussion of the recommendations.
- Director Underwood supported the proposed language and suggested relocating a phrase for clarity. The committee agreed and modified as highlighted below:

Mission

The Interstate Commission for Juveniles, the governing body of the Interstate Compact for Juveniles, through means of joint and cooperative action among the compacting states, preserves child welfare and promotes public safety interests of citizens, including victims of juvenile offenders. With a focus on racial justice, by the Commission provides ing enhanced accountability, enforcement, visibility, and communication in the return of juveniles who have left their state of residence without permission and in the cooperative supervision of delinquent juveniles who travel or relocate across state lines.

 S. Jones (MD) made a motion to approve the modified recommendation to the ICJ Mission Statement, and to retain the recommendation to the Vision Statement and Values as previously submitted. The motion passed by acclamation without objection.

Research on Elections Process

- Co-Chair Moore noted the committee previously decided to review the ICJ elections process.
- Two related documents were sent to the members prior to the meeting for review: 1) the "2020 ICJ Election Process for Regions" and 2) the "2020 Election Guide" produced by the Military Interstate Children's Compact (MIC3).
- Co-Chair Moore requested that members review the materials for discussion at the May meeting.

Old Business

Proposed amendment to Rule 5-103: Reporting Juvenile Non-Compliance, Failed Supervision and Retaking by the Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice

- Co-Chair Hunt reported that the Rules Committee reviewed the ad hoc committee's rule proposal at their April 7 meeting and supported the intent of the proposal. The Rules Committee recommended that the proposal be modified, as follows:
 - e. efforts or interventions description of efforts made to redirect the behavior including therapeutic interventions, incentives and/or graduated sanctions, or other corrective actions made to redirect the behavior consistent with supervision standards in the receiving state; and
 - f. sanctions if they apply;
 - g. receiving state recommendations.

- C. Gordon (MT) indicated the recommended changes were acceptable. S. Jones (MD) agreed that the proposed language captured the intent of the proposal. Therefore, she supports the recommendation.
- J. Rader (NE) made a motion to approve the recommendation by the ICJ Rules Committee to the Ad Hoc Committee's proposed amendment to Rule 5-103, paragraph 1 (e-g). R. Yaple (MI) seconded. The motion passed.

New Business

Graduated Responses

- Co-Chair Hunt recalled that the ad hoc committee discussed graduated sanctions during the development of the proposed rule amendment.
- Questions for consideration include:
 - o Do differences that exist between jurisdictions warrant guidance?
 - What can the ad hoc committee do, in related to graduated responses, to increase equity?
- E. Lee, Jr. (NJ) commented that states do not use the terms "sanctions and incentives" and "structured responses" in the same ways. There may even be variance within a state, from county to county. Perhaps the committee should encourage states to use a very basic model for consistency.
- E. Monique-James (USVI) asked if samples had been shared to see highlight variations and commonalities.
- J. Rader (NE) noted that Compact staff often respond that they do not control important parts of the process and may be resistant to recommendations related to graduated sanctions. She suggested states review their own state's responses to determine if they are fair and equitable before coming together collectively.
- Co-Chair Moore suggested a repository of the standards that states use. For example, Massachusetts has a manual that could be linked as others could be linked to build a resource library from states current standards.
- Co-Chair Hunt suggested collecting information from all states regarding their practices. Director Underwood suggested a resource library might be more manageable, given challenges with keeping current matrices (age, airport, and sex offender) up to date.
- S. Jones (MD) agreed that something is needed to increase consistency. She
 noted that Florida shared their graduated sanctions documents, which could be
 as an excellent example. She agreed to contact Florida for permission to share
 their documents.
- C. Gordon (MT) agreed with the goal to increase equity. She reported that the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS) has state-bystate information on its website regarding sanctions. J. Rader (NE) commented that the information had been taken down due to the difficulty of keeping it updated.
- Co-Chair Moore noted that this topic will be included on next month's agenda and asked members to share their state's sanctions and incentives resource by forwarding to Emma Goode at the National Office.

2021 Annual Business Meeting Roundtable Discussion

- Co-Chair Moore presented a draft 2021 Annual Business Meeting Agenda for discussion. The draft agenda includes a session related to racial justice on Wednesday afternoon, October 6. The draft proposes a training session entitled: "Roundtable on Racial Justice." This session will follow a keynote address by Hasan Davis titled "Leading Forward," which will focus on leadership through a racial equity lens.
- J. Rader (NE) encouraged members to develop a session that provides useful information for state ICJ Offices, noting that state ICJ Office staff may have limited control over other parts of the juvenile justice processes.
- Committee members brainstormed ideas, which included:
 - A juvenile sharing their story.
 - o Panel of ad hoc committee members discussing the committee's work.
- Co-Chair Moore asked members think about this session, which will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjourn

Co-Chair Moore adjourned the meeting by acclamation at 3:57 p.m. ET.