

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES
Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Justice
Meeting Minutes



July 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. Francis "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. 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. Felicia Dauway (SC), Commissioner
3. Corrie Copeland (TN), Commissioner

National Office Staff & Legal Counsel in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist
3. Emma Goode, Logistics and Administrative Specialist

Call to Order

Co-Chair Moore (MA) called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. ET.

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established a few minutes into the meeting.

Agenda

J. Rader (NE) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
S. Jones (MD) seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

C. Gordon (MT) made a motion to approve the June 22, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. S. Jones (MD) seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion

Updates from the July 15 Executive Committee

- Co-Chair Hunt provided an update on the presentation of the Ad Hoc Committee's work to the ICJ Executive Committee in the July meeting. The proposed amendments to the ICJ Mission, Vision, Values and the proposed ICJ Nominations and Elections Process were both presented.
- The proposed amendments to the Mission, Vision, Values Statements received positive feedback and one member question why adding specific racial justice language is necessary.
- Though the ICJ Executive Committee has the authority to approved amendments to the statements on behalf of the Commission, they decided the full Commission should vote on the amendments because the full Commission originally adopted the current versions. Therefore, the proposals will be presented to the full Commission for vote at the Annual Business Meeting in October.
- The proposed ICJ Nominations and Elections Process was presented. The primary question was if nominations also be taken from the floor. The Nominations and Elections Process was adopted and goes into to effect immediately. Nominations will be accepted in accordance to the process beginning in August.
- The Executive Committee suggested that a representative of the Racial Justice Ad Hoc Committee present both documents to each region. Edwin Lee (NJ) presented the recommendations in the West and South Regions. Tasha Hunt (CT) presented the recommendations in the Midwest.
- E. Lee, Jr. (NJ) and T. Hunt (CT) shared the feedback from their presentations. The Nominations and Elections Process document was welcomed. In the South Region, one member questioned whether naming one group in the Mission, Vision, Values Statements would exclude others. Mr. Lee reported that he replied that the focus was "equality" for all.
- R. Yapple (MI) recalled the data presented earlier in the year by Hasan Davis that covers all groups. He added that he supports the proposals and commented after putting the words into action after the adoption of such statements is when it becomes hard and uncomfortable for some.
- J. Rader (NE) commended the work of this Ad Hoc Committee adding that the Vision, Mission, Values Statements will be presented to the full Commission for adoption with a recommendation of support from the Executive Committee.

Finalize 2021 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) Training Session

Content and Presenters

- Co-Chair Moore presented a Racial Justice ABM Session presentation outline for consideration. The outline was developed by the co-chairs, in consultations with the ICJ National Office. The session is slated for two hours following Hasan Davis' 90-minute keynote address on Wednesday, October 6.
- Co-Chair Moore highlighted proposed content. The Co-Chairs would open the session and presenters would address the four principles of procedural justice. The presenters would highlight the work of the Ad Hoc Committee during the year and how their work supported these principles. The four principles and suggested presenters were:

- Neutrality – Sherry Jones and Cathy Gordon
- Respect – Edwin Lee, Jr. and Roy Yaple
- Voice – Currently seeking a juvenile/family member
- Trustworthiness – Open to volunteers from the ad hoc committee
- J. Rader (NE) commented that the goal is for everyone to understand why we are doing what we are doing with regards to racial justice. When the Ad Hoc Committee was established, many focused primarily on how youth are affected. However, it is also critical to consider how ICJ personnel are treated. It is important to make sure that there is room for all voices to be heard.
- S. Jones (MD) shared that she initially saw her ICJ role in Maryland processing paperwork for juveniles. Now, she sees her role as being an advocate for the children whose paperwork comes across her desk.
- E. James (USVI) commented that the underlying theme is that racial justice is about all of us. However, if you have not experienced situations involving injustice, you do not understand.

Engagement

- Members brainstormed participant interaction ideas which included breakout rooms, polls, and reaction icons in Zoom. R. Yaple (MI) suggested the Ideaboardz used earlier in the year to gather input from the members.
- E. Goode shared an idea discussed with M&IW. The group could randomly be assigned into 4 breakout rooms. Each group would be assigned one of the principles in the quadrants led by the panelists of that principle. Each group will answer a couple of questions and return to the full group to share answers.

Important Dates

- Co-Chair Moore noted August dates for the presentation materials and presenter bios and photos. The Co-Chairs will be meeting with Hasan Davis to discuss his keynote presentation that precedes the panel discussion.
- The August 24 meeting date will not be a committee meeting, but rather a planning session for the training. Co-Chair Moore will email members to determine interest in participating in the meeting and serving as presenters. Additionally, she asked those members flagged as potential presenters to reach out to the Co-Chairs to confirm their participation. Once affirmed, members should send biographical information and photos to Amanee Cabbagestalk at the ICJ National Office.

Final Meeting or Recommend Continuation

- Co-Chair Moore explained that Ad Hoc Committees are temporary. Therefore, this ad hoc committee will cease after the ABM. She opened the floor for consideration of whether to recommend the Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice continue another year.
- **S. Jones (MD) made a motion to recommend to the Executive Committee that the ICJ Ad Hoc Committee for Racial Justice continue next year. The motion passed by acclamation without objection.**

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjourn

Co-Chair Moore adjourned by acclamation at 4:03 p.m. ET.