

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Rules Committee Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026

2:00 p.m. EDT

Via Zoom



Preliminary Business

Call to Order

Rules Committee Chair J. Hawkins (MO) called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. EDT.

Roll Call

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

Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Julie Hawkins (MO), Commissioner, Chair
2. Natalie Dalton (VA), Commissioner, Vice Chair
3. Judy Miller (AR), Designee
4. Howard Wykes (AZ), Designee
5. Stephen Horton (NC), Commissioner
6. Daryl Liedecke (TX), Designee
7. Trissie Casanova (VT), Designee
8. Dawn Bailey (WA), Designee
9. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner

Additional State ICJ Personnel in Attendance:

1. Cindy Wang (GA)
2. Nita Wright (IN)

Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

1. Rebecca Moore (MA), Commissioner
2. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
3. Caitlyn Bickford (NH), Commissioner
4. Jedd Pelander (WA), Commissioner

National Office and Legal Counsel Staff in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Jenny Adkins, Director of Operations, Rules and Compliance
3. Joe Johnson, Technology Systems Manager
4. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist
5. Tom Travis, Legal Counsel

N. Dalton (VA) made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

J. Miller (AR) made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on May 20, 2026. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Unfinished Business

Approve Updated Rules Calendar

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) shared that the 2027 Annual Business Meeting will be held September 20 – 23, 2027, in Portland, Oregon.
- **C. Wang (GA) made a motion to approve the updated Rules Calendar. The motion passed.**

Best Interest Issues – Subcommittee Report

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) shared the “Best Interest” Subcommittee drafted a proposed amendment to [Rule 6-103, Non-Voluntary Return of Runaways and/or Accused Status Offenders](#) and a new definition of “best interest.”
- The proposed amendments were displayed for review.
- Members raised concerns about the clarity and consistency of the proposed amendment with how courts typically apply the “best-interest standard.”
- Rules Committee members agreed to modify the rule amendments to clarify that the home state court is responsible for applying the “best interest standard” and decided to not include a definition for “best interest.”
- The proposed amendment to Rule 6-103(3)(B) was amended to, “The home/demanding state court shall determine whether to grant the requisition based on its application of the best interest standard.”
- The proposed amendment to Rule 6-103(6) was amended to, “If proof of entitlement is established, the requisition shall be granted.”
- Rules Committee members agreed to the following changes in Rule 6-103(3)(B): “honor” in Rule 6-103(6) to maintain consistency with the [Form I, Requisition for Runaway Juvenile](#), rather than using “grant” in both sections.
- To stay consistent with the amendments, the term “granting” was also changed to “honoring” in Rule 6-103(9).
- The proposed amendment to Rule 6-103(3)(B) was changed to, “The home/demanding state court shall determine whether to issue the requisition based on its application of the best interest standard.”
- The proposed amendment to Rule 6-103(6) was changed to, “If proof of entitlement is established, the requisition shall be honored.”
- Rule 6-103(9) was changed to, “Juveniles shall be returned by the home/demanding state within five (5) business days of the receipt of the order honoring the requisition.”
- **N. Dalton (VA) made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to Rule 6-103, Non-Voluntary Return of Runaways and/or Accused Status Offenders. The motion passed.**

New Business

Home Evaluations for Relocations in the Receiving State

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) reported that concerns regarding home evaluations for relocations in the receiving state were brought to the attention of the National Office by a commissioner. J. Miller (AR) also raised concerns in a previous meeting.
- Director Underwood presented a memorandum on gaps in procedures for intrastate relocations in the receiving state, including issues with the UNITY system and unclear rules around authorizing new living arrangements.

- Director Underwood recommended that the Rules Committee review several related rules and best practices to determine whether any of the ICJ Rules should be amended and/or whether the [Best Practice: Interstate Relocations](#) should be updated to clarify procedures for relocations after case acceptance.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) recommended creating a subcommittee to review related rules and best practices.
- Vice Chair N. Dalton (VA) recommended including both Technology and Rules Committee members on the subcommittee.
- N. Dalton (VA), J. Miller (AR), and N. Wright (IN) volunteered to assist.

Re-Envisioning the Process for Returning Non-Delinquent Youth

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) proposed developing a new approach for non-delinquent cases that would focus on parental rights and safety concerns, rather than using the same process as for delinquent cases.
- Chair J. Hawkins (M) proposed exploring alternative approaches to using the current Form III process. N. Wright (IN) and H. Wykes (AZ) raised concerns about asking young people about legal guardianship, noting that many youths do not have or understanding information about guardianship.
- T. Casanova (VT) supported the overall concept but questioned the specific questions being proposed. She suggested a partnership with the Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youths.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) recommended forming a subcommittee to explore alternatives, including the use of the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA). The subcommittee will propose changes for further consideration in 2027, though this timeline may be adjusted based on the required scope of work.
- T. Casanova (VT), D. Liedecke (TX), S. Horton (NC), N. Wright (IN), and C. Wang (GA) volunteered to assist on the joint Rules and Technology Committee sub-committee to address gaps in rules regarding non-delinquent youth returns and to propose process improvements.

Next Steps

- The next Rules Committee meeting was scheduled for July 15, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. EDT.

Adjourn

Chair Hawkins (MO) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 3:34 p.m. EDT.