INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Rules Committee Meeting Minutes
October 21, 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. Caitlyn Bickford (NH), Commissioner
7. Daryl Liedecke (TX), Designee
8. Trissie Casanova (VT), Designee
9. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner

Additional State ICJ Personnel in Attendance:

1. Cindy Wang (GA)
2. Nita Wright (IN)
3. Amanda Heath (GA) , National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) President

Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

1. Michael Tymkew (MI), Commissioner
2. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
3. Jedd Pelander (WA), Commissioner
4. Dawn Bailey (WA), Designee

National Office and Legal Counsel Staff in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Jenny Adkins, Director of Operations, Rules and Compliance
3. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Development Manager
4. Tom Travis, Legal Counsel

C. Wang (GA) 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 July 15, 2026. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Chair Report

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) reviewed the upcoming deadlines for the two-year rule cycle and the Fiscal Year (FY (27) Rules calendar, including a potential face-to-face meeting in Kentucky in April 2027.
- She reminded members that December 31, 2026, is the deadline for standing committees, regions, and commissioners to submit draft proposals to the Rules Committee.

Unfinished Business

Home Evaluations for Relocations in the Receiving State

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) reminded members that the Rules Committee discussed the lack of clarity and consistency in the rules regarding how states should respond when a youth relocates within the receiving state after case acceptance. As a result, a subcommittee was formed to draft an amendment to address those issues.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented proposed changes to Rule 5-101, Supervision/Services Requirements, and 5-103A, Mandatory Relocation Determined By Receiving State.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented proposed changes to Rule 5-101(5):
    - When the change of residence includes a change in the person with whom the juvenile resides, a new home evaluation shall be completed within forty-five (45) calendar days ~~the sending state may request additional information regarding the new residence~~ . If the receiving state does not recommend, or the sending state does not ~~support~~ authorize this change, the juvenile shall return to the originally approved residence in the receiving state. If the juvenile is unable or refuses to return to the residence, the sending state shall ~~they shall notify the receiving state and~~ propose an alternative living arrangement or affect the return of the juvenile within ten (10) business days. If the juvenile will be returning to the sending state, this time period may be extended up to an additional five (5) business days with the approval from both ICJ Offices.
- T. Casanova (VT) asked whether a new Form VI, Application for Services and Waiver would be required when a juvenile moves to live with a different person in the receiving state.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) and N. Dalton (VA) clarified that while a new Form VI might be needed based on current UNITY system processes, it would not necessarily require a full transfer of supervision (TOS) request.
- Rules Committee members discussed whether Form VI should be required for such relocations, with mixed opinions expressed. Committee members agreed that the subcommittee should revisit the proposal before further consideration.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented proposed changes to Rule 5-103A(B):
    - If an alternative living arrangement is secured, the receiving state shall submit a completed home evaluation of the proposed residence within forty-five (45) calendar days. The receiving state shall continue to supervise the juvenile until a change in residence is accepted in the receiving state. If the change in residence is denied by the receiving state, the sending state shall affect the return of the juvenile to the sending state within ten (10) business days. This time period may be extended up to an additional five (5) business days with the approval from both ICJ Offices.
- Rules Committee members agreed to send the rule proposal back to the subcommittee with specific concerns to address, particularly regarding Form VI requirements.

Memo: Use of *In Custody* and *Detention* in ICJ Rules

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented a memorandum that was sent out to the committee members in advance discussing the use of the terms *custody* and *detainment* in the ICJ Rules.

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented Rule 5-101(7), Supervision/Services Requirements.
- No comments were made.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented proposed amendments to Rule 6-101(2), Release of Non-Delinquent Runaways, which states:
    - If a non-delinquent runaway remains in custody beyond twenty-four (24) hours, the holding state's ICJ Office shall be contacted and the Compact shall be applied.
- J. Miller (AR) recommended to change the term *in custody* in Rule 6-101(2) to *detained.*
- **N. Dalton (VA) made a motion to change the term from "in custody" to "detained" in Rule 6-101(2), Release of Non-Delinquent Runaways. Arkansas and Wisconsin abstained. The motion passed.**
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented Rule 6-102, Voluntary Return of Runaways, Probation/Parole Absconders, Escapees, or Accused Delinquents and Accused Status Offenders.
- No comments or recommended edits were made.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) presented proposed changes to Rule 6-103, Non-Voluntary Return of Runaways and/or Accused Status Offenders:
    - A requisition applies to all juveniles in custody who refuse to voluntarily return to their home/demanding state or to request a juvenile whose whereabouts are known, but not in custody be picked up and detained in a secure facility pending return. A requisition may also be used to request a juvenile be picked up and detained in a secure facility pending return when they have left the state with the permission of their legal/custodial agency but failed to return as directed.
- C. Gerber (WI) and C. Copeland (TN) raised concerns about differences in interpretation between states.
- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) agreed to address the definitions of "detained" and "secure facility" in more detail at the next meeting.

New Business

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) Authorization and Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Exemption

- Chair J. Hawkins (MO) stated that the ICJ exemption in the JJDPA, which allows the extension of non-delinquent runaways for return through ICJ, may be changing.
- The Subcommittee on Re-envisioning the Return Process for Non-Delinquent Runaways will meet to discuss the proposed changes to the JJDPA. The proposed changes to the JJDPA could reduce detention time for non-delinquent runaways to 15 days total.
- She said anyone who wants to be added to the Subcommittee on Re-envisioning the Return Process for Non-Delinquent Runaways should message her, J. Adkins, and N. Dalton (VA).

Refer Rule Amendment Proposals to Technology Committee

- N. Dalton (VA) said Information Technology (IT) Committee Chair K. Torres (IA) asked the Rules Committee to share rule proposals with the IT Committee as soon as possible. This gives the IT Committee more time to review the changes and see how they fit with other enhancement requests.
- Committee members agreed to share rule proposals with the IT Committee to facilitate better evaluation and prioritization of enhancement requests.

- Proposed amendments to Rule 2-103, Adoption of Rules and Amendments, and Rule 6-103, Non-Voluntary Return of Runaways and/or Accused Status Offenders, were scheduled to be forwarded to the IT Committee shortly after the meeting.

Next Steps

- Chair Hawkins (MO) stated that the next Rules Committee meeting was scheduled on November 18, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. EDT.

Adjourn

Chair Hawkins (MO) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 3:42 p.m. EDT.