

# INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

## South Region Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2022  
11:00 a.m. ET  
Via Zoom



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### Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Daryl Liedecke (TX), Commissioner, South Region Representative
2. Felicia Dauway (SC), Designee, Alternate Region Representative
3. Judy Miller (AR), Designee
4. Jefferson Regis (DC), Commissioner
5. Anna Butler (KY), Designee
6. Juanita Anderson-Hilton (LA), Commissioner
7. Maxine Baggett (MS), Designee
8. Julie Hawkins (MO), Commissioner
9. Stephen Horton (NC), Commissioner
10. Robert Hendryx (OK), Designee
11. Corrie Copeland (TN), Commissioner
12. Natalie Dalton (VA), Commissioner
13. Stephanie Bond (WV), Commissioner
14. Lynn Fielder (WV), Designee

### Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

1. Patrick Pendergast (AL), Designee
2. Tyrone Oliver (GA), Commissioner
3. Amy Welch (KY), Commissioner
4. Kimberly Dickerson (LA), Designee
5. Sherry Jones (MD), Commissioner
6. Robert Anderson (MS), Commissioner
7. Rachel Holt (OK), Commissioner

### Non-voting Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Chanda Leshoure (AL)
2. Latosha Mallory (AL)
3. Tracy Howard (FL)
4. Terrance Clayton (FL)
5. Demarco Johnson (FL)
6. Ryan Smith (FL)
7. Tacarra Richardson (FL)
8. Tracy Cassell (GA)
9. Shanice Rhyne (GA)
10. Yolanda Latimer (LA)
11. Latoya Oliver (MD)
12. Mason Harrington (SC)
13. Rhonda Holman (SC)

### Guest in Attendance:

1. None

### **National Office Staff in Attendance:**

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

### **Call to Order**

Representative Liedecke (TX) called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. ET.

### **Roll Call**

Director Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established.

### **Agenda**

**S. Bond (WV) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. S. Horton (NC) seconded. The motion carried.**

### **Minutes**

**J. Miller (AR) made a motion to approve the March 1, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. F. Dauway (SC) seconded. The motion carried.**

### **Discussion**

### **Committee Updates**

#### Compliance Committee

- J. Hawkins (MO) updated that the Compliance Committee members attended a Technology Committee meeting to discuss drafting a new Best Practice related to UNITY data entry, which should be coming soon.
- In April, Commission members received an email containing a video link by Compliance Committee Chair Rader (NE) explaining the National Data Assessment that will be conducted this summer. The assessment will focus on three compliance standards and the Compliance Committee will be reviewing the data for gaps and trends. There will be no individual state assessment reports as each state should proactively monitor their own compliance. She encouraged everyone to view the video issued in April, if they had not done so already.
- Director Underwood added that the data to be assessed will be the first full year of UNITY beginning July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. This will exclude the first six weeks of UNITY, when states were getting up and running in UNITY.

#### Finance Committee

- C. Copeland (TN) updated that the Finance Committee rescheduled their May meeting to June 8. Discussion items will include: amending the FY 23 Budget, drafting the FY 24 Budget, and an increase in the ICJ Dues.

#### Rules Committee

- S. Horton (NC) updated that the Rules Committee met twice since the last region meeting. A Rules Subcommittee presented a proposal to delete the term “relocate” in ICJ Rule 1-101: Definitions, and related proposals to Rules 4-101, 4-103, and a separate proposal regarding Rule 8-101. Next, the subcommittee will look at the rules in the area of ground transportation.

- Most recently, the Rules Committee began to look at the use of travel permits and how to streamline without redundancies. They will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

#### Technology Committee

- J. Miller (AR) updated that the Technology Committee met May 10. A new “Best Practice on Direct Entry into UNITY Data Fields” will be recommended to the Executive Committee for final approval. Two ICJ Administrative Policies were reviewed and updated: Information System Modifications (ICJ 2020-02) and Forms Responsibility (ICJ 2014-01).
- Florida offered to share their Haitian Creole translations of the ICJ Forms to post to the Commission’s website to share. The Technology Committee declined and agreed to retain the current Spanish translations only.
- The UNITY Enhancements Subcommittee is reviewing all of the UNITY enhancement submissions. The first group of enhancements will be presented for a recommendation at the Technology Committee meeting in June.

#### Training Committee

- D. Liedecke (TX) updated the Training Committee met last week. The 2022 Annual Business Meeting training sessions was a major discussion item. Dr. Mark Nelson will lead a presentation on communications. A Human Trafficking Panel discussion will be conducted with a panelist from each of the four regions and a moderator. Sherry Jones (MD) will represent the South Region on the panel.
- The Training Committee reviewed and recommended two Best Practice documents to the Executive Committee for final approval:
  1. Best Practice on ICJ Transfer of Supervision: Communication Guidelines for Local Authorities with Juvenile/Family Members. This resource originated in the South Region.
  2. Best Practice on Direct Entry of Data into UNITY. This resource originated from the Technology and Compliance Committee collaboration.

#### Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Justice

- Director Underwood updated they did not have a quorum at the last meeting; however, the time was used to review recommendations from the data walk.
- The Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Justice recommended a presenter for the 2022 Annual Business Meeting (ABM), Dr. Maryam Jernigan-Noesi, who will deliver the keynote address on equity during the General Session.
- The Ad Hoc Committee on Racial Justice continues to review racial equity tools and plans to make recommendations in the near future.

#### Executive Committee

- Representative Liedecke (TX) updated on actions from the Executive Committee. The 2022 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) will be conduct on-site October 4 - 5 in Burlington, Vermont. Registration opens in July. A live stream option will be offered for those who do not attend on-site to view the trainings and the general session in zoom.
- The Executive Committee approved the ICJ Administrative Policies recommended by the Technology Committee as mentioned earlier by Judy Miller (AR).

## **State Updates / Concerns**

- Representative Liedecke (TX) opened the floor for states to provide any new state-specific items.

### **Arkansas**

- J. Miller (AR) updated that Arkansas is experiencing an increase in the number of runaways cases and new referrals.

### **Florida**

- D. Johnson (FL) updated that Agnes Denson left the Florida Compact office and the Florida Commissioner position is currently vacant.

### **Georgia**

- T. Cassell (GA) updated that the Georgia Compact office is currently in the process of filling two positions.

### **Kentucky**

- A. Butler (KY) updated on an organizational agency change in Kentucky resulting in a 3-person staffed for the Kentucky Compact office. She and Amy will remain and they are in the process of filling the third position.

### **Louisiana**

- Yolanda Latimer (LA) updated that the state continues to experience critical staff shortages in both secure care facilities and probation officer positions.

### **Mississippi**

- M. Baggett (MS) updated that they continue to fill vacancies in the state and supervisors continue to provide coverage to keep the cases up to date.

### **Missouri**

- J. Hawkins (MO) updated the state continues to address the staff shortages, particular in the St. Louis area.

### **North Carolina**

- S. Horton (NC) echoed that North Carolina too is experiencing statewide staff shortages. Also, returns and human trafficking cases have been on the rise.

### **Oklahoma**

- R. Hendryx (OK) expressed his appreciation for the assistance and concerns states have shown during his illness the past few months.

### **South Carolina**

- F. Dauway (SC) updated they too have been busy with ICJ returns. The state is planning for field staff training in the late summer and early fall. Position changes are expected in the ICJ State Council membership.

### **Tennessee**

- C. Copeland (TN) updated they too are experiencing staff shortages and appreciates the patience of member states.

### Texas

- D. Liedecke (TX) updated on a Texas reorganization in the agency which has resulted in responding to requests for areas of improvement.
- A new vendor for airport surveillance at the Dallas Fort Worth Airport is anticipated soon.
- An intrastate refresher training on the ICJ Rules has been completed with probation and a refresher training is planned for parole.

### West Virginia

- S. Bond (WV) updated that the West Virginia staff shortages are concentrated more around the panhandle of the state.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

#### **ICJ ABM 2023**

- Representative Liedecke updated that the 2023 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) will be September 24-26, 2023 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He added that 2023 will be a “rules year.” It is time for the region to prepare for any potential proposals they wish to submit.
- Additionally, the Fiscal Year 2023 ICJ Dues Invoices have been emailed.

#### **Airport Surveillance – ICJ Rule 7-106**

- S. Horton (NC) shared a reoccurring issue within North Carolina, as a state that commonly provides airport surveillance. In accordance with ICJ Rule 7-106, juveniles are not to travel with clothing, medications, etc. In the last few months, juveniles in the Charlotte Airport have traveled with items such as cell phones and medications. He reached out directly to the applicable states and mentioned during the meeting to make other Compact offices aware it has been happening.
- J. Hawkins (MO) agreed with his description of the rule regarding airport supervision and layovers. However, she suggested revisiting the rule. She elaborated on instances when it places an unnecessary burden on families, such as non-stop flights for runaways returning home to family. She also expressed concern that some expensive items have not been successfully returned.
- S. Horton (NC) noted he is speaking to airport supervision when there is a layover. He commented that electronics and medication of any sort should not accompany the traveler.
- M. Baggett (MS) asked who has the financial responsibility to return items. Mississippi tried to return items by the U.S. Mail, COD. The U.S. Post Office refused to send COD and required payment at the time of shipping. J. Hawkins (MO) commented it is typical that her agency pays on the front end with a commitment on the receiving end for reimbursement of the shipping fees. F. Dauway (SC) commented that South Carolina budgets for the expenditure and returns items via FedEx.
- Representative Liedecke (TX) commented that modern electronics, apparel, and shipping options are quite different from when the rule was originally drafted and

may warrant a modification to the rule. J. Hawkins (MO) agreed to take the lead on writing a proposal. J. Miller (AR) and F. Dauway (SC) agreed to work on the proposal. S. Horton (NC) requested that at least one of the three South Region surveillance states (North Carolina, Georgia, or Texas) be a part of the work group. Representative Liedecke (TX) agreed to be a part of the work group.

#### **Best Practice**

- Director Underwood asked if the South Region intended to pursue a new best practice regarding communication guidelines for returns. The best practice would be similar to the “Best Practice on ICJ Transfer of Supervision: Communication Guidelines for Local Authorities with Juvenile/Family Members.”
- J. Hawkins (MO) commented that she was a part of the original work group and no further action was taken on returns. She noted that drafting a best practice for returns presents a great challenge as it would include parents and others.

#### **Adjourn**

**J. Hawkins (MO) made a motion to adjourn. F. Dauway (SC) seconded. Representative Liedecke adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 12:06 p.m. ET.**