

# INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

## *West Region Meeting Minutes*

February 15, 2023  
3:00 p.m. ET  
via zoom



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### **Voting Members in Attendance:**

1. Howard Wykes (AZ), Designee, West Region Representative
2. Maureen Clifton (WY), Commissioner, West Region Alternate Representative
3. Nichel Saceda-Hurt (AK), Designee
4. Michael Farmer (CA), Designee
5. Kristin Davidson (HI), Commissioner
6. Anne Connor (ID), Designee
7. Cathy Gordon (MT), Commissioner
8. Dale Dodd (NM), Commissioner
9. Raymundo Gallardo (UT), Designee
10. Jedd Pelander (WA), Commissioner

### **Voting Members not in Attendance:**

1. David Laity (NV), Commissioner
2. Nina Belli (OR), Commissioner

### **Compact Staff in Attendance:**

1. Jovay Jackson (AZ)
2. Jose Luis Villalobos (CA)
3. Brooke Montelongo (CO)
4. Shirleen Cadiz (HI)
5. Gladys Altamirano (NV)
6. Kimberly Heywood (UT)
7. Dawn Bailey (WA)

### **Guests in Attendance:**

None

### **National Office Staff & Legal Counsel in Attendance:**

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Emma Goode, Logistics and Administrative Specialist
3. Jenny Adkins, Operations and Policies Specialist
4. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist
5. Joe Johnson, System Project Manager

### **Call to Order**

Representative Wykes called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. ET.

### **Roll Call**

Director Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established.

## Agenda

**A. Connor (ID) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. J. Pelander (WA) seconded. The motion carried.**

## Minutes

**A. Connor (ID) made a motion to approve the January 11, 2023 meeting minutes as corrected. M. Clifton (WY) seconded. The motion passed.**

## Discussion

### **Proposed ICJ Amendment to Rule 5-103(1) by the West Region**

- Representative Wykes (AZ) opened the floor for comments regarding the proposed amendment to Rule 5-103: Reporting Juvenile Non-Compliance, Failed Supervision and Retaking as presented.
- J. Pelander (WA) agreed that the proposed amendment to the first paragraph provides clarity regarding the required response and the time frame.
- **A. Connor (ID) made a motion to recommend adoption of the proposed amendment to Rule 5-103 as presented. J. Pelander (WA) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

## Old Business

### **Best Practice Work Group Update (Rules 6-103 and 6-105)**

- M. Farmer (CA) provided an update from the Best Practice Work Group. He presented a draft "ICJ Best Practice" regarding engaging child welfare agencies when returning a juvenile to the home/demanding state. Complications sometimes arise when abuse or neglect is suspected, or when a legal guardian refuses to allow a juvenile to return to their home. The draft is a compilation of suggestions from the work group members based on their experiences.
- A. Connor (ID) presented an additional suggestion from the work group to develop an inter-agency collaboration to address child welfare issues, like the Interstate Commission for Juveniles and the Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children Work Group in the past. One objective would be to review whether the ICJ Rules are effective, consider protocols of child welfare agencies. Compact offices personnel sometimes struggle to meet deadlines. In some cases, it is difficult to get the appropriate agency or personnel engaged. It appears that cases are being "screened out" after reports are made.
- A. Connor also shared challenges related to initiating returns that require requisitions. The ICJ Rules require Form I (Requisition for Runaway Juvenile) to be signed by a judge. Some states have trouble acquiring a judicial signature when the juvenile is not delinquent or dependent. She shared that North Carolina and Virginia have an administrative code that generates a court action as a holding state. Additionally, Natalie Dalton (VA) agreed to investigate possible options for the home/demanding state.
- M. Clifton (WY) suggested that when Compact offices have difficulty reaching the correct person in another state's child protection agency, the Compact staff in the state where the abuse is occurring should be compelled to locate the correct person/agency. She emails both the ICJ and the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) contacts in the home state. Another suggestion offered was to reach out to the state's attorney general's office to explain the ICJ Form I to the court.

- Representative Wykes (AZ) stated the recommendation of the work group is to circulate the draft “best practice” for additional feedback.
- M. Farmer (CA) agreed to continue circulating the “best practice,” in tandem with developing a dialogue with children and family service agencies. Director Underwood asked for clarification regarding whether a dialogue with the federal Administration for Children and Families is suggested as the next step.
- R. Gallardo (UT) updated that the topic of collaboration with child welfare agencies is has been selected for a presentation during the 2023 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in Salt Lake City, Utah. As a member of the Training Committee and host state, he has been tasked to contact appropriate persons in Utah. He suggested that the Administration for Children and Families also attend the ABM to participate in the panel discussion.
- **M. Farmer (CA) made a motion to recommend to the Executive Committee that the Interstate Commission for Juveniles begin a dialogue with the Administration for Children and Families. A. Connor (ID) seconded. The motion passed.**
- Director Underwood suggested breaking down the draft best practice into smaller segments, and possibly developing a rule amendment proposal in the future. A. Connor (ID) agreed about sharing instances when the judge views the ICJ Form A (Petition for Requisition to Return a Runaway Juvenile) as optional. While completing the Form A to provide information is optional, providing the information to the home state court is not optional.
- A. Connor (ID) also suggested collaboration with states regarding their state administrative court codes and how to best incorporate ICJ requirements.

## **New Business**

### **ICJ Proposed Rule Amendment to Rule 4-104(5)**

- A. Connor (ID) presented a proposed amendment to Rule 4-104: Authority to Accept/Deny Supervision. The proposal would amend paragraph 5 is specify that the Form V (Notification of Sending State Upon Parolee or Probationer Proceeding to the Receiving State) must be used. Idaho and Washington worked on the proposal to address confusion regarding notification requirements in transfer of supervision cases. All transfers require travel information. However, some states interpret travel information to be a Form VII: Out-of-State Travel Permit and Agreement to Return and reject cases due to the lack of a signed travel permit in UNITY.
- D. Bailey (WA) added that she was advised by Rules Committee Chair Horton (NC) to submit as a proposal rather than addressing the additional information as an ICJ Rules housekeeping clean-up item.
- Members discussed the proposal and agreed with the proposal as presented.
- **A. Connor (ID) made a motion to recommend for adoption the proposed amendment to Rule 4-104(5) from the West Region as presented. D. Dodd (NM) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **Adjourn**

**Representative Wykes adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 3:49 p.m. ET.**