

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

West Region Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2021
3:30 p.m. ET
Via Zoom



Voting Members in Attendance:

1. Michael Farmer (CA), West Region Representative
2. Dale Dodd (NM), West Region Alternate Representative
3. Shannon Dilley (AK), Commissioner
4. Howard Wykes (AZ), Designee
5. Summer Foxworth (CO), Commissioner
6. Kristin Davidson (HI), Commissioner
7. Cathy Gordon (MT), Commissioner
8. David Laity (NV), Commissioner
9. Nina Belli (OR), Designee
10. Raymundo Gallardo (UT), Designee
11. Dawn Bailey (WA), Designee
12. Maureen Clifton (WY), Commissioner

Voting Members Not in Attendance:

1. Jeff Hood (AZ), Commissioner
2. Anne Connor (ID), Designee
3. Neira Siaperas (UT), Commissioner
4. Jedd Pelander (WA), Commissioner

Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Nichel Saceda-Hurt (AK)
2. Shirleen Cadiz (HI)
3. Gladys Olivares (NV)
4. Kelsey Hewit (OR)
5. Kimberly Heywood (UT)
6. Krysta Van Woert (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. Joe Johnson, Systems Project Manager
4. Jenny Adkins, Policy and Operations Specialist

Call to Order

Representative Farmer called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. ET.

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll and quorum was established.

Agenda

M. Clifton (WY) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. D. Dodd (NM) seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

N. Belli (OR) made a motion to approve the October 5, 2021 meeting minutes with corrections. S. Foxworth (CO) seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion

Executive Committee Updates

- Representative Farmer provided an update on the Executive Committee's meeting on November 18, which included an Executive Committee training led by Commission Chair Tasha Hunt (CT).
- Legal Advisory Opinion #04-2021 was approved and is now available on the Commission's website. The Advisory Opinion addresses the question: "*Can a holding state judge refuse to take action on a requisition if there is no active missing person record for the juvenile in NCIC?*"
- The Executive Committee is planning a face-to-face 2-day, strategic planning meeting in March 2022.

UNITY Tableau Reports

- Representative Farmer opened the floor for feedback regarding the new UNITY (Tableau) Reports and shared their usefulness in his state. S. Foxworth (CO) and S. Cadiz (HI) echoed their usefulness and satisfaction with the new reports.
- Director Underwood demonstrated some of the reports, as some members have not seen them because they are not primary users. She explained that Tableau licenses were limited due to software costs. Nonetheless, additional licenses are available upon request and completion of training. Should someone be interested in training, contact Joe Johnson or Amanee Cabbagestalk at the ICJ National Office.

State Updates

- Utah – R. Gallardo (UT) updated that he reset parameters in Tableau and was pleased with the reports.
- Washington – D. Bailey (WA) updated Washington continues to work with locals regarding UNITY access and training. Washington Compact Staff continue to work remotely and believe it may continue permanently.
- Wyoming – M. Clifton (WY) updated Wyoming staff continue to work hybrid home/office schedules.
- Alaska – S. Dilley (AK) updated staff continue to work full time in the office.
- Arizona – H. Wykes (AZ) updated staff continue to work full time in the office.
- California – M. Farmer (CA) updated California is in a holding pattern regarding the transition of the ICJ to a different division. Staff work one or two days in the office. Norm Gary, California Compact Office staff, will retire at the end of December creating a vacancy.
- Colorado – S. Foxworth (CO) updated she continues to work remotely. COVID rates are soaring in Colorado.
- Hawaii – S. Cadiz (HI) updated they continue to work hybrid schedules and are in the process of scheduling their annual state council meeting.

- Montana – C. Gordon (MT) updated that staff continue to work full time in the office. She shared that she just returned to work from sick leave due to COVID.
- Nevada – D. Laity (NV) reported Dianne Grass, administrative assistant, left the ICJ. Destiny Santiago, formerly with the ICJ, is assisting until the position is filled.
- New Mexico – D. Dodd (NM) reported he works a hybrid schedule and updated that his long-time director retired in November. The position is currently vacant.
- Oregon – N. Belli (OR) updated that staff continue to work remotely. The state plans to return to offices January 1, 2022, but that could change. The ICJ Commissioner position is currently vacant with plans to fill the position in December. The Oregon State Council met last week.

Old Business

Strategies for Coping with Limited Detention Options for Non-Delinquent Runaways

- Representative Farmer announced he plans to place the issue of limited detention options for non-delinquent runaways on the agenda for input as the issue remains and asked members for ideas about how to best address the issue nationwide.
- Director Underwood shared her understanding of the issue as two-fold:
 1. Lack of facilities to hold non-delinquent runaways; and
 2. Perceived increased risk of juveniles running away from non-secure facilities.
- M. Farmer (CA) shared concern that placement in children's services custody rather than holding in secure settings allows opportunities for juveniles to run away, as they are placed in non-secure settings such as in shelters.
- S. Foxworth (CO) shared Colorado is experiencing some challenges with holding non delinquent juveniles in secure detention, so they have been placing non-delinquent juveniles with the DHS (Department of Human Services). The challenge comes when DHS doesn't have any available beds for those juveniles. This has been an issue in our rural areas but now it's becoming more prevalent in the metro area.
- S. Dilley (AK) inquired if there were statistics available. M. Farmer (CA) commented that it would be helpful if UNITY could track where juveniles are held. Director Underwood commented that the most field in UNITY tracks whether the youth was placed in "facility" or "residential." Ideally, the facility field could be expanded to track "secure" or "non-secure." However, it is not feasible at this time due to other pending enhancement requests.
- S. Dilley (AK) added that the lack of options for housing causes other issues, for example, juveniles who run again often become delinquent and are at high risk for human trafficking.
- Director Underwood suggested a possible proposal to amend Rule 6-102(1) to require that juveniles be detained in secure facilities when human trafficking is suspected.
- N. Belli (OR) reported the Commission's "[White Paper on Temporary Secure Detention of Non-Adjudicated Juvenile Runaways](#)" is very useful in educating local authorities. Additionally, she shared that Oregon recently amended its law to include a provision allowing authorities "to hold out-of-state runaways in detention if held in compliance with the ICJ."
- Director Underwood noted that currently the Commission cannot obtain data and it is not feasible at this time to modify UNITY. She whether helpful data could be

gathered through another method, such as a survey. She noted that the survey questions would have to be clear to accurately capture the metrics, such as secure vs. non-secure, staff secured or lock secured. N. Belli (OR) suggested members keep track from now until the next meeting of such cases and share with the group.

- S. Dilley (AK), N. Belli (OR), and M. Farmer (CA) agreed to meet as a small work group to continue the discussion and report at the next West Region meeting for a better understanding of the issue and possible recommendations.

New Business

- Representative Farmer announced that D. Dodd (NM) will serve as the Alternate West Region Representative for the remainder of the year.

Adjourn

H. Wykes (AZ) made a motion to adjourn. N. Belli (OR) seconded. Representative Farmer adjourned the meeting by acclamation at 4:24 p.m. ET.