



INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Human Trafficking Ad Hoc Committee

Minutes

June 14, 2016

2:30 p.m. EDT

Members in Attendance:

1. Anne Connor (NV) Chair
2. Agnes Denson (FL) Commissioner
3. Alicia Ehlers (ID) Designee
4. Jeff Cowger (KS) Commissioner
5. Karen King-Jones (KY) Commissioner
6. Traci Marchand (NC) Commissioner
7. Cathlyn Smith (TN) Commissioner
8. Damian Seymour (DE) Ex officio
9. Holly Kassube (IL) Ex officio
10. Kelly Palmateer (NY) Ex officio
11. Melonie Taylor-Gore (MS) Ex officio
12. Gloria Soja (OR) Ex officio

Members Not in Attendance:

1. Barbara Murray (AK) Commissioner
2. Maria Genca (CT) Designee
3. Mia Pressley (SC) Commissioner
4. Jessica Eldredge (UT) Designee
5. Patricia Welcome (VI) Commissioner
6. Paul Ottati (NY) Ex officio
7. Gillie Hopkins (VT) Ex officio
8. Dawn Bailey (WA) Ex officio
9. Chris Newlin (NCAC) Ex officio
10. Judge Darlene Byrne (NCJFCJ) Ex officio

Guests in Attendance:

1. Noelle Kennedy-Torres (AK)

ICJ Staff in Attendance:

1. Ashley Lippert, Executive Director
2. Emma Goode, Administrative and Logistics Coordinator
3. Shawn Robinson, Training and Administrative Coordinator
4. Jenny Adkins, Project Manager

Call to Order

Chair Connor called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. EDT.

Roll Call

A. Lippert called the roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda

T. Marchand (NC) made a motion to approve the agenda. C. Smith (TN) seconded. The motion passed.

Minutes

J. Cowger (KS) made a motion to approve the April 12, 2016 meeting minutes. T. Marchand (NC) seconded. The motion passed.

Discussion

Human Trafficking Matrix

- Chair Connor acknowledged Maria Genca (East), Jeff Cowger (Midwest), Cathlyn Smith (South), and Alicia Ehlers (West) for their work gathering information from their respective regions for the ICJ Human Trafficking Matrix.
- Chair Connor presented the cumulative ICJ Human Trafficking Matrix data from the four regions color coded to show the information updated in 2016. The matrix will be posted to the Commission's website as a resource and will be included in the 2016 ABM Docket Book. Chair Connor emphasized the information not to be static and to contact the national office for updates to the matrix when changes occur.
- **T. Marchand (NC) made a motion to approve the ICJ Human Trafficking Matrix and post to the Commission's website. K. King-Jones (KY) seconded. The motion passed.**

State Updates and Resources

Nevada

- Chair Connor presented a concern for human trafficking victims not being afforded victim services upon their return due to a state's infrastructure. Chair Connor detailed an example whereby a juvenile falsified her identity and age and traveled to another state, she was arrested as an adult in that state but determined to be a juvenile and returned through ICJ. Victim services were not provided as she was not in the return state's system.

Delaware

- D. Seymour (DE) shared a similar incident noting that Delaware does not have a statewide protocol to address human trafficking.
- D. Seymour (DE) invited members to attend a *Human Trafficking Conference* in Dover, Delaware on November 17. Participants will include law enforcement, judges, attorneys, court personnel, social workers, DSCYF, etc. The registration information will be forwarded to the national office for distribution.

North Carolina

- T. Marchand (NC) updated that North Carolina has an online data system within their agency.
- T. Marchand (NC) announced a *Child Welfare Virtual Expo on Sex Trafficking* will be offered on July 13. The registration information will be forwarded to the national office for distribution.

Illinois

- H. Kassube (IL) updated Illinois to be in the initial stages of enacting human trafficking laws beginning with a hotline and developing a statewide task force to amass the multiple government entities.

Kansas

- J. Cowger (KS) shared an ICJ case scenario where the juvenile resumed to being trafficked upon her return. The ICJ Rules are silent on a time frame to detain juveniles when human trafficking is suspected while the holding state investigates. The preferred practice in Kansas is to notify child welfare, file with ICPC, and follow up.

Oregon

- G. Soja (OR) updated that Multnomah County developed a Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Unit devoted to victims of human trafficking. The CSEC Steering Committee headed by a Senator in Oregon brings together a cross section of partners to identify, track, and provide services to victims including admittance to a treatment facility in another state. The Multnomah County CSEC has become a model program for other counties; consequently, CSEC is developing an organizational template which will be shared with the ad hoc committee once published.
- G. Soja (OR) announced that the 2016 JuST Conference will be held in Washington, DC in November. The registration information will be forwarded to the national office for distribution.

Tennessee

- C. Smith (TN) updated that Tennessee continues to broaden awareness and victim advocacy with trainings, a hotline, and a new shelter. She suggested that denoting human trafficking in some manner in JIDS would prove helpful to states.

Kentucky

- K. King-Jones (KY) updated that a Kentucky statewide task force meets quarterly which consists of a cross-section of state agencies, law enforcement, and the attorney general's office. The Catholic Charity organization provides victim services 24/7. Safe places and services are limited in the rural areas and grant funding is being solicited to assist in those areas.
- Chair Connor referenced the information shared at the last meeting by Lea Quam regarding a grant in North Dakota used to fund licensed foster homes that assist human trafficking victims.
- K. King-Jones (KY) reported that youth are screened at multiple points of contact by the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and the Court System. The child welfare division is responsible for investigating and connecting youth and families with appropriate services. The agency responsible for the return would include information for the referral services.

Mississippi

- M. Taylor-Gore (MS) updated that all loops have been closed with regards to the new human trafficking laws. The attorney general will contact Polaris regarding the state's Safe Harbor Law rating. The Juvenile Justice Department is working to become a member of the state's human trafficking task force. Additionally, there is

no statewide human trafficking protocol and one of the training challenges is the criminal versus victim mindset.

Alaska

- N. Kennedy-Torres (AK) updated on an increase in the number of young native Alaskan girls being targeted and the state's effort to address.

New York

- K. Palmateer (NY) reported on a human trafficking training for law enforcement which covered identifying human trafficking victims.

Florida

- A. Denson (FL) updated on their statewide task force. The statewide screening tool is used to identify human trafficking victims. Referral processes are in place and Florida reciprocates pertinent human trafficking information with other states as a notification to provide or continue referral services. A. Denson (FL) will share more information of the process at the next meeting.

Idaho

- A. Ehlers (ID) updated that she is a member on the state task force. Idaho experiences a low number of human trafficking cases. When encountered, victim services are financed in part through an "at risk" state grant. Additionally, Idaho posts a hotline number although the law does not require.

Resources and State Updates

- Chair Connor presented and highlighted a New York Times article "Every Parent's Nightmare". The article will be distributed to the ad hoc committee by the national office.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjourn

- Chair Connor noted the ad hoc committee would meet once more before the 2016 Annual Business Meeting. The national office will poll to determine the best date July 12 or August 9 @ 2:30 p.m. EDT.
- **Chair Connor adjourned the meeting without objection at 3:35 p.m. EDT.**