



## INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

### East Region Meeting

#### *Minutes*

January 11, 2018

10:00 a.m. EST

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#### **Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:**

1. Maria Genca (CT) East Region Representative
2. Melanie Grimes (DE) Commissioner
3. David Barrett (ME) Commissioner
4. Becki Moore (MA) Designee
5. Thomas O'Connor (NH) Designee
6. Edwin Lee Jr.(NJ) Designee
7. JoAnn Niksa (RI) Designee
8. Eavey-Monique James (VI) Commissioner
9. Barbara Joyal (VT) Commissioner

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

1. Pamela Leonard (NH)
2. Candice Alfonso (NJ)
3. Paul Ottati (NY)
4. Kelly Palmateer (NY)
5. Amanda Behe (PA)
6. Natalie Primak (PA)

#### **Guest in Attendance**

None

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

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Emma Goode, Administrative and Training Specialist
3. Jenny Adkins, Project Manager
4. Monica Gary, Administrative and Logistics Coordinator

#### **Call to Order**

Representative Genca called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. EST.

#### **Roll Call**

Director Underwood called the roll and stated that quorum was established.

#### **Agenda**

**J. Niksa (RI) made a motion to approve the agenda. T. O'Connor (NH) seconded. The motion passed.**

## Minutes

- **D. Barrett (ME) made a motion to approve the September 26, 2017 ABM meeting minutes. T. O'Connor (NH) seconded. The motion passed.**

## Discussion

### Executive Committee Updates

- Director Underwood shared the Executive Committee updates. All standing committees are functioning and two Ad Hoc Committees have been formed. The Ad Hoc Special Projects Committee will focus on how to utilize funds that are available due to the disaffiliation from the Council of State Government. It is important to ensure all regions are represented. Thom O'Connor volunteered to represent the East Region.
- National Office has added Monica Gary as the Logistics and Administrative Coordinator. Emma Goode has been promoted to the Training and Administrative Specialist.
- Director Underwood asked that all training reports from the first six months of the year be sent to the National Office to be included in the Annual Report.
- Director Underwood stated that the State Council Reports were due January 1, 2018 and Code of Conduct forms that are to be signed each year are due January 31, 2018.

### State Updates/Concerns

- Representative Genca (CT) shared that the state of Connecticut passed legislation last fall to move Juvenile Justice out of the Department of Children and Families over to the Judicial branch. The transition should take place by July 2018. Also, the Connecticut State Council will meet in March 2018.
- M. Grimes (DE) stated that the Delaware State Council met in October 2017 and was well attended. The compact office will participate in a training with all family court judges demonstrating the differences between ICJ and ICPC Offices. The next Delaware State Council meeting will be held in late March 2018.
- P. Ottati (NY) shared that the state of New York "raised the age" at which a person is consider an adult for criminal purposes to 16 years old, beginning October 16, 2018, and 17 years old, beginning October 2019. He also shared that he plans to retire this year. He reminded states not send juveniles before home evaluations are complete.
- C. Alfonso (NJ) shared that she gave a presentation to the Administrative Offices of the Courts at their Annual Business Meeting regarding ICJ. Also, she discussed issues with entering juvenile warrants into NCIC, and reeducating everyone on ICJ sanctions and guidelines. As a result of the presentation she has been invited to attend the family division two-day conference to discuss hot topics with respect to ICJ issues and how it impacts the judiciary and moving children from state to state.
- J. Niksa (RI) reported that ICPC and the compact office routinely provide joint training for new social work staff during new hire orientation. She also reported that the Commissioner is transitioning out of ICJ and the state of Rhode Island was looking for a new Director of Juvenile Corrections, who will appoint the next ICJ Commissioner. J. Niksa was recently successful in getting the Attorney General's Office to consider a juvenile extradition or requisition the same as adult requisition.
- D. Barrett (ME) reported that the Maine State Council met in September 2017. Next meeting in March. He is retiring in fall 2018.
- E.-M. James (USVI) reported that the U.S. Virgin Islands are still operating on disaster system. She believes the office should be operational by February 2018.

- B. Joyal (VT) reported that the Vermont Compact Office has added new staff and is working to orient them to the work of ICJ. The compact office is working to create tip sheets and looking to educate attorneys in the state on the work of ICJ.
- B. Moore (MA) reported that their office will be forming a State Council soon. The Agency Duty Commissioner will assist with the formation of the Council.
- T. O'Connor (NH) reported he is still working to get a Commissioner in place. He recently discussed this with the Bureau Chief and stressed it is a compliance issue.
- E. Lee (NJ) noted the state is undergoing transitions. State Council will meet in February.
- N. Primak (PA) shared that the Pennsylvania State Council met and is running smoothly.

### **“State In Transition Plans”**

- Representative Genca stated that the purpose of the “State In Transition Plan” is to help ensure a successful transition from one person to another. She encouraged all states to provide a plan.
- M. Grimes (DE) stated that the Delaware office is currently seeking answers to some of the questions in the template and trying to identify who is responsible for key roles.
- D. Barrett (ME) stated that Maine is currently working on a detailed transition plan that fits their unique office and how the compact office performs its daily business. The transition plan should be available in 90 days and will be forwarded to the East Region Chair and the National Office
- E.M. James (USVI) inquired about what forms were needed to complete the transition plan. The National Office would send her the necessary template and forms.

### **Survey Results Re: Rule 7-104 Compliance**

- Director Underwood provided a summary of the ICJ Policy Survey Results regarding compliance with Rule 7-104(1). Fifty-one (51) responses were received; 78% stated there were no barriers to compliance with Rule 7-104; 22% stated that barriers exist.
- Two primary reasons cited by states with barriers (1) warrants not entered into NCIC (2) juvenile warrants are entered with nation-wide pick-up radius.
- The Executive Committee has formed a subcommittee to address concerns. They will be sending letters to all states that identified barriers to gather more information and offer support in efforts to increase compliance.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

- Chair Genca advised members that it is time to begin developing 2019 Proposed Rule Amendments. Discussions may begin as soon as the next meeting.
- Next meeting date late March or early April
- D. Barrett (ME) acknowledged Paul Ottati who plans to retire at the end of the year for providing excellent assistance to the State of Maine with a transportation case.
- Director Underwood reminded the East Region that the National Office accepts staff recognition nominations throughout the year. She also encouraged the East Region to participate in the history gathering of ICJ for the 10th Anniversary Annual Business Meeting in New Orleans, LA

### **Adjourn**

**Representative Genca adjourned by acclamation without objection at 11:00AM**