

Memorandum

To: Commission Members

From: Tasha Hunt, Commission Chairperson
Jacey Rader, Compliance Committee Chairperson
MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director

Date: April 26, 2022

Re: Proactive Monitoring and UNITY National Data Assessment



With the introduction of UNITY, the Commission has some great new tools and opportunities. Now that states have immediate access to their own data , it is no longer necessary to wait to the end of the year to have the National Office assess data and provide written reports to states. States can review data at any time and take action immediately. Therefore, the Compliance Committee has shifted its focus to developing new strategies for proactive monitoring and is please to share information regarding the future of monitoring.

Revision of Performance Measurement Assessment (PMA) Standards

One of the key advantages of UNITY is the inclusion of “guard rails” that can prohibit entry of data that does not conform to ICJ Rules. For example, one “guard rail” prohibits entry of a time period that exceeds 90 days for travel permits. The Compliance Committee recently reviewed the PMA standards and identified standards that are no longer needed because of UNITY’s “guard rails.” As a result, 9 PMA Standards were removed.

Now, 15 PMA Standards remain on the list for proactive monitoring, with six of these comprising the ICJ Core Compliance Standards. The updated standards relate to safe and successful supervision and effective returns. [Click here to review the list of standards.](#)

UNITY Reports Support Proactively Monitoring by States

Another key advantage of UNITY is that states now have the ability to produce reports featuring real-time data that can support real-time performance improvement. This enables states to proactively monitor their own data and take action as needed.

To support the shift to proactive monitoring, PMA standards were used as the basis for developing many UNITY reports that are now available and coming soon. For example, the “Pending Home Evaluation Detail” report provides data related to PMA Standard A-01; and the “Pending QPR Detail” report provides data related to PMA Standard A-02.

Training related to use of reports is available through live Monthly UNITY Workshops and on demand via ICJ.TalentLMS. For more information about training opportunities, contact ACabbagestalk@juvenilecompact.org .

2022 UNITY National Data Assessment

Since states are now more well equipped to proactively monitor and respond to intra-state issues, the Compliance Committee has decided to take a systemic approach to this year's annual assessment. In 2022, the Compliance Committee will conduct a UNITY National Data Assessment rather than performing a traditional PMA.

Instead of conducting individual, state-focused performance measurement assessments, the committee will review aggregate data for all states/territories. No compliance scores will be issued and no corrective action plans will be required.

The UNITY National Data Assessment will focus on three standards related to violation reports and/or returns in Transfer of Supervision cases:

- Response to Violation Reports
 - Standard A-03: Sending States shall respond to a report of violation, to include action to be taken by the sending state and the date the action will occur, no later than 10 business days following receipt. Rule 5-103(2)
- Returns within 5 days after decision to retake made
 - Standard B-03: As it applies to Rule 5-103(3)(d), when Sending States determine a violation requires retaking, it shall return the juvenile within 5 business days. Rule 5-103(3)(d)
- New arrangement or return within 5 days within 5 days of request from non-guardian
 - Standard B-04: When a juvenile is not residing with a legal guardian and that person requests the juvenile be removed from his/her home, the sending state shall secure alternative living arrangements within five (5) business days or the juvenile shall be returned. Rule 5-103(4)(b)

After reviewing the national data, the Compliance Committee will identify trends and areas of concern, which may result in recommendations to other ICJ committees. For example, some issues may be referred to the Rules Committee or to the Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee.

Since the Compliance Committee will not be reviewing data state-by-state this year, it is more important than ever for states to conduct proactive monitoring activities on a routine basis.