

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Midwest Region Meeting



July 18, 2023
Meeting Minutes
11:00 a.m. ET
Via Zoom

Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Charles Frieberg (SD), Commissioner, Region Representative
2. Sasaun Lane (OH), Commissioner, Alternate Representative
3. Tomiko Frierson (IL), Commissioner
4. Mary Kay Hudson (IN), Commissioner
5. Kellianne Torres (IA), Designee
6. Fareeda Washington (KS), Designee
7. Michael Tymkew (MI), Commissioner
8. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
9. Jacey Rader (NE), Commissioner
10. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee
11. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner

Commissioners/Designees not in Attendance:

1. Megan Milner (KS), Commissioner
2. Lisa Bjergaard (ND), Commissioner

Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Nataly Sevilla (IN)
2. Nita Wright (IN)
3. Liz Wilson (KS)
4. Rebecca Hillestead (MN)
5. Kathy Christianson (SD)
6. Cheryl Frost (SD)

Guest in Attendance:

None

National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. Emma Goode, Logistics and Administration Specialist
2. Jenny Adkins, Operations and Policy Specialist
3. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist

Call to Order

Representative Frieberg called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. ET.

Roll Call

Jenny Adkins, National Office Staff, called the roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda

J. Wald (ND) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. C. Gerber (WI) seconded. Representative Frieberg indicated the agenda was approved by unanimous consent without objection.

Minutes

M. K. Hudson (IN) made a motion to approved the minutes from the Midwest April 26, 2023, and May 23, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. K. Torres (IA) seconded. Representative Frieberg indicated the minutes were approved by unanimous consent without objection.

Discussion

Hot Topics from "[ICJ Updates](#)" – *Region Representative & Alt Representative*

New & Updated Resources Promoting Compliance & Equity

Training Bulletin: Violation Reports Requesting Discharge or Revocation

- Compliance Committee Chair Rader (NE) provided an in-depth overview of the recently released new "[Training Bulletin: Violation Reports Requesting Discharge or Revocation](#)."
- The new Training Bulletin evolved from the 2022 UNITY Data Assessment which indicated that some reports lacked a reasoning for the recommendation to discharge or request revocation. In some cases, a Quarterly Progress Report (QPR) was submitted instead of a violation report when the supervising officer requested revocation. The assessment also found that absconders were reported via a violation report instead of an absconder report. There also seemed to be some confusion regarding when to use a failed supervision event verses a violation report. Finally, the report found evidence that the receiving state may not have exhausted all efforts or treated juveniles transfer pursuant to the Compact the same as their own juveniles prior to submitting violation reports.
- The Training Bulletin was a collaboration between the Compliance and Technology Committees to explain the requirements of ICJ Rule 5-103 when discharge or revocation is requested for a violation and provide a better understanding of how to discern instances which require the different reports.

Best Practice: Intrastate Relocation (updated)

- Compliance Committee Chair Rader (NE) provided an overview of the recently updated "[Best Practice: Intrastate Relocation](#)."
- The updated Best Practice was a collaboration between the Compliance and the Information Technology Committees.
- In summary, the new language was added to indicate that when an intrastate relocation occurs, the receiving state is still required to submit a Quarter Progress Report (QPR) in accordance with the required timeframes, which is on a quarterly basis or every 90 calendar days. UNITY events should not be used to reset or manipulate QPR due dates when a juvenile moves to a new residence in the receiving state.

Best Practice: Home Evaluation Considerations for Unconventional Families

- Representative C. Frieberg (SD) provided an overview of the recently released [Best Practice: Home Evaluation Considerations for Unconventional Families](#).
- The new Best Practice was developed by the Racial Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee in response to the ICJ data related to race, which was reviewed in 2022.
- States are encouraged to focus on home evaluations because data suggests race-based disparities may exist in denials of requests for transfer of supervision. The new resource includes several suggestions for consideration during a home evaluation. The new Best Practice demonstrates a commitment to addressing racial diversity, equity and inclusion and acknowledges that bold, strategic action must be taken in areas where disparity exists.

UNITY Enhancements Rollout

- J. Johnson, System Project Manager, provided an update on the [UNITY Enhancements Rollout](#), which included the three items below.
 - How to request support.
 - He shared the online form to submit a request in the UNITY Help Center and encouraged everyone to submit forms, rather than email, to help with tracking issues and resolutions.
 - What's next.
 - To date, UNITY enhancements phases 1 and 2 have been released.
 - In August the third and final release will include: failed supervision workflow, court case data fields, collaborative travel plan detail, and new acknowledgement task departure information.
 - More open house support sessions will be offered via Zoom for phase 3 as the final release includes eight (8) parts.
 - Prior to the release, a "UNITY Spotlight" article will provide information about all the enhancements.
 - Wednesday Workshops
 - The next Wednesday Workshop will be conducted July 26 and will focus on UNITY enhancements to be released in August. J. Johnson encouraged members to share the workshop information and encouraged field officers to attend.
- Lastly, J. Johnson, System Project Manager, acknowledged the great work of the UNITY Enhancement Testing Team.

Reminders

- Representative C. Frieberg (SD) reminded the Midwest Region of the following items and deadlines.

In-State Training Reports for FY 2023

- The deadline for completing the 2023 In-State Training is July 28. The information is submitted by completing the [online ICJ Training Report Form](#) for all in-state trainings completed July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.

After-Hours Contact Information Matrix

- A new [After-Hours Contact Information Matrix](#) is now live on the website. Submissions are optional, but can be very helpful as states operate differently in

how they handle after-hours responses. To update pertinent information, enter in the [online form](#).

2023 ICJ Annual Business Meeting – Deadline – August 8, 2023

- The 2023 Annual Business Meeting deadline to register is August 8. Attending the ABM is a 3-step process:
 1. Meeting [Registration](#)
 2. Hotel [Reservation](#)
 3. Purchase Airline Tickets (once you are approved to travel). Travel and reimbursement are administered in accordance with the [ICJ Travel Reimbursement Policy](#).
- 2023 nominations include:
 - [Nominations process for officers](#). The positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer will be elected for the 2024.
 - [Leadership Award](#). The annual award is open for Commissioners, Designees, Compact Administrators, and Deputy Compact Administrator (DCA), and Compact Coordinators who exhibited outstanding leadership skills and dedication to the Commission.
 - [New Legacy Award](#). The new award will be presented to all Compact staff that have been working in a state Compact office for 15 or more years. The new award will be introduced at the 2023 Annual Business Meeting to commemorate the Commission's 15th anniversary.
 - [New Rising Star Award](#). The new Rising Star Award recognizes an up-and-coming ICJ Commissioner, Compact Administrator, Designee, Deputy Compact Administrator, or Compact Office staff member. This individual has demonstrated special ability or leadership during their first 2 years and shows evidence of a promising future in the field.

Old Business

Proposed Amendment to Rule 4-102 Sending and Receiving

- T. Hudrlik (MN) updated that the Rules Committee met in July. The Midwest Region's updated proposal to amended Rule 4-102 Sending and Receiving Referrals received a recommendation for adoption by the Rules Committee.

New Business

ICJ and Child Welfare: A Collaborative Effort, 2023 ABM Panel Discussion

- There will be a panel discussion at the 2023 ABM on the topic of collaborations with child welfare agencies. The panel will include a representative from each of the four ICJ regions. Representative C. Frieberg (SD) announced that he received three responses. Liz Wilson (KS), Abbie Christian (NE), and Kellianne Torres (IA) volunteered. Representative Frieberg asked for input from the region.
- J. Rader (NE) suggested submitting all three names to the National Office.
- M. K. Hudson (IN) agreed that submitting all three names would provide opportunity to determine which would best compliment the other panelists.

Proactive Monitoring Feedback Survey

- J. Adkins, Policy and Operations Specialist, updated that the Compliance Committee appreciates everyone completing the [Proactive Monitoring Feedback](#)

[Survey](#) to gather input on how things are going to determine any changes or tweaks that should be considered.

STATE UPDATES

- M. K. Hudson (IN) commented that she is looking forward to Child Welfare panel discussion session at the 2023 ABM.
- T. Frierson (IL) announced that her current back-up, Melissa Smith, is transferring to the Department of Corrections. Commissioner Frierson will announce her new back-up staff as soon as she completes training.

Adjourn

M. K. Hudson (IN) made a motion to adjourn. T. Frierson (IL) seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. ET.