INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Midwest Regional Meeting Minutes September 24, 2024 3:44 p.m. CST Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Mobile, Alabama



Preliminary Business

Call to Order

Representative C. Frieberg (SD) called the meeting to order at 3:44 p.m. CST

Roll Call

Systems Project Manager Joe Johnosn called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Voting Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

- 1. Chuck Frieberg (SD), Commissioner, Midwest Regional Representative
- 2. Sasaun Lane (OH), Commissioner, Midwest Regional Alternate Representative
- 3. Fareeda Washington (KS), Designee
- 4. Kellianne Torres (IA), Designee
- 5. Tomiko Frierson (IL), Commissioner
- 6. April Simmons (IN), Designee
- 7. Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Commissioner
- 8. Michael Tymkew (MI), Commissioner
- 9. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee
- 10. Casey Gerber (WI), Commissioner

Compact Staff in Attendance:

- 1. Angel Jones (IL)
- 2. Laura Hausladen (IN)
- 3. Nataly Sevilla (IN)
- 4. Liz Wilson (KS)

Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

- 1. Jacey Rader (NE), Commissioner
- 2. Lisa Bjergaard (ND), Commissioner

National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. Joe Johnson, System Project Manager

Agenda

T. Frierson (IL) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. K. Torres (IA) seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Minutes

J. Wald (ND) made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. S. Lane (OH) seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Check-ins

Representative Frieberg (SD) opened the meeting by asking members to share one word to describe how they felt.

Reports

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

- C. Frieberg (SD) reported that during the Executive Committee meeting on Monday, September 23, 2024, and approved the fiscal year *2024 Audit Report*.
- K. Torres (IA) reported the Executive Committee approved edits to the *Fact Sheet on ICJ Returns and Non-Delinquent Youths* to be presented at the training session about returns on the following day.
- C. Frieberg (SD) reported on the discussion of the potential impact of the impending hurricane on the meeting. Members were encouraged to use their own judgement in determining whether to leave early to ensure their safety. Two members indicated they were making arrangements to leave earlier than originally planned.

Unfinished Business

- C. Frieberg (SD) reported that no UNITY data was available related to the number of juveniles living in receiving states at time of sentencing and prior to the transfer of supervision, or their service needs.
- C. Frieberg (SD) commented that additional information may be needed to fully address this issue. He also noted addressing the issue is not in the Commission's strategic plan.
- T. Hudrlik (MN) suggested the Executive Committee should take up this topic.
- C. Frieberg (SD) added addressing the issue would require more than a rule change, as it appears to be complex.
- No further comments or questions were raised.

New Business

- C. Frieberg (SD) reported J. Raider (NE) was nominated for Midwest Regional Representative and has submitted her acceptance and resume.
- K. Torres (IA) made a motion to elect J. Raider (NE) as the Midwest Regional Representative. C.
 Gerber (WI) seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Frieberg (SD) opened discussion of the "Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Runaways." and no comments or questions were raised.
- J. Wald (ND) added information from the *Top Concerns for Returning Non-delinquent Runaways: Survey Report* would be shared during a training session on the following day.

Hot Topics from the ICJ Updates

- C. Frieberg (SD) opened the floor for discussion of the Wednesday Workshop on "Best Practices for the Final Travel Plan in UNITY" presented on August 28, 2024 and no discussion ensued.
- C. Frieberg (SD) spoke about the availability of the 2024 ICJ Annual Report.
- C. Frieberg (SD) encouraged members to sign up for committee participation using the YAPP APP.

Next Steps

- C. Frieberg (SD) stated there are no action items or assignments at this time.
- C. Frieberg (SD) opened the floor up for suggestions regarding any new business suggestions to be discussed at future meetings.

- T. Frierson (IL) prompted discussion of challenges with returning non-delinquent runaways youths placed in shelters or other settings that are not "secure facilities."
- T. Frierson (IL) shared that Illinois law enforcement officers who pick up runaways contact child welfare agency staff, who place the youth in shelters (rather than detention centers). This protocol is the result of a memorandum of understanding. She noted that <u>ICJ Rule 6-103(1)</u> states: "The holding state shall have the discretion to hold runaways and accused status offenders who are not a danger to themselves or others at a location it deems appropriate." Nonetheless, some state's attorneys are unwilling to hold "Form III hearings," which are necessary for youths to be returned pursuant the ICJ. They assert the ICJ Rule 6-103, because shelters do not meet the <u>ICJ definition</u> of "secure facilities." She indicated there has been an increase in the frequency of this challenge. She shared that one youth ran away from a shelter and was later picked up in another county.
- C. Gerber (WI) added that Wisconsin authorities recently questions whether "detained" (as used in <u>Rule 6-101</u>) was applicable when a youth was held in a police station because the child welfare agency was unwilling to get involved.
- C. Gerber (WI) questioned whether these issues could be addressed through an advisory opinion or amendment of the ICJ rules.
- Representative C. Frieberg (SD) suggested reviewed by the National Office or Legal Counsel.
- J. Wald (ND) noted "Form III hearings" are also necessary for a youth to be released to child welfare agency personnel from a home state, which sometimes occurs when guardians do not have resources to travel. She added that authorities in North Dakota would not release a youth unless a "Form III hearing" had been held.
- M. Tymkew (MI) shared that law enforcement officials in Michigan contact judges prior to any placement, which ensures the placements are ordered by the court.
- K. Torres (IA) added that youths are only detained in Iowa if a judge has determined they are danger to themselves or others.
- Representative C. Frieberg (SD) asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he asked if other issues should be discussed.
- M. Tymkew (MI) asked whether other states have received travel permits for sex offenders for which reporting instructions were not submitted by the sending state.
- K. Torres (IA) and Tomiko Frierson (IL) responded that the sending state must use a UNITY event to initiate the "Request for Sex Offender Registration Requirements" workflow.
- J. Wald (ND) stated that a similar event is automatically triggered in transfer of supervision cases, but not in is not automatically triggered in travel permit cases. Other participants agreed.
- J. Wald (ND) inquired about the speed of UNITY in the closing of travel permits.
- K. Torres (IA) added that closures have been slow in other types of cases.
- J. Johnson (National Office) asked members to submit support requests for such cases, so the National Office can track the issue(s) and follow-up with the vendor. Case number(s) should be included.
- S. Lane (OH) shared recently challenges where some holding state ICJ offices were unable or unwilling to assist with returning youths with pending juvenile warrants in Ohio (home/demand state) when the youths was detained on adult charges in the holding state. Some holding state ICJ offices directed Ohio to contact adult authorities/jails, saying they do not have connections with authorities in the adult system. In at least one case, the juvenile was released in the holding state. C. Gerber (WI) suggested this was a training issue.
- Hearing no further discussion, C. Frieberg (SD) observed no specific actions were taken.

<u>Adjourn</u>

- Representative Frieberg (SD) called for the motion to adjourn the meeting.
- T. Frierson (IL) made a motion to adjourn. T. Hudrlik (MN) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m. CST.