

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2025

2:00 pm ET

Via Zoom



Preliminary Business

Call to Order

Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee Chair F. Casey (DE) called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm ET.

Roll Call

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

Voting Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Francis "Mike" Casey (DE), Commissioner, Chair
2. Brooke Montelongo (CO), Commissioner, Vice Chair
3. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee
4. Daryl Liedecke (TX), Designee

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

1. April Simmons (IN)

Members Not in Attendance:

1. Latosha Mallory (AL)
2. Tasha Hunt (CT), Commissioner
3. Rhonda Turner (FL)
4. Deanna McNulty (LA)
5. Lisa Bjergaard (ND), Commissioner
6. Charles Frieberg (SD), Commissioner
7. Eavey-Monique James (VI), Commissioner

National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist
2. Jenny Adkins, Operations and Policy Specialist
3. Joe Johnson, System Project Manager
4. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist

Agenda

J. Wald (ND) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. B. Montelongo (CO) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Minutes

B. Montelongo (CO) made a motion to approve the July 16, 2024, meeting minutes. J. Wald (ND) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Check-In:

Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee Chair Casey (DE) led a check-in activity, asking members to share where they are from, a fact about their city, and what interesting wild life is in their city.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

Explore Goals, Objectives and Ideas for FY2025

- Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee Chair Casey (DE) shared goals, objectives, and ideas for FY (Fiscal Year) 2025. He emphasized the importance of staying strong with their message and being specific about their objectives.
- Chair Casey (DE) shared that Human Trafficking is a topic of concern. The RDEI Committee is specifically focusing on Human Trafficking as it pertains to returns.
- Chair Casey (DE) shared other objectives for the RDEI Committee:
 - Creating a resource guide on Tribal Nations
 - Chair Casey (DE) stated that Marcia Good from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is scheduled to conduct a Tribal Nations 101 Wednesday Workshop training on April 30, 2025.
 - He stated the RDEI Committee would work on creating the resource guide after the Wednesday Workshop.
 - Composing a Land Acknowledgement for the 2025 Annual Business Meeting
 - Chair Casey (DE) explained that a land acknowledgment is a formal statement recognizing the unique and enduring relationship that exists between indigenous peoples and their traditional territory.
 - He shared that the RDEI Committee would compose a land acknowledgement for the 2025 Annual Business Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.
 - Explore ways to support undocumented youth
 - Chair Casey (DE) shared that he reached out to Delaware Legal Aid Society to obtain information and potentially present a Wednesday Workshop to discuss supporting undocumented youth.
 - Formation of a movie club
 - Chair Casey (DE) stated that the RDEI Committee could form a movie club, and the purpose would be to select a movie or documentary that explores RDEI-related matters.
- Chair Casey (DE) shared that the National Office proposed the RDEI Committee review the 2025 Rule Amendment Proposals to ensure that the language is suitable for RDEI principles.
- J. Wald (ND) shared that she liked the idea of creating a movie club.
- A. Cabbagestalk, National Office, stated that the idea would be to have the movie club meetings on Fridays as there are no standing ICJ committee meetings on this day.
- D. Liedecke (TX) shared that he would be willing to participate in the movie club subcommittee.
- Chair Casey (DE) proposed the establishment of a subcommittee for the development of a resource guide on tribal nations but decided to table it until after the April 30th Wednesday Workshop.
- Chair Casey (DE) stated he would reach out to absent committee members to gauge interest in these subcommittees.

Review UNITY Data

- Vice Chair Montelongo (CO) stated that J. Johnson, National Office, pulled data from the UNITY national data management system to share with the committee. The data shows a lack of responses regarding human trafficking in UNITY.
- Vice Chair Montelongo (CO) shared a chart on the screen titled “Human Trafficking Data Entry by Return Case Type” from UNITY. The data showed that in Fiscal Year 2022, there was a 74% “no response” rate in the section where UNITY users can indicate whether human trafficking is suspected or confirmed. In 2023, the “no response” rate was 82%, and 83% in Fiscal Year 2024.

- She shared this data was specifically for Absconders.
- The data shows more reports of confirmed or suspected human trafficking of Runaways.
- Vice Chair Montelongo (CO) explained that the data shows a huge disparity with how members are managing or tracking Human Trafficking within the different case types.
- J. Wald (ND) discussed the need for the field to be mandatory in the UNITY system to report suspected human trafficking cases. She emphasized the importance of this field, stating that it should be a simple click of a button to alert relevant authorities.
- Vice Chair Montelongo (CO) showed a chart titled “Human Trafficking Data Entry by Race” from UNITY.
 - The data also shows significant disparities in reporting among black and African American youth.
 - She asked members if there would be any implications to making this field mandatory. No discussion ensued.
- Vice Chair Montelongo (CO) discussed the need for a survey to understand the practices of different states in reporting human trafficking cases. She asked if members agree that the survey is a good starting point. No discussion ensued.
- RDEI Committee Chair Casey (DE) polled the group on who would be interested in participating in a subcommittee to develop a survey to send out.
- B. Montelongo (CO), J. Wald (ND), and A. Simmons (IN) volunteered to participate.
- J. Wald (ND) suggested creating a matrix on the website detailing what each state does when encountering a human trafficking victim.

Next Steps

- Chair Casey (DE) will reach out to absent committee members to gauge their interest in participating in subcommittees.
- The next Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee meeting was scheduled for February 18, 2025, at 11:00 AM ET.

Adjourn

RDEI Committee Chair Casey (DE) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 2:53 pm ET.