

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

ABM 2022 – South Region Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2022

3:00 p.m. ET

DoubleTree Hotel, 870 Williston Rd., Burlington, Vermont



Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Daryl Liedecke (TX), Commissioner, South Region Representative
2. Felicia Dauway (SC), Designee, Alternate Region Representative
3. Patrick Pendergast (AL), Designee
4. Judy Miller (AR), Designee
5. Jefferson Regis (DC), Commissioner
6. Jean Hall (FL), Commissioner
7. Tracy Cassell (GA), Designee
8. Juanita Anderson-Hilton (LA), Commissioner
9. Sherry Jones (MD), Commissioner
10. Maxine Baggett (MS), Designee
11. Julie Hawkins (MO), Commissioner
12. Stephen Horton (NC), Commissioner
13. Robert Hendryx (OK), Designee
14. Corrie Copeland (TN), Commissioner
15. Lynn Fielder (WV), Designee

Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

1. Tyrone Oliver (GA), Commissioner
2. Amy Welch (KY), Commissioner
3. Robert Anderson (MS), Commissioner
4. Rachel Holt (OK), Commissioner
5. Natalie Dalton (VA), Commissioner
6. Stephanie Bond (WV), Commissioner

Non-voting Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Latosha Mallory (AL)
2. Tracy Howard (FL)
3. Yolanda Latimer (LA)
4. Mason Harrington (SC)
5. Bridget Webb (SC)

Guests in Attendance:

1. Steven LaFreniere, CJJA Ex Officio
2. Angela Bridgewater (LA), Former Commissioner
3. Toni Kersh (MS), State Council Member

National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist

Call to Order

Representative Liedecke (TX) called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. ET.

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll, and a quorum was established.

Agenda

S. Horton (NC) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. F. Dauway (SC) seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

F. Dauway (SC) made a motion to approve the June 6, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. J. Regis (DC) seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion

▪ ICJ Dues Update

Commission Treasurer S. Jones (MD) and Finance Committee representative P. Pendergast (AL) provided a brief overview of the Dues Q&A Session held on September 21, 2022. They answered questions from region members, including J. Hawkins (MO), J. Hall (FL), J. Miller (AR), R. Hendryx (OK), S. Horton (NC), and F. Dauway (SC), regarding the Executive and Finance Committee's recommendation of a one-time 35% dues increase.

The Commission's dues structure consists of seven tiers based on size of the state, (data provided by the most recent United States census), and usage of Commission resources. Every five years, the dues are reassessed and occasionally, states move to a new tier. For the past 14 years, most states have remained in the same tier. This year, three states are moving up a tier – two of which are in the South region. There has not been an overall increase in dues rates in the history of the Commission (14 years).

Treasurer S. Jones (MD) also informed the region of the alternative option of a progressive dues increase. This would include a 15% increase this year and a 5.3% increase for the next five years. P. Pendergast (AL) stated that the Finance Committee voted against this option, and recommended the one-time increase, but it was a close vote.

P. Pendergast (AL) noted that the Commission often looks to the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS) as a reference, and that they have had three dues increases since that Commission has been in existence. At their Annual Business Meeting last week, ICAOS voted to approve an additional fourth dues increase.

J. Hawkins (MO) noted that it may be a good idea to revisit the Commission's dues structure at a later date.

P. Pendergast (AL) confirmed that if passed, the dues increase will begin in FY24. In addition to the dues increase, the annual budget will also be up for vote during the general session. If the dues increase does not pass, the budget cannot move forward.

This matter will then go back to the Finance and Executive Committees to return to the drawing board and readjust the budget.

- **New Best Practices**

Chair Liedecke (TX) reviewed the two recently published best practices.

The “*Direct Entry of Data into UNITY Data Fields*” Best Practice, developed by the Technology Committee, provides detailed examples of the advantages of direct entry and tips and tricks for saving PDF forms, copying/pasting, and editing the submitting officer's name.

The “*ICJ Transfer of Supervision: Communication Guidelines for Local Authorities with Juveniles/Family Members*” Best Practice was developed by the South Region. This best practice guide provides detailed examples of how [ICJ Rule 2-104](#) should be implemented in the field.

J. Hawkins (MO) added that she has received great feedback from her field staff on the Best Practice Guides.

- **State Updates/Concerns**

- Alabama

- P. Pendergast (AL) introduced L. Mallory (AL), Deputy Compact Administrator, who took over the position almost two years ago. Alabama Commissioner Steven LaFreniere, CJA President and ICJ Ex Officio Member, was also in attendance. L. Mallory (AL) discussed how all is going smoothly in their state.

- Chanda Leshoure AL

- Arkansas

- J. Miller (AR) stated that the Arkansas Compact Office staff are back to working in the office and that things are getting back to normal. They have an issue with transportation of ICJ juveniles within their State. They are in the process of hiring outside assistance to transport juveniles to shelters, detention centers, and airports. She is hoping this situation will be resolved soon.

- District of Columbia

- J. Regis (DC) stated that DC's program manager joined him at this year's Annual Business Meeting to learn more about the Commission.

- Florida

- J. Hall (FL) stated that she is glad to be back in ICJ. Florida has been having issues with their youth in other states and it has been costly to hire providers to pick up youth from jails. S. Jones (MD) added that they would need to transfer jurisdiction. J. Hall (FL) stated that they are running into issues with age of majority (state-by-state). J. Hawkins (MO) said that there is an ICJ exception to the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act (JJDP), that allows for holding non-delinquent runaways pursuant to ICJ. She offered to follow up with Florida via email to assist.

- Georgia
 - T. Cassell (GA) stated that everything is going well in Georgia. They have two new staff members and one more position to fill before they are fully staffed.
- Louisiana
 - Y. Latimer (LA) stated that she and A. Bridgewater (LA) came to the Annual Business Meeting to formally pass the baton to Commissioner Juanita Anderson-Hilton (LA). Former Compact Administrator, K. Dickerson is no longer with the ICJ office. Steven Jenkins recently joined as their new Compact Office Staff member. Louisiana continues to have staff shortages and high turnover, which unfortunately seems to be the new norm, but they are continuing to move forward.
- Maryland
 - S. Jones (MD) stated that their staff members, L. Oliver (MD) and A. Tyler (MD), continue to work hybrid schedules. Please continue to email all staff members (Sherry Jones, Latoya Oliver, and Abbye Tyler). She also stated that Maryland has been issued a directive that clearly violates ICJ's process and that they need to have a sit-down meeting with Director Underwood and whoever else would like to discuss.
- Missouri
 - J. Hawkins (MO) stated that their staffing shortage is the biggest and most pressing issue. There is a massive shortage on the parole side, especially in larger cities. There is no quick fix, and it will take time to adjust and get the right people to build their staff back up. She stated that they are doing their best and to please be patient.
- Mississippi
 - M. Baggett (MS) stated that they are still working hard despite their staff shortages. Ms. Toni Kersh joined her at the Annual Business Meeting to learn more about the Commission.
- North Carolina
 - S. Horton (NC) stated that they are also having issues with staffing (40% deficit in secure facilities). He and Compact Office Staff Member, Rachel Johnson will be going to work in facilities soon. They are both back in the office full-time. North Carolina received more transfers than California last year – Meaning they have a huge volume of juveniles, and they are doing what they can.
- Oklahoma
 - R. Hendryx (OK) stated that their office is moving into a new building with a new physical address. He will inform the National Office once this occurs. He will still be working from home. Audrey Rockwell (backup) works from the office and receives his physical mail.
- South Carolina
 - F. Dauway (SC) stated that there are no major updates. Staffing issues in South Carolina are in the facilities, not in the field. Bridget Webb (SC) and M. Harrington (SC) are in attendance for the 2022 ICJ Annual Business Meeting on site.
- Tennessee
 - C. Copeland (TN) stated that they are experiencing staff shortages like other states.

- Texas
 - Chair Liedecke (TX) stated they are also having staffing shortages. Legislature meets next year, and they are preparing for that. They are still working from home; Please be sure to copy all Compact Office staff on emails. He noted that airport surveillance has been put on the backburner because of other issues, but they are working to see what they can do.
- West Virginia
 - L. Fielder (WV) stated that they are working remotely permanently. Other than that, things are business as usual.

Review Elections Process and Candidates

Representative Liedecke (TX) stated officer elections will occur during the 2022 ICJ General Session. Candidates have been slated in advance, but there is still a chance for floor nominations. A new voting system will be used. The current nominees are Chairperson – N. Belli (OR); Vice Chair – J. Hawkins (MO); and Treasurer – S. Jones (MD).

Vote for 2023-2024 South Regional Representative

Representative Liedecke (TX) withdrew his name for nomination for 2023-2024 South Region Representative. F. Dauway (SC) expressed interest and accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations. F. Dauway (SC) addressed the region. There were no objections. **F. Dauway (SC) was elected as South Region Representative by acclamation.**

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

ICJ Rule Proposals in 2023

- The deadline for 2023 Rule Proposals is February 28, 2023. The South Region has two meetings scheduled before this deadline. If members have a proposal in mind, they should bring it up then.
- The region applauded Chair Liedecke on a superb job over the past two years.

Adjourn

Representative Liedecke adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 4:38 p.m. ET.