

## INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

*Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee Meeting Minutes*

January 16, 2025

3:00 p.m. EDT

Via Zoom



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### Preliminary Business

#### Call to Order

Chair R. Heide (AK) called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. EDT.

#### Roll Call

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

#### Voting Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Robert Heide (AK), Commissioner, Chair
2. Chanda Leshoure (AL), Designee, Vice Chair
3. Antonio DeJesus (CA), Commissioner
4. Jean Hall (FL), Commissioner
5. Jessica Wald (ND), Designee

#### Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

1. Cecily Rexach (CT)
2. Tracy Cassell (GA)
3. Shirleen Cadiz (HI)
4. Nataly Sevilla (IN)
5. James Maloney (NY)
6. Bridget Webb (SC)
7. Raymundo Gallardo (UT)

#### Members Not in Attendance:

1. Becki Moore (MA), Commissioner
2. Lisa Bjergaard (ND), Commissioner
3. Nataki Brown, Victims Representative

#### National Office Staff in Attendance:

1. MaryLee Underwood, Executive Director
2. Amanee Cabbagestalk, Training and Administrative Specialist
3. Joe Johnson, Systems Project Manager
4. Jenny Adkins, Operations and Policy Specialist
5. Kirsten Wade, Logistics and Administrative Specialist

#### Check-In

Vice Chair C. Leshoure (AL) asked members to share what their first job was.

#### Agenda

A. DeJesus (CA) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. J. Hall (FL) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### Minutes

J. Wald (ND) made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on December 9, 2024. J. Hall (FL) seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

### New Business

#### **Annual Business Meeting**

- Review 2024 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) Survey Results
  - A. Cabbagestalk, National Office shared the 2024 ABM Survey Results.
    - The overall rating for the 2024 Annual Business meeting was 3.3 out of 4. The scale used for rating was: 4 = excellent; 3 = above average; 2 = average; 1 – below average.
    - General comments included:
      - Participants appreciated being able to attend virtually.
      - Participants enjoyed the guest speakers at the conference.
      - It would be helpful and more cost effective if there was a way to share flight times so attendees could coordinate transportation.
      - Only consider larger cities with better airport and flight options.
      - The Welcome Reception should be on Tuesday rather than Monday, so that more participants can attend.
    - The Networking Breakfast was an event offered for the first time. A majority of respondents indicated it was “very beneficial.” Comments included:
      - It was great to network with ex-officio organizations.
      - Some did not attend due to a late-night arrival and time zone change.
    - Chair R. Heide (AK) noted he was not able to attend and asked how it was executed.
    - Director Underwood shared that each ex-officio member was assigned to a specific table and at least one training committee member was assigned to each table to facilitate conversations. Each ex-officio member introduced themselves and their organization.
    - N. Sevilla (IN) shared that she attended the Networking Breakfast and thought it was a nice time to gather everyone.
    - A. DeJesus (CA) shared that it was a good opportunity for members to connect with someone they did not know and exchange information.
    - Regarding the Welcome Address by Liz Ryan (OJJDP), a majority of respondents indicated it was “very beneficial.” Comments included:
      - OJJDP plays an important role in my day-to-day work and has a major influence on how we develop practices and protocols within our state. I know feel like I have someone I can reach out too.
    - Regarding the training session about organizational leadership provided by Glenn Tapia, a majority of respondents indicated it was “very beneficial.” Comments included:
      - It was a great refresher after having participated in the Leadership Academy.
      - A participant identified it as one of the best segments of ABM.

- Participants were pleased with the speaker, information, and colorful language.
- Regarding the Keynote Address by Michael O’Key, a majority of respondents indicated it was “very beneficial.” Comments included:
  - Youth voices are so important, and it was great to hear such a successful story.
  - Michael O’Key was an inspiration and the highlight of ABM.
  - Michael O’Key’s Keynote Address changed the way they thought about youth in custody.
- Regarding the ICJ and ICPC training session, a majority of respondents indicated it was “very beneficial.” Comments included:
  - Participants feel better on how to proceed with ICPC and ICJ cases.
  - This training session should be repeated in the future and recommended to add other ex-officios such as judges or attorneys.
- Regarding the *Returning Non-Delinquent Juveniles* training session, a majority of respondents indicated it was “very beneficial.” Comments included:
  - There needed to be more time to discuss the scenarios and have more engagement from the participants.
  - Some of the scenarios selected lacked information or evidence.
- Regarding the Nomination and Election process, comments included:
  - It was sad that for so many positions, there was only one person interested. They said there should be a way to have more people involved and given opportunities for leadership.
- A. Cabbagestalk, National Office, shared that the First Time Attendees lunch was not included in the survey. The luncheon included all Executive Committee members, new commissioners, and ex officios that have not attended an ABM in the past.
- A. Cabbagestalk, National Office, summarized suggestions for the 2025 ABM:
  - More travel coordination
  - Later welcome reception or move to Tuesday
  - More time for ICJ-specific training topics
  - Regional team building opportunities
  - More audience interaction
- Chair R. Heide (AK) asked if committee members had any additional feedback on the 2024 ABM Survey Results.
- A. DeJesus (CA) shared that during one of the training exercises he sat next to a judge. He enjoyed how diverse his table was and would like to consider making seating arrangements for future training sessions to promote participants sitting with people they normally don’t work with.
- Chair R. Heide (AK) shared that he would also like to ensure participants hear new voices and perspectives during training exercises.
- J. Hall (FL) stated she generally agreed with the survey results. She noted that many participants explore the host city on Tuesday evening. This pattern would be interrupted if the reception were held on Tuesday, rather than Monday.
- Chair R. Heide (AK) stated that some members might skip the Welcome Reception to explore the city , especially if they have to travel on Wednesday.
- J. Wald (ND) stated that the Welcome Reception could be scheduled at 7:00 pm on Monday night for those that have a late flight.

- T. Cassell (GA) recalled that the Welcome Reception was held on Tuesday evening at the 2022 ABM in Vermont and remarked it seem like a very long day.

### **Review and Recommend 2025 Annual Business Meeting Agenda**

- A. Cabbagestalk, National Office, presented Draft 1 of the agenda. The agenda follows a similar structure to past agendas. The Public Hearing related to Rules and Welcome Session would be on Monday. However, the reception would be scheduled later than in the past. She noted the late reception could mean for a long day for those that are traveling across the country or for members that have other meetings that day.
- A. Cabbagestalk, National Office, presented Draft 2 of the agenda, which would have the Public Hearing and Welcome Reception on Tuesday. She also noted that the national office is exploring whether the Public Hearing could be held virtually a week or two before the ABM.
- A. Cabbagestalk, National Office, presented Draft 3 of the agenda, which includes a meeting of the Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youths on Monday. It also has the Public Hearing and Welcome Reception scheduled for Tuesday. The breakfast on Tuesday would start later and the training sessions would be shorter.
- A. DeJesus (CA) asked how the Work Group on Returning Non-Delinquent Youth meeting fit into Draft 2. Director Underwood responded the Work Group would not meet but would present a training session.
- A. DeJesus (CA) questioned whether a meeting or training would be more beneficial. Chair R. Heide (AK) stated that a training session would be helpful and asked if the Work Group would have anything meaningful to present.
- Director Underwood reported that the Work Group is working to address three primary issue areas identified through the survey conducted last year. The Work Group will hold its first meeting at the end of January. They will review new and updated resources related to returns that could all be presented at the ABM.
- Chair R. Heide (AK) asked for feedback, particularly from West Region personnel, on whether to include Training Session 3 or start breakfast at a later time. A. DeJesus (CA) stated he preferred waking up earlier to benefit from more training sessions.
- H. Wykes (AZ) reminded members that the Work Group has not yet met.
- Chair R. Heide (AK) stated there will be a vote on the draft agendas at the next meeting.

### **Brainstorm strategies to use during home evaluations to ensure safety of young people whose supervision is transferred via ICJ**

- Chair R. Heide (AK) stated that the Training Committee will dive into this topic at the next meeting in February.
- Chair R. Heide shared that the Executive Committee referred this topic to the Training Committee. He asked members to be ready to share what practices states and ICJ Offices have in place to ensure the safety of young people being transferred, particularly what states can do during the home evaluation process.
- He mentioned strategies might include child abuse registries, sex offender registries, and/or police records.

### **Discuss ICJ and Medicaid Justice-Involved Youth**

- Chair R. Heide (AK) shared recent changes have been made to federal Medicaid funding requirements to increase access to health care services for justice-involved youth.

- He hopes to facilitate a Wednesday Workshop session that might include states sharing how their states are implementing the changes, especially in relations to ICJ youth.

### **National Conferences and Outreach**

- Discuss ICJ's participation in Human/Sex Trafficking Conference in North Dakota
  - J. Wald (ND) shared that she is helping plan an event in North Dakota called the [Bakken Human Trafficking Summit](#) on May 20-21, 2025. The event brings speakers in to discuss important topics.
  - She shared that an opportunity is open for providing ICJ training at the conference. She recommended discussing runaway return processes because it is often associated with human trafficking.
  - Chair R. Heide (AK) stated it would benefit attendees at the conference to learn about what ICJ does and the involvement with youth.
  - He asked if J. Wald (ND) would like to present or have other ICJ personnel present or co-present with her.
  - J. Wald (ND) stated she would be happy to present alone or with a co-presenter.
  - Director Underwood stated that this is a great example of how to use the Training Request Form. She said this provides an easy way for J. Wald (ND) to provide all the pertinent information and get on the list for consideration by the Training Committee.
  - Chair R. Heide (AK) asked J. Wald (ND) to fill out a training and technical assistance form.
  - J. Wald (ND) shared that she spoke with the Director of the 318 Project, and they are willing to pay for the hotel and travel for the presenters.
  - A. DeJesus (CA) asked if there was a budget that covers travel expenses for the request granted.
  - Director Underwood stated that the Commission has funds allocated for training. However, accepting another organization's offer to pay for travel expenses would help stretch the Commission's funds.

### **Next Steps**

- The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 2:00 pm ET.
- Chair R. Heide (AK) reminded members that State Council reports are due by the end of January.

### **Adjourn**

**Training Committee Chair Heide (AK) adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 4:20 p.m. ET.**