

# INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

*West Regional Meeting Minutes*

July 10, 2024

3:00 pm ET

Via Zoom



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## Preliminary Business

### Call to Order

Representative H. Wykes (AZ) called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm ET.

### Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll and quorum was established.

### Voting Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Howard Wykes (AZ), Designee, West Regional Representative
2. Maureen Clifton (WY), Commissioner, West Regional Alternate Representative
3. Robert Heide (AK), Commissioner
4. Jason Johnson (CA), Commissioner
5. Brooke Montelongo (CO), Commissioner
6. Kristin Davidson (HI), Commissioner
7. Anne Connor (ID), Designee
8. Mike Barthel (MT), Commissioner
9. David Laity (NV), Commissioner
10. Dale Dodd (NM), Commissioner
11. Nina Belli (OR), Commissioner
12. Raymundo Gallardo (UT), Designee
13. Jedd Pelander (WA), Commissioner

### Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Nichel Saceda-Hurt (AK), Designee
2. Shirleen Cadiz (HI), Designee
3. Dawn Bailey (WA), Designee
4. Robert Hislop (MT)
5. Jovay Jackson (AZ)
6. Craig Massey (AZ)
7. Bryan Stephens (CA)
8. Gladys Altamirano (NV)
9. Anali Aaron (OR)

### Voting Members Not in Attendance:

1. Sonia Sweeney (UT), Commissioner
2. Brandon Schimelpfenig (WY)

### National Office Staff in Attendance:

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

## Agenda

A. Connor (ID) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. D. Dodd (NM) seconded. The motion passed.

## Minutes

A. Connor (ID) made a motion to approve the April 10, 2024, meeting minutes. N. Belli (OR) seconded. The motion passed.

## Check-Ins

Representative H. Wykes (AZ) led a check-in exercise encouraging members to share any of their self-care activities.

## Reports

- Executive Committee
  - Representative Wykes (AZ) reported the Executive Committee met on May 23, 2024 and June 27, 2024.
  - Representative Wykes (AZ) reminded participants to register for the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) and to submit nominations for elections and awards.
  - Representative Wykes shared that the Executive Committee recently discussed strategic planning for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.
  - The next meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2024.
- Compliance Committee
  - Compliance Committee member R. Gallardo (UT) reported the Compliance Committee last met on May 1, 2024 and June 5, 2024. The committee discussed developing a new dashboard that will roll out in stages. The dashboard's purpose and mission will be to help states stay on top of compliance standards and ongoing operations.
- Finance Committee
  - Finance Committee Chair D. Dodd (NM) reported the Finance Committee met on May 5, 2024. The committee is working to prepare the FY2026 budget to present for the Commission's approval at the 2024 ABM.
  - The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2024.
- Information Technology Committee
  - Information Technology Committee Ambassador M. Clifton (WY) reported the Technology Committee met on May 14; June 11; and July 9, 2024 since the last West Region meeting.
  - The Technology Committee discussed the ICJ travel plan detail enhancement and tabled the discussion due to the cost. The proposed ICJ travel plan enhancement will combine the travel plan information and the travel plan detail as one required task. The proposed plan will also include two new airport supervision fields, two new airline departure, and new field for local agent transportation. The proposal may be reviewed in the future, when pricing could be less because of combination with other enhancements.
  - The Technology Committee will lead the next Wednesday Workshop on August 28, 2024, where they will conduct a training to review UNITY data entry best practices for the "Final Travel Plan" section on the return of juveniles and return cases.
- Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
  - Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (RDEI) Committee Ambassador B. Montelongo (CO) reported that the RDEI Committee met on May 20, 2024, where they received presentation on collaborating with tribal nations by Marcia Good of the Office of Juvenile

Justic and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Ms. Good provided strategies on working with tribal leaders and tribal social services.

- The next RDEI Committee meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2024.
- Rules Committee
  - Rules Committee Ambassador H. Wykes (AZ) reported that the Rules Committee last met on June 13, 2024 and discussed adjusting some terminology in the ICJ Rules so that the Rules do not conflict with each other.
  - The next Rules Committee meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2024.
- Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee
  - Training Committee Vice Chair R. Heide (AK) reported the Training Committee met on May 2, 2024 and June 6, 2024 and discussed the ABM agenda and training sessions.
  - The Training Committee decided to host a First-Time Attendee Orientation luncheon to efficiently onboard new participants.
  - The Training Committee will discuss bench card edits at the next meeting.
  - The next meeting scheduled for July 11, 2024.

## Unfinished Business

### **Update on Survey regarding Returns of Non-Delinquent Runaways**

- Director Underwood reported that 49 out of 52 jurisdictions responded to the survey on *Returning Runaway Non-Delinquent Runaways*. The National Office is analyzing the results to identify key themes.
- The findings will be presented to the Executive Committee at the next meeting. She stated that the number one issue reported is that holding states do not provide adequate information regarding the circumstances in which the juvenile is located to the home/demanding state. She encouraged states to take care to provide additional information.

### **Update on the recommendation to review the use of the phrase “a danger to self or others” in the ICJ Rules**

- Representative H. Wykes (AZ) reported that the Rules Committee discussed the West Region’s recommendation to review the use of the phrase “danger to themselves or others,” and decided to take no action at this time.
- He asked whether members want to resubmit the recommendation or collect historical data to show the phrase is problematic.
- The Rules Committee’s main concern is that there is a well-established legal understanding of the phrase “a danger to self or others” within the courts.
- A. Connor (ID) shared that Idaho passed a statute that prohibits holding status offenders in detention. However, the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act (JJJPA) includes an exemption that allows detention of status offenders in accordance with the Compact.
- G. Altamirano (NV) stated Nevada cannot hold in-state or out-of-state runaways.
- A. Connor (ID) asked B. Stephens (CA) about juveniles in California and housing out-of-state runaways in detention.
- B. Stephens (CA) responded that some counties in California are willing house out-of-state runaways, but others are not.
- A. Connor (ID) added that the problem with holding a non-delinquent runaway in a non-secure setting is that the juvenile can leave. She recommended pulling data from cases where the runaway held in a non-secure shelter setting did not get returned because they ran away from a non-secure setting.
- D. Dodd (NM) added that in New Mexico, all runaways from out-of-state are turned over to Child Protective Services.

- Representative H. Wykes (AZ) asked for each West Region member to look at data in their states on non-delinquent runaways that are not held in detention. He requested that they collect data and prepare to discuss it at the ABM.
- Director Underwood volunteered that data could be collected using a SmartSheet form.
- Representative H. Wykes (AZ) agreed that this would be helpful and that the link for collecting information should be sent out in early September. The timeframe for the data is January 1, 2024 to August 31, 2024.
- D. Bailey (WA) stated that Washington enters cases in UNITY as soon as they get the initial call on a youth. She states there is an option to select “juvenile not returned” and then explain why that event is used.
- Director Underwood stated that many states do not use the event. However, if state more states used it, the data from UNITY could be consolidated and analyzed.
- A. Connor (ID) asked if Director Underwood could share information about use of the event in an *ICJ Newsletter* and encourage other Compact Offices to record data in UNITY when a juvenile is not returned.
- Director Underwood stated it would be a great idea to educate members on how to use UNITY effectively and that she would explore strategies with staff.

### New Business

#### **Share information regarding strategies for enrolling juveniles transferred through ICJ in school when they are not living with the legal guardian**

- Representative H. Wykes (AZ) noted that Arizona’s method for enrolling juveniles in school who were transferred through ICJ when they are not living with their legal guardian was through power of attorney.
- He stated that some school districts will not enroll juveniles in school even with power of attorney and that the schools request temporary legal guardianship papers.
- A. Connor (ID) added that she has dealt with some states that have denied a home evaluation on the interpretation that the juvenile would not be in substantial compliance because they cannot be enrolled in school.
- D. Bailey (WA) and D. Dodd (NM) agreed that they have also dealt with this with schools in other regions.
- Director Underwood noted that the National Office was not aware of such denials, and encouraged ICJ staff to engage state commissioners to help resolve related issues. She also explained how to utilize the Commission’s dispute resolution process.
- M. Clifton (WY) recommended contacting the Department of Education or state office of the attorney general if another state is refusing to enroll a juvenile in school.
- Representative H. Wykes (AZ) added that he would like to keep this topic on the agenda for further discussion

### Hot Topics from the *ICJ Updates*

- Representative H. Wykes (AZ) reported the following from the most recent issues of the *ICJ Updates*.
  - [2023 State Council Report](#) published on the Commission’s website
  - Reminder to submit [in-state training reports](#)
  - Reminder to [register](#) for the 2024 Annual Business Meeting in Mobile, Alabama
  - New [ICJ Request Form](#)

### Next Steps

- Submit data on number of youths who ran away from nonsecure setting before they could be returned on survey that will be sent out end of August.

- Share information regarding strategies for enrolling juveniles transferred through ICJ in school when they are not living with the legal guardian.
- A. Connor (ID) requested a discussion on complex returns and whether the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) disruption of placement should be handled by ICPC.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2024 in Mobile, Alabama.

**Adjourn**

**Representative Wykes adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 4:18 pm ET.**