

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

East Region Meeting Minutes



January 31, 2023
11:00 a.m. ET
via zoom

Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Caitlyn Bickford (NH) Commissioner, East Region Representative
2. Patricia Casanova (VT), Designee, East Region Alternate Representative
3. Nordia Napier (CT), Designee (representing Tasha Hunt, Commissioner)
4. Mike Casey (DE), Commissioner
5. Christine Norris (DE), Designee
6. Becki Moore (MA), Commissioner
7. Edwin Lee, Jr. (NJ), Designee (representing Jennifer LeBaron, Commissioner)
8. Wendy Lautsbaugh (PA), Commissioner
9. JoAnn Niksa (RI), Designee (representing Jessica Nash, Commissioner)
10. Eavey Monique-James (USVI), Commissioner

Commissioners/Designees not in Attendance:

1. Roy Curtis (ME), Commissioner
2. Suzanne Miles-Gustave (NY), Commissioner
3. Francesco Bianco, Jr. (NY), Designee

Non-voting Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Erin Breitigan (DE)
2. Donna Reed (MA)
3. Robert Lemieux (MA)
4. Erin Laskowski (NH)
5. Kara Buxton (NH)
6. Shyra Bland (NJ)
7. Kelly Palmateer (NY)

Guests in Attendance:

None

National Office Staff and Legal Counsel in Attendance:

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

Call to Order

Representative Bickford (NH) called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. ET.

Roll Call

Executive Director MaryLee Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda

J. Niksa (RI) made a motion to approve the agenda. T. Casanova (VT) seconded. Representative Bickford indicated the agenda was approved by unanimous consent without objection.

Minutes

B. Moore (MA) made a motion to approve the minutes from January 12, 2023 meeting as presented. T. Casanova (VT) seconded. Representative Bickford indicated the minutes were approved by unanimous consent without objection.

Discussion

Proposed Rule Amendment(s)

- Representative Bickford (NH) stated the sole purpose of the meeting was discussion of a proposed new rule regarding after-hours contact information/protocol.
- Representative Bickford and Alternate Representative Casanova met to edit the new rule proposal and agreed that perhaps the issue could be better addressed by an amendment to current rule ICJ Rule 6-102.
- Representative Bickford presented a proposed amendment to Rule 6-102(9) for input.
- B. Moore (MA) commented that all states respond in some manner after hours; however, not all states will have a single, readily available resource.
- T. Casanova (VT) stated that the ICJ Rules require all states to have policies and procedures in place to ensure some agency is responsible for responding outside of the Compact offices' normal business hours. The proposal is to address how to share that information.
- S. Bland (NJ) shared that in New Jersey, there is no single point of contact, as the in-state processes vary for runaways, escapee, absconders, accused status offenders, and accused delinquents.
- C. Bickford (NH) shared concerns about non-delinquents from New Hampshire being picked up in other states by law enforcement officers who do not know who to contact within their state.
- Representative Bickford asked what states are doing to address juveniles picked up after hours. N. Napier (CT) replied that the Connecticut Child Protection Services are contacted and they are aware of ICJ. One issue is that not all law enforcement officers are aware that the age of majority varies from state to state.
- T. Casanova (VT) commented that the purpose of the Compact is to ensure safety of the public and the juvenile. Oftentimes, juveniles picked up after hours are high risk juveniles and are released due to the lack of knowledge and/or contact information.
- The East Region reviewed the proposed rule amendment. Members agreed the proposed amendment would not require that state's policies and procedures be requested for posting.
- The East Region reached a consensus on modifications to the to the proposed amendment and to the justification.
- **T. Casanova (VT) made a motion to recommend for adoption the modified proposed amendment to Rule 6-102: Voluntary Return of Runaways,**

Probation/ Parole Absconders, Escapees or Accused Delinquents and Accused Status Offenders from the East Region. E. James (VI) seconded. Pennsylvania and Connecticut abstained. The motion passed by a 7-0-2 vote.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

- K. Palmateer (NY) updated on her work with Minnesota to draft a rule proposal regarding reporting instructions. The East Region previously proposed two rule amendments in past years related to reporting instructions, neither of which passed.
- The Midwest Region plans to submit a new proposal.
- Representative Bickford agreed to include said proposal on the April meeting agenda.

Adjourn

- Representative Bickford adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 12:02 p.m. ET.