

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR JUVENILES

South Region Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2023
11:00 a.m. ET
Via Zoom



Commissioners/Designees in Attendance:

1. Felicia Dauway (SC), Designee, Region Representative
2. Jean Hall (FL), Commissioner, Alternate Region Representative
3. Judy Miller (AR), Designee
4. Jefferson Regis (DC), Commissioner
5. Tracy Cassell (GA), Designee
6. Melina Hampton (KY), Designee
7. Angela Bridgewater (LA), Commissioner
8. Sherry Jones (MD), Commissioner
9. Maxine Baggett (MS), Designee
10. Julie Hawkins (MO), Commissioner
11. Stephen Horton (NC), Commissioner
12. Robert Hendryx (OK), Designee
13. Corrie Copeland (TN), Commissioner
14. Natalie Dalton (VA), Commissioner
15. Lynn Fielder (WV), Designee

Commissioners/Designees Not in Attendance:

1. Patrick Pendergast (AL), Designee
2. Louis Serrano (TX), Commissioner

Non-voting Compact Staff in Attendance:

1. Latosha Mallory (AL)
2. Terrance Clayton (FL)
3. Tacarra Richardson (FL)
4. Ryan Smith (FL)
5. Shanice Rhyne (GA)
6. Sherri Springate (KY)
7. Yolanda Latimer (LA)
8. Stephen Jenkins (LA)
9. Abbye Tyler (MD)
10. Latoya Oliver (MD)
11. Rachel Johnson (NC)
12. Mason Harrington (SC)
13. Bridget Webb (SC)
14. Daryl Liedecke (TX)

Guests in Attendance:

None

National Office Staff in Attendance:

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

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Director Underwood called the roll and a quorum was established.

Agenda

C. Copeland (TN) made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. J. Hall (FL) seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

J. Miller (AR) made a motion to approve the March 16, 2023 meeting minutes. S. Jones (MD) seconded. The motion carried.

Discussion

Proactive Monitoring

- Representative Dauway (SC) provided an update on the [proactive monitoring](#) program. She acknowledged her support for the auto-generated Tableau reports, commenting how such weekly updates would have led to a different outcome a few years ago when compliance issues arose in South Carolina.

2023 Rule Proposals Comments

- Representative Dauway (SC) announced that the comment period related to proposed rule amendments is now open. She encouraged everyone to review the proposed amendments online and post comments. The Rules Committee will be reviewing all comments in May for any recommendations and modifications before final posting.
- Representative Dauway reported that the South Region's revised proposed amendment to Rule 7-107: Airport Supervision was recommended for adoption April 5, 2023, during the Rules Committee meeting.

Wednesday Workshop Series – LIVE Trainings

- Representative Dauway (SC) reminded the South Region that live trainings are being provided again through the monthly Wednesday Workshop Series. The topics and Zoom links are posted on the Commission's website and the maximum attendance per session has been increased to 500.
- The next session is April 26 and the topic is Quarterly Progress Reports (QPR).

ICJ Bench Book for Judges and Court Personnel

- Representative Dauway (SC) reminded member that Version 10.0 of the [ICJ Bench Book for Judges and Court Personnel](#) is now available on the Commission's website, making it readily available to view and easy to distribute. The new version provides additional information and embedded links. Several states commented that they are including the update in their intrastate trainings.
- Joe Johnson, Systems Project Manager, noted that state ICJ Offices can customize their state's UNITY home page to include information about the updated resource. He offered assistance to any state interested.

New Website Resources Overview

- Representative Dauway (SC) provided an overview of the new [ICJ Website Resources](#) webpage. The new webpage was developed to assist in locating the numerous resources available online. The new page lists resources by category, topic, name, and includes quick links. The same information is available in a one-page, print-ready format.

Coming Soon

- Representative Dauway (SC) updated on the following events coming in June:
 - The UNITY Enhancement Rollout Plan begins. This will be a three-phase rollout, with multiple resources and training opportunities for each phase.
 - Registration opens in June for Commissioners/Designees to attend the 2023 Annual Business Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, in September.

Regional Discussion Topics

- Representative Dauway (SC) briefed on a resource about "Engaging Child Welfare Agencies" that is under development by the West Region. She opened the floor for states to share information that may assist the West Region in developing this new resource.
- S. Jones (MD) shared that Maryland routinely collaborates with the state law enforcement, legal counsel, and the children and family services department.
- J. Miller (AR) shared that the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) staff are an excellent resource and collaboration with ICPC personnel is vital.
- D. Liedecke (TX) shared Texas has a contact within the Department of Children and Families that assists in reaching out to the regions. The most challenging cases occur when a parent does not want the child back.
- J. Hall (FL) shared Florida conducts joint agency trainings quarterly which includes staff from the Commission and social services.
- J. Hawkins (MO) shared that ICJ is housed under the same umbrella as the Department of Children and Family Services. Their standard practice is to first determine whether the youth is in imminent danger. Courts become involved as needed in difficult cases. Director Underwood added that sharing how to get cases in front of courts could be very helpful for the resource.

State and Committee Updates

- Representative Dauway (SC) opened the floor for additional committee updates and/or pertinent state updates.

Kentucky

- M. Hampton (KY) updated that Kentucky recently created an ICJ Branch within the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice as a result of years of advocacy by Commissioner Amy Welch.

Rule Committee

- S. Horton (NC) encouraged everyone to post their comments on the proposed rule amendments soon as the comment period ends May 8.

Racial Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee

- S. Jones (MD) commented about the proposed amendment of Rule 4-104: Authority to Accept/Deny Supervision. The proposal was submitted by the Maryland and Delaware Commissioners in collaboration with the Racial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. She encouraged members to review the proposal and submit comments as the proposal may be edited to garner more support for passage.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

- S. Jones (MD) urged members to consider running for the officer positions during the 2023 Annual Business Meeting.
- Director Underwood updated that nominations for the 2023 Leadership Award will open soon and reminded that nominations for Staff Recognitions can be submitted at any time.

Adjourn

Representative Dauway adjourned the meeting by acclamation without objection at 11:45 a.m. ET.