

Interstate Compact State Council

June 26, 2020

Minutes

The Indiana Interstate Compact State Council met by video conference on June 26, 2020. Justin Forkner presided over the meeting and Jenny Bauer acted as secretary.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the State Council were present: Mary Kay Hudson, Executive Director of the Indiana Office of Court Services and Compact Administrator; Judge Dana Kenworthy, President of the Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; Bernice Corley, Executive Director of the Indiana Public Defender Council; Chris Naylor, Executive Director of the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council; Joel Gruber, proxy for the Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Correction; Laura Berry, Executive Director of the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Sen. Jack Sandlin, Indiana General Assembly; and Justin Forkner, Chief Administrative Officer of the Office of Judicial Administration and chairperson of the State Council.
2. **Staff present.** Jenny Bauer, Turran Blazier, Nita Wright, and April Simmons provided staff assistance to the Council.
3. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes from the December 2019 meeting were approved.
4. **ICAOS Update.** Mary Kay Hudson reported that the national compact office has been busy helping states deal with the impact of COVID-19. In the beginning of the crisis, states were unilaterally informing the national office that they were unable to perform duties required by the Compact rules. As a result, the national office suspended enforcement of the rules and the rules committee drafted an emergency rule to give states more time to work through transfer issues. Rule 2.111 was adopted in April and is effective for any declared state or national emergency. Ms. Hudson reported that the Interstate Compact for Juveniles passed a similar emergency rule—Rule 2-108. Ms. Hudson also stated that she was proud Indiana did not have to submit any restrictions to the national offices. Ms. Hudson further reported that member dues are a topic of concern because of anticipated shortfalls in state revenues. The national office is reviewing its ability to reduce dues for 2022, in an effort to provide relief for state budgets.

April Simmons reported that the State Compact Office helped probation departments arrange for home-checks by local sheriffs and audio-video appointments. She also stated that the State Office would like to see departments carry forward the good technology practices from the COVID crisis.

Turran Blazier reported that the State Office had to be creative for outgoing probation transfers. The Office helped with signatures for transfer documents and worked with locals to recall warrants to avoid transport issues. She reported that probation officers rose to the occasion and maintained compliance with rules. She also reported that the Justice Services Conference planned for late April was cancelled, so the State Office is planning a WebEx training with the help of the national office. The ICAOS Annual Business Meeting will be conducted with virtual meetings over several days.

Joel Gruber reported that parole offices were closed to the public for several months, with all contact with parolees conducted by phone. Parole offices are scheduled to re-open July 6th. The members discussed that reducing the number of re-taking warrants should be a goal moving forward from the COVID crisis.

5. **ICJ Update.** Nita Wright reported that juvenile probation departments maintained compliance during the crisis because of the backup system in place. The State Office helped departments implement video home visits and electronic signatures, which resulted in increased compliance and faster home evaluations. She would like to see departments continue to use video conferencing. She also reported that ICJ will conduct a virtual Annual Business Meeting. Local officers can participate in the ABM training sessions. In addition, ICJ plans to start training on the new UNITY system in July, with go-live planned for December.
6. **Legislative Update.** Mary Kay Hudson reported that Sen. Sandlin's SB 317 on the county offender transportation fund did not receive a hearing during the legislative session. The members consented to Sen. Sandlin re-filing the bill and IOCS staff will work with Sen. Sandlin to update the language of the bill.
7. **NCIC.** Mary Kay Hudson reported that she has not had the opportunity to discuss NCIC access with the Indiana State Police. She showed a letter from the Department of Justice that denied the ICAOS national office request for access and suggested local partnerships. She thinks this letter will help with the IOCS

request to ISP and plans to draft a letter from the State Council chair, with members as signatories.

8. **2020 Meeting Dates.** The Interstate Compact State Council is tentatively scheduled to meet September 24 and December 10.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Indiana Office of Court Services