



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

**STATE COUNCIL MEETING**  
**May 13, 2019 - 10:00 AM**

**Members in Attendance:**

Evaristo Cruz Morales- In representation of Alex Joel Torres Guzmán  
Executive Branch Representative  
Secretary Assistant of Programs and Services of the Department of Corrections

Noel Méndez Rivera- Victims Representative  
Captain of the Puerto Rico Police Department

Honourable Zoé Laboy Alvarado- Legislative Representative  
Senator

Honourable Sigfrido Steidel Figueroa- Representative of the Judicial Branch  
Courts Administrative Director

Raquel Colón Esteves- Commissioner and Deputy Compact Administrator  
Interstate Compact Office

**Members not in Attendance:**

José Mercado González-Legislative Representative  
Representative

Alex Joel Torres Guzmán- Executive Branch Representative  
Secretary Assistant of Programs and Services of the Department of Corrections

Kelvin Vélez Torres- Probation and Parole Officers Representative  
Assistant of Programs and Services office of the Department of Corrections

**Discussion:**

The possibility to assess a transfer and supervision fee was discussed. After discussion the Council rejected to impose a supervision fee to the cases sentenced in Puerto Rico and rejected also to impose it to the out of state offenders that voluntarily come to our jurisdiction since





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it is contrary to what is stipulated in the Compact Rules (Rule 4.101). However, there is a consensus in the collection of a fee for the processing of Transfer Requests that includes the translation of the required documents. It was determined to establish an approximate calculation of the cost of processing a Transfer Request through the Interstate Compact from Puerto Rico to the United States.

In regards to the needs and challenges faced by the Puerto Rico Interstate Compact office, it was brought to the attention of the council members the lack of knowledge from the Courts and from the Department of Correction's personnel that work directly with the offenders that could be eligible for a possible transfer of supervision. The Representative of the Judicial Branch expressed his willingness to assist in all matters concerning the Courts, Training to Judges and Pro Se personnel (Access Program for Litigants by their Own Right) the review of forms, judicial procedures, among other matters.

On the other hand, the need to guide the Probation and Parole officers, the case managers and Supervisors in regards to the Interstate Compact was discussed as well with the purpose of promoting access to information and resources that, as a consequence will have the outcome of a successful and beneficial supervision for offenders.

The directive was not selected in this meeting since three members were absent. Next meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2019.

### **Pending Issues:**

- ✓ The number of Transfer Requests that were processed in the last fiscal year. Approximate analysis of how much the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation invests in processing a Transfer Request.
- ✓ Alternatives to generate income





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- ✓ Evaluate what does the states take on consideration at the time to make any exemption from the payment of the Transfer Request processing.
- ✓ Choose the directive of the State Council.

