

INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR
ADULT OFFENDER SUPERVISION

BYLAWS

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November 11, 2026

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Article I - Commission Purpose, Function and By-laws

Section 1. Purpose.

Pursuant to the terms of the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision, (the “Compact”), the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision (the “Commission”) is established to fulfill the objectives of the Compact, through means of joint cooperative action among the Compacting States: to promote, develop and facilitate safe, orderly, efficient, cost effective and uniform transfer and supervision of individuals who are authorized pursuant to the bylaws and rules of this Compact to travel across state lines both to and from each compacting state, and, when necessary, to facilitate the return of these individuals to their originating jurisdictions.

Section 2. Functions.

In pursuit of the fundamental objectives set forth in the Compact, the Commission shall, as necessary or required, exercise all of the powers and fulfill all of the duties delegated to it by the Compacting States. The Commission’s activities shall include, but are not limited to, the following: the promulgation of binding rules and operating procedures; oversight and coordination of transfer and supervision activities in Compacting States; provision of a framework for the promotion of public safety and protection of victims; provision for the effective tracking, supervision, and rehabilitation of supervised individuals by the sending and receiving states; equitable distribution of the costs, benefits and obligations of the Compact among the Compacting States; enforcement of Commission Rules, Operating Procedures and By-laws; provision for dispute resolution; coordination of training and education regarding the regulation of interstate movement of supervised individuals for officials involved in such activity; and the collection and dissemination of information concerning the activities of the Compact, as provided by the Compact, or as determined by the Commission to be warranted by, and consistent with, the objectives and provisions of the Compact.

Section 3. By-laws.

As required by the Compact, these By-laws shall govern the management and operations of the Commission. As adopted and subsequently amended, these By-laws shall remain at all times subject to, and limited by, the terms of the Compact.

Article II - Membership

Section 1. Commissioners

The Commission Membership shall be comprised as provided by the Compact. Each Compacting State shall have and be limited to one Member. A Member shall be the Commissioner of the Compacting State. Each Compacting State shall forward the name of its Commissioner to the Commission chairperson. The Commission chairperson shall promptly advise the Governor and State Council for Interstate Adult Supervision of the Compacting State of the need to appoint a new Commissioner upon the expiration of a designated term or the occurrence of mid-term vacancies.

Section 2. Ex-Officio Members

The Commission membership shall also include but are not limited to individuals who are not commissioners and who shall not have a vote, but who are members of interested organizations. Such non-commissioner members must include a representative of the National Governors Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Conference of Chief Justices, the National Association of Attorneys General and the National Organization for Victim Assistance. In addition, representatives of the National Institute of Corrections, the American Probation and Parole Association, Association of Paroling Authorities International, the Interstate Commission for Juveniles, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the Conference of State Court Administrators, the National Sheriff’s Association, the American Jail Association, the National Association for Public Defense, and the National District Attorneys Association may be ex-officio members of the Commission.

Section 3. Code of Conduct

All Commissioners, Deputy Compact Administrators, committee members, ex-officio members, and participants in ICAOS activities shall adhere to the Commission’s Code of Conduct, as adopted by policy. The Code of Conduct sets expectations for professional behavior, communication, and collaboration, and establishes procedures for addressing violations. Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may result in action by the Commission consistent with its

compliance and enforcement policies.

Article III - Officers

Section 1. Election and Succession.

The officers of the Commission shall include a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and treasurer. The officers shall be duly appointed Commission Members, except that if the Commission appoints an Executive Director, then the Executive Director shall serve as the secretary. Officers shall be elected every two years by the Commission at any meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall serve for two years or until their successors are elected by the Commission. The officers so elected shall serve without compensation or remuneration, except as provided by the Compact.

Section 2. Duties.

The officers shall perform all duties of their respective offices as provided by the Compact and these By-laws. Such duties shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. *Chairperson.* The chairperson shall call and preside at all meetings of the Commission and in conjunction with the Executive Committee shall prepare agendas for such meetings, shall make appointments to all committees of the Commission, and, in accordance with the Commission's directions, or subject to ratification by the Commission, shall act on the Commission's behalf during the interims between Commission meetings.
b. *Vice Chairperson.* The vice chairperson shall, in the absence or at the direction of the chairperson, perform any or all of the duties of the chairperson. In the event of a vacancy in the office of chairperson, the vice chairperson shall serve as acting chairperson until a new chairperson is elected by the Commission.
c. *Secretary.* The secretary shall keep minutes of all Commission meetings and shall act as the custodian of all documents and records pertaining to the status of the Compact and the business of the Commission.
d. *Treasurer.* The treasurer, with the assistance of the Commission's executive director, shall act as custodian of all Commission funds and shall be responsible for monitoring the administration of all fiscal policies and procedures set forth in the Compact or adopted by

the Commission. Pursuant to the Compact, the treasurer shall execute such bond as may be required by the Commission covering the treasurer, the executive director and any other officers, Commission Members and Commission personnel, as determined by the Commission, who may be responsible for the receipt, disbursement, or management of Commission funds.

Section 3. Costs and Expense Reimbursement.

Subject to the availability of budgeted funds, the officers shall be reimbursed for any actual and necessary costs and expenses incurred by the officers in the performance of their duties and responsibilities as officers of the Commission.

Section 4. Vacancies.

Upon the resignation, removal, or death of an officer of the Commission before the next annual meeting of the Commission, a majority of the Executive Committee shall appoint a successor to hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the officer whose position shall so become vacant or until the next regular or special meeting of the Commission at which the vacancy is filled by majority vote of the Commission, whichever first occurs.

Article IV - Commission Personnel

Section 1. Commission Staff and Offices.

The Commission may by a majority of its Members, or through its executive committee appoint or retain an executive director, who shall serve at its pleasure and who shall act as secretary to the Commission, but shall not be a Member of the Commission. The executive director shall hire and supervise such other staff as may be authorized by the Commission. The executive director shall establish and manage the Commission’s office or offices, which shall be located in one or more of the Compacting States as determined by the Commission.

Section 2. Duties of the Executive Director.

As the Commission’s principal administrator, the executive director shall also perform such other duties as may be delegated by the Commission or required by the Compact and these By-laws, including, but not limited to, the following:

a. Recommend general policies and program initiatives for the Commission’s consideration;
b. Recommend for the Commission’s consideration administrative personnel policies governing the recruitment, hiring, management, compensation and dismissal of Commission staff;
c. Implement and monitor administration of all policies programs, and initiatives adopted by Commission;
d. Prepare draft annual budgets for the Commission’s consideration;
e. Monitor all Commission expenditures for compliance with approved budgets, and maintain accurate records of account;
f. Assist Commission Members as directed in securing required assessments from the Compacting States;
g. Execute contracts and serve as the Commission's authorized representative and signatory for financial accounts, contracts, and other official documents on behalf of the Commission as directed;
h. Receive service of process on behalf of the Commission;

Prepare and disseminate all required reports and notices directed by the Commission; and

j. Otherwise assist the Commission’s officers in the performance of their duties under Article III herein.

Section 1. Immunity.

The Commission, its Members, officers, executive director, and employees shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of or relating to any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided, that any such person shall not be protected from suit or liability, or both, for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of any such person.

Section 2. Defense

Subject to the provisions of the Compact and rules promulgated thereunder, the Commission shall defend the Commissioner of a Compacting State, the Commissioner’s representatives or employees, or the Commission, and its representatives or employees in any civil action seeking to impose liability against such person arising out of or relating to any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties or responsibilities; provided, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing on the part of such person.

Section 3. Indemnification.

The Commission shall indemnify and hold the Commissioner of a Compacting State, his or her representatives or employees, or the Commission, and its representatives or employees harmless in the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against such person arising out of or relating to any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from gross negligence or

intentional wrongdoing on the part of such person.

Article VI - Meetings of the Commission

Section 1. Meetings and Notice.

The Commission shall meet at least once each calendar year at a time and place to be determined by the Commission. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the chairperson, and must be called upon the request of a majority of Commission Members, as provided by the Compact. All Commission Members shall be given written notice of Commission meetings at least thirty (30) days prior to their scheduled dates. Final agendas shall be provided to all Commission Members no later than ten (10) days prior to any meeting of the Commission. Thereafter, additional agenda items requiring Commission action may not be added to the final agenda, except by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Members. All Commission meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in Commission Rules or as otherwise provided by the Compact. Prior public notice shall be provided in a manner consistent with the federal Government in Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552b, including, but not limited to, the following: publication of notice of the meeting at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting in a nationally distributed newspaper or an official newsletter regularly published by or on behalf of the Commission and distribution to interested parties who have requested in writing to receive such notices. A meeting may be closed to the public where the Commission determines by two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of its Members that there exists at least one of the conditions for closing a meeting, as provided by the Compact or Commission Rules.

Section 2. Quorum.

Commission Members representing a majority of the Compacting States shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except as otherwise required in these By-laws. The participation of a Commission Member from a Compacting State in a meeting is sufficient to constitute the presence of that state for purposes of determining the existence of a quorum, provided the Member present is entitled to vote on behalf of the Compacting State represented. The presence of a quorum must be established before any vote of the Commission can be taken.

Section 3. Voting.

Each Compacting State represented at any meeting of the Commission by its Member is entitled to one vote. A Member shall vote himself or herself and shall not delegate his or her vote to another Member. Members may participate and vote in meetings of the Commission and its duly authorized committees by telephone or other means of telecommunication or electronic communication. Except as otherwise required by the Compact or these By-laws, any question submitted to a vote of the Commission shall be determined by a simple majority.

Section 4. Procedure.

Matters of parliamentary procedure not covered by these By-laws shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order.

Article VII - Committees

Section 1. Executive Committee.

The Commission may establish an executive committee, which shall be empowered to act on behalf of the Commission during the interim between Commission meetings, except for rulemaking or amendment of the Compact. The Committee shall be composed of all officers of the Interstate Commission, the chairpersons or vice-chairpersons of each committee, the regional representatives or designees, and the ex-officio victims' representative to the Interstate Commission. The immediate past chairperson of the Commission and the Chair of the DCA Liaison Committee shall also serve as ex-officio, non-voting, members of the executive committee and the ex-officio victims' representative, immediate past chairperson, and Chair of the DCA Liaison Committee shall serve for a term of two years. The procedures, duties, budget, and tenure of such an executive committee shall be determined by the Commission. The power of such an executive committee to act on behalf of the Commission shall at all times be subject to any limitations imposed by the Commission, the Compact or these By-laws.

Section 2. Standing Committees.

The Commission may establish such other committees as it deems necessary to carry out its objectives, which shall include, but not be limited to Finance Committee; Rules Committee; Compliance Committee; Information Technology Committee; and Training, Education and Public Relations Committee. The composition, procedures, duties, budget and tenure of such committees shall be determined by the Commission. In the event a chairperson of a standing committee is unable to attend a specified meeting of a standing committee or a meeting of the executive committee, each standing committee may designate a vice-chairperson to act on behalf of the standing committee at a specified standing or executive committee meeting.

Section 3. Ad hoc Committees.

The Commission may establish ad hoc committees to perform special purposes or functions. Upon creation of an ad hoc committee, the chairperson of the Commission shall issue a charge to

the committee, describing the committee’s duties and responsibilities. The charge shall specify the date by which the ad hoc committee shall complete its business and shall specify the means by which the ad hoc committee shall report its activities to the Commission.

Section 4. Regional Representatives.

A regional representative of each of the four regions of the United States, Northeastern, Midwestern, Southern, and Western, shall be elected or reelected, beginning with the 2005 annual meeting, by a plurality vote of the commissioners of each region, and shall serve for two years or until a successor is elected by the commissioners of that region. The states and territories comprising each region shall be determined by reference to the regional divisions used by the Council of State Governments. In the event a regional representative is unable to attend a regional meeting or a meeting of the executive committee, that region shall be authorized to designate an alternative representative who is a commissioner from the same region to act on behalf of a regional representative at a specified regional or executive committee meeting.

Article VIII - Finance

Section 1. Fiscal Year.

The Commission’s fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

Section 2. Budget.

The Commission shall operate on an annual budget cycle and shall, in any given year, adopt budgets for the following fiscal year or years only after notice and comment as provided by the Compact.

Section 3. Accounting and Audit.

The Commission, with the assistance of the executive director, shall keep accurate and timely accounts of its internal receipts and disbursements of the Commission funds, other than receivership assets. The treasurer, through the executive director, shall cause the Commission’s financial accounts and reports, including the Commission’s system of internal controls and procedures, to be audited annually by an independent certified or licensed public accountant, as required by the Compact, upon the determination of the Commission, but no less frequently than once each year. The report of such independent audit shall be made available to the public and shall be included in and become part of the annual report to the governors, legislatures, and judiciary of the Compacting States. The Commission’s internal accounts, any workpapers related to any internal audit, and any workpapers related to the independent audit shall be confidential; provided, that such materials shall be made available: (i) in compliance with the order of any court of competent jurisdiction; (ii) pursuant to such reasonable rules as the Commission shall promulgate; and (iii) to any Commissioner of a Compacting State, or their duly authorized representatives.

Section 4. Public Participation in Meetings.

Upon prior written request to the Commission, any person who desires to present a statement on

a matter that is on the agenda shall be afforded an opportunity to present an oral statement to the Commission at an open meeting. The chairperson may, depending on the circumstances, afford any person who desires to present a statement on a matter that is on the agenda an opportunity to be heard absent a prior written request to the Commission. The chairperson may limit the time and manner of any such statements at any open meeting.

Section 5. Debt Limitations.

The Commission shall monitor its own and its committees' affairs for compliance with all provisions of the Compact, its rules and these By-laws governing the incurring of debt and the pledging of credit.

Section 6. Travel Reimbursements.

Subject to the availability of budgeted funds and unless otherwise provided by the Commission, Commission Members shall be reimbursed for any actual and necessary expenses incurred pursuant to their attendance at all duly convened meetings of the Commission or its committees as provided by the Compact.

Article IX - Withdrawal, Default, and Termination

Compacting States may withdraw from the Compact only as provided by the Compact. The Commission may terminate a Compacting State as provided by the Compact.

Article X - Adoption and Amendment of By-laws

Any By-law may be adopted, amended or repealed by a majority vote of the Members, provided that written notice and the full text of the proposed action is provided to all Commission Members at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the action is to be considered. Failing the required notice, a two-third (2/3rds) majority vote of the Members shall be required for such action.

Article XI - Dissolution of the Compact

The Compact shall dissolve effective upon the date of the withdrawal or the termination by default of a Compacting State that reduces membership in the Compact to one Compacting State as provided by the Compact.

Upon dissolution of the Compact, the Compact becomes null and void and shall be of no further force and effect, and the business and affairs of the Commission shall be wound up. Each Compacting State in good standing at the time of the Compact’s dissolution shall receive a pro rata distribution of surplus funds based upon a ratio, the numerator of which shall be the amount of its last paid annual assessment, and the denominator of which shall be the sum of the last paid annual assessments of all Compacting States in good standing at the time of the Compact’s dissolution. A Compacting State is in good standing if it has paid its assessments timely.
