



## Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

### Midwest Region Meeting MINUTES

November 16, 2023 · 1:00 pm ET · Teleconference

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#### **Members in Attendance:**

1. Amy Vorachek (ND), Chair
2. Melissa Smith (IL)
3. Russell Marlan (MI)
4. Megan Milner (KS)
5. Sally Reinhardt-Stewart (NE)
6. Katrina Ransom (OH)
7. Bradley Lewandowski (SD)

#### **Members Not in Attendance**

1. Mary Kay Hudson (IN)
2. Sally Kreamer (IA)
3. Tracy Hudrlik (MN)
4. Joselyn López (WI)

#### **Guests:**

1. Holly Kassube (IL)
2. Simona Hammond (IA)
3. Juli Christensen (IA)
4. Nita Write (IN)
5. April Simmons (IN)
6. Fareeda Washington (KS)
7. Daryn Cobb (MI)
8. Susan Barnard (NE)
9. Alyssa Miller (ND)
10. Brian Bencker (NE)
11. Suzanne Brooks (OH)
12. Sarah Spader (SD)
13. Kathy Christenson (SD)

#### **Staff**

1. Ashley Lippert, Executive Director
2. Allen Eskridge, Policy and Operations Director
3. Mindy Spring, Administrative and Training Coordinator
4. Xavier Donnelly, ICOTS Project Manager
5. Drake Greeott, Web Development Manager

#### **Call to Order**

Chair A. Vorachek (ND) called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm ET. Seven out of eleven commissioners were in attendance, a quorum was established.

### **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

**Commissioner K. Ransom (OH) moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner M. Smith (IL) seconded. Agenda approved as presented.**

**Commissioner S. Reinhardt-Stewart (NE) moved to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2023, meeting. Commissioner R. Marlan (MI) seconded. Minutes approved as drafted.**

### **Discussion**

*Review of Mission:* The region reviewed its mission. The region had no changes to the mission.

- *Serve as a liaison between the Commission and states within a defined geographic area. Provide assistance, share best practices, recommend rule changes, and report to the Executive Committee.*

*Goal Discussion:* The region reviewed its goals:

- *Develop a list of known best practices, emerging trends and training opportunities.*

Commissioner K. Ranson (OH) shared a best practice on collaborative border state trainings.

Combining trainings allowed each state to hear more about how the other state operates and to discuss solutions.

Chair A. Vorachek (ND) noted that North Dakota regularly meets with Minnesota and would like to include South Dakota in future meetings.

Using dashboards to manage cases (example, getting PRs prior to SED-NE)

Commissioner S. Reinhardt-Stewart (NE) stated that they mirror the investigation period of two weeks for internal cases, keeping parity for external and internal needs.

North Dakota uses 30 days instead of the ceiling of 45-day timeframe.

Commissioner M. Smith (IL) shared that her state set a two-week timeframe as well as.

Executive Director A. Lippert indicated that there are ongoing issues with transportation, including increased retaking costs.

Chair A. Vorachek (ND) noted that jails holding interstate compact individuals have been problematic since COVID.

N. Wright (IN) mentioned that tolling was an ongoing issue and suggested a 90-day closeout once court matters are resolved.

Training Coordinator M Spring noted that a supervision end date in the future was essential if tolling is used.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that best practices can turn into training opportunities. The national office is working on developing and redeveloping guides such as jail administrators, parole boards, and more. However, it was beneficial for states to share their own guides.

- *Engage discussions on aligning compact practices with principles of reentry/justice reinvestment.*

Commissioner K. Ransom (OH) noted that Ohio has been looking at aligning practices with the most updated research for how to respond to violations, who should remain in a community vs. return to incarceration. They have contracted outside help to assist with implementation.

DCA A. Miller (ND) was working on developing a retaking guide to what was the best for a client vs. what was simply required by rules.

Training Coordinator M. Spring also noted that remote hearings are an issue that may need further discussion.

*Rule Amendments:* Chair A. Vorachek (ND) asked the region to be proactive and to submit rule proposals early enough to have meaningful discussion and action.

The region will continue its discussion at its next meeting.

### **Old Business**

There was no old/new business.

### **New Business**

Chair A. Vorachek (ND) asked whether there were any policy or practice issues around current trends or compact procedures that states encountered since the last region meeting.

Commissioner M. Smiht (IL) informed the region about a senate bill that was going into effect in January 2024. The bill deals with alcohol and drug testing and may affect supervision in other states that do not have the same policies.

Chair A. Vorachek (ND) asked the region members if they experienced any challenges or difficulties when interpreting the rules related to specific Compact cases that need clarification.

DCA H. Kassube (IL) stated that the timing of other states issuing warrants when someone was not available to them was a problem.

N. Wright (IN) shared an issue with sex-offender cases. These cases create confusion when a probationer has a prior sex-offense and is required to register in home state and the new offense could be a failure to register where the offense is not considered a sex-offense.

**Adjourn**

**Commissioner S. Reinhardt-Stewart (NE) motioned to adjourn. Commissioner M. Smith (IL) seconded.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 pm ET.