



Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

Midwest Region Meeting MINUTES

February 29, 2024 · 11:00 am ET · Teleconference

Members in Attendance:

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

Members Not in Attendance

1. Sally Kreamer (IA)
2. Tracy Hudrlik (MN)
3. Katrina Ransom (OH)
4. Joselyn López (WI)

Guests:

1. Holly Kassube (IL)
2. Simona Hammond (IA)
3. Nita Write (IN)
4. April Simmons (IN)
5. Nataly Sevilla (IN)
6. Joel Gruber (IN)
7. Fareeda Washington (KS)
8. Daryn Cobb (MI)
9. Alison Woodruff (MO)
10. Deanna Laird MO
11. Jacey Rader (NE)
12. Susan Barnard (NE)
13. Brian Bencker (NE)
14. Alyssa Miller (ND)
15. Sarah Spader (SD)
16. Chuck Frieberg (SD)
17. Cheryl Frost (SD)
18. Kathy Christenson (SD)
19. Brenna Kojis (WI)

Staff

1. Ashley Lippert, Executive Director

2. Allen Eskridge, Policy and Operations Director
3. Barno Saturday, Logistics Coordinator
4. Mindy Spring, Administrative and Training Coordinator
5. Xavier Donnelly, ICOTS Project Manager
6. Drake Greott, Web Development Manager

Call to Order

Chair A. Vorachek (ND) called the meeting to order at 11:01 am ET. Seven out of eleven commissioners were in attendance, a quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Commissioner M. Hudson (IN) moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner S. Reinhardt-Stewart (NE) seconded. Agenda approved as presented.

Commissioner (IN) moved to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2023, meeting. Commissioner M. Milner (KS) seconded. Minutes approved as drafted.

Discussion

Are there any policy or practice issues around current trends or compact procedures your state has encountered since the last region meeting? Commissioner M. Hudson (IN) shared that Indiana was considering a legislative bill requiring all out of state sex-offenders to register for life in Indiana. The Indiana compact office and the national office worked with the chair of the legislative committee to educate them on the interstate compact requirements and that this bill might require further statutory changes. The bill has been withdrawn.

Are there any challenges or difficulties your state has encountered when interpreting the rules related to specific Compact cases that need clarification? The region had no comments.

Are there any potential rule amendments that we need to consider from the region? Commissioner M. Smith (IL) suggested looking at deferred sentencing and providing clarity to the definition of supervision, especially with the new language of supervised individual.

DCA B. Kojis (WI) is working on a proposal to amend Rule 2.106 *Offenders subject to deferred sentences*. Wisconsin does not supervise deferred cases at the probation and parole level, these cases are supervised at the county level. Because of the way current rules are written, Wisconsin is out of compliance. She noted that it did not make sense for those cases to go through the Compact when a judge had already determined that they do not meet the criteria for formal supervision.

Commissioner M. Hudson (IN) noted that in Indiana, this group of individuals are seen in problem solving courts/treatment. In this case, the individuals are required to be supervised.

Executive Director A. Lippert noted that the Rules Committee will be meeting face-to-face in May to discuss the language changes in rules. She continued that the final deadline to submit rule proposals to the Rules Committee for the Commission's consideration is February 1, 2025.

DCA Midwest Region Chair's Update: DCA S. Hammond (IA) stated that the Midwest Region DCAs met in January. The region discussed deferred sentences and potential rule amendment as well as the discretionary function in ICOTS for non-qualifying misdemeanors.

The DCAs will meet again in the next couple of months.

Old Business

There was no old/new business.

New Business

Executive Director A. Lippert presented the latest Commission's news:

- The amendment to Rule 5.108(f) goes into effect on March 1, 2024. The Commission voted on the amendment at the last annual business meeting.
- Montana just appointed a new commissioner - Sean Goeddel.
- The national office made changes to the support site and updated the training modules as well as the stakeholder training guides.
- The Training Committee and the DCA Liaison Committee are working on a document to clarify the proper use of the violation reports and progress reports.
- The DCA Liaison Committee revised the Spirit of the Compact award. The person being nominated must be a field officer, Compact Office staff member or stakeholder. (Commissioners and DCAs are not eligible.) Written justification that focuses on a particular instance where the nominee went "above and beyond to reach the best solution" including contributions that support the nomination should be included in the nomination.

She added that the Commission will recognize one individual nominated in the year at the Annual Business Meeting. Their travel and attendance at the ABM will be covered by the Commission. Additionally, selected nominations may be featured in the Commission's newsletter and other publications dedicated to promoting best practices within the compact community.)

The region can find the award information on the Commission website.

DCA C. Frieberg (NE) thanked the national office for coming the South Dakota to provide in-person training.

Guest S. Barnard (NE) thanked Wisconsin for sharing new officer training resources. She also thanked Training Coordinator M. Spring for her assistance.

Commissioner S. Reinhardt-Stewart (NE) informed the region that Nebraska denies some supervision transfer requests due to a specific domestic violence protocol.

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am ET.