



## **Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision**

### **Training, Education, & Public Relations Committee MINUTES**

**2:00 pm ET • February 12, 2025 • Teleconference**

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#### **Members in attendance:**

1. Katrina Ransom (OH), Chair
2. Taryn Link (AK)
3. Chris Biehn (IN)
4. Megan Milner (KS)
5. Yolanda Bethea (MD)
6. Meggie Brewer (NC)
7. Joselyn López (WI)
8. Sally Reinhardt-Stewart (NE), Ex-officio member
9. Alison Woodruff (MO), Ex-officio member
10. Holly Kassube (IL), Ex-officio member

#### **Members not in attendance:**

1. Tracy Hudrlik (MN)
2. Christian Stephens (PA)
3. Kiesha Owens (LA), Ex-officio member

#### **Staff:**

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

#### **Call to Order**

Chair K. Ransom (OH) called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. ET. Seven voting members were present, a quorum was established.

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

**Commissioner J. López (WI) moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner M. Brewer (NC) seconded. Agenda approved.**

**Commissioner M. Brewer (NC) moved to approve the minutes from October 23, 2024, as presented. Commissioner C. Biehn (IN) seconded. Minutes approved as drafted.**

#### **Discussion**

*Training needs - recommendations from the regions:* Chair K. Ransom (OH) asked if committee members had received any specific training needs for the committee to consider as their goals for the upcoming year. No specific suggestions were provided.

Commissioner J. López (WI) raised concerns regarding some states questioning the use and legality of advisory opinions. The committee agreed that including a disclaimer on the advisory opinions' webpage, and possibly a footnote in the document itself, explaining their purpose and validity, would be beneficial.

*Public relations:* Executive Director A. Lippert provided an update on her presentation at the American Correctional Association (ACA) conference in Florida. She presented the Commission's documentary *The Road Home*, which was well received. ACA plans to invite ICAOS to a future conference to share a full screening of the film, followed by a Q&A session.

Additionally, Executive Director A. Lippert plans to connect with the APPA Executive Director to discuss the possibility of showing the ICAOS documentary at one of their training institutes.

Executive Director A. Lippert also suggested presenting the documentary to state councilmembers and other state partners. She discussed the possibility of editing the documentary from its current 60-minute length to a shorter version.

Commissioner J. Stromberg (OR) and DCA S. Brooks (OH) presented an update on the Commission's RNR principles at the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) winter institute in January 2025.

Executive Director A. Lippert shared that she participated in a podcast interview with the Nevada judiciary, which was well received and has since been posted on the Commission's website.

The Commission has applied to present a session at the Association of Paroling Authorities International (APAI) conference, focusing on the work of the RNR workgroup, specifically in relation to retaking and retransfers.

The national office has reached out to the American Jail Association (AJA) and the National Sheriff Association (NSA) to build relationships and explore opportunities to present at their conferences.

Policy and Operations Director A. Eskridge is engaging with the Commission's ex-officio members to strengthen and develop relationships. The committee acknowledged the value of round table discussions as an effective way to engage with community partners.

*Mentorship program for new commissioners:* The committee discussed various strategies to educate new commissioners on the Commission's operations and responsibilities. Policy and Operations Director A. Eskridge mentioned that the national office is working on creating micro-learning tools based on existing Commission resources.

The committee agreed to proceed with developing these microlearning tools, allowing new commissioners to complete them at their own pace. Additionally, it was decided to involve newer commissioners on the Training Committee to contribute their insights and expertise in the creation of these tools.

### **Old/New Business**

*ABM Workgroup recommendation - State Council Webinar:* The committee reviewed a webinar proposal from the State of Florida on enhancing state council engagement and training opportunities. Initially, the ABM Workgroup considered a presentation by Florida's Commissioner at the 2025 Annual Business Meeting, but they decided that hosting a webinar beforehand would be more beneficial. The webinar will provide an opportunity for the state council and compact members to discuss state council operations, allowing those unable to attend the ABM in Puerto Rico to participate and share insights. The 60-minute virtual session will feature speakers such as Florida's Commissioner or the Training Chair, with tools like live Q&A, polling, and breakout discussions.

The Training Committee agreed to collaborate with Florida to organize the webinar, tentatively planned for the summer.

**Commissioner C. Biehn (IN) moved to provide a state council webinar in the Summer 2025. Commissioner J. López (WI) seconded. Motion passed.**

The Training Committee will meet again in April to finalize the details for the webinar. Commissioner J. Winkler (FL) will be invited to participate in the meeting.

**Adjourn**

**Commissioner M. Brewer (NC) moved to adjourn. Commissioner J. López (WI) seconded.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m. ET.