



Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

South Region Meeting MINUTES

July 30, 2019 · 2:00 pm ET
Teleconference

Members in Attendance:

1. Brody Burks (TX), Chair
2. Tom Langer (AL)
3. James Berry (DC)
4. Joe Winkler (FL)
5. Chris Moore (GA)
6. Pete Fremin (LA)
7. Martha Danner (MD)
8. Christy Gutherz (MS)
9. Kevin Duckworth (OK)
10. Diann Skiles (WV)

Members not in Attendance

1. Kevin Murphy (AR)
2. [VACANT] (KY)
3. Julie Kempker (MO)
4. Timothy Moose (NC)
5. Jerry Adger (SC)
6. [VACANT] (TN)
7. Jim Parks (VA)

Guests:

1. Lee Ishman (AL)
2. Beverly Gilder (AL)
3. Elizabeth Powell (DC)
4. Tim Strickland (FL)
5. Brandon Watts (FL)
6. Jenna James (GA)
7. Joe Kuebler (GA)
8. Miriam Dyson (GA)
9. Don Werner (KY)
10. LaVon Hill (KY)
11. Gregg Smith (LA)
12. LaShonda Lee-Campbell (MD)
13. Rick Kuttenkuler (MO)
14. Ryan Halbert (MO)
15. Richie Spears (MS)
16. Betty Payton (NC)
17. Victoria Jakes (SC)

18. Christopher Harris (SC)
19. Rene Green (TN)
20. Deborah Duke (TN)
21. Pamela Thielke (TX)
22. Tina Balandran (TX)

Staff

1. Ashley Lippert, Executive Director
2. Allen Eskridge, Policy and Operations Director
3. Barno Saturday, Logistics and Administrative Coordinator
4. Kevin Terry, Website Analyst
5. Xavier Donnelly, ICOTS Project Manager

Call to Order

Chair B. Burks (TX) called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm ET. Executive Director A. Lippert called the roll. Ten voting members were present, establishing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Commissioner D. Skiles (WV) moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner M. Danner (MD) seconded. Agenda approved.

Commissioner D. Skiles (WV) moved to approve the minutes from January 10, 2019 as drafted. Commissioner T. Langer (AL) seconded. Minutes approved.

Discussion

State Updates on their State Council Meetings: Chair B. Burks (TX) stated that TX State Council meets twice a year to review and take actions on any Compact related matters. At the last meeting, the council discussed new rule proposals, FY19 and FY20 compliance audit, as well as personnel changes in the TX Compact Office.

The region discussed the number of times a state council should meet throughout the year. Tennessee indicated their state council meets on quarterly basis, while Alabama's State Council meets biannually.

Rule Proposals Discussion: South Region Chair and Rules Committee member B. Burks (TX) stated the rule proposals' comment period ended on July 1. The Rules Committee met in July and scheduled two more meetings in August to review the comments and finalize the rule proposals. The Commission will vote on these proposals at the 2019 Annual Business Meeting in San Diego, CA.

Executive Director A. Lippert noted that, the West Region withdrew its proposal to Rule 4.109 (c)(3) to require a copy of warrant to be attached to violation response via addendum in ICOTS.

Chair B. Burks (TX) requested the region members to share ideas they may have regarding rule proposals.

He started by discussing a proposal to *Rule 3.103 (a) Reporting Instructions*.

Chair B. Burks (TX) noted that it would be difficult to implement this rule in Texas. His state did not have a unified judiciary or prosecutor system; therefore, different counties handle such cases differently.

DCA R. Spears (MS) stated that currently Mississippi had sanctions they could impose on offenders. If this rule goes in effect, it would limit their ability to use a sanctioning grid and make them go in front of paroling authority or the courts instead.

DCA D. Duke (TN) stated that in 2016, Tennessee adopted a public safety act that mandated a probation office to impose sanctions. The new rule will negate and take away this authority.

Louisiana has the same provisions.

DCA G. Smith (LA) stated that Louisiana also had issues with the proposal to *Rule 5.103(1)(a) Mandatory retaking for offenders who abscond*. The proposal establishes a timeframe that a warrant is issued for an absconder within 15 business days of a Violation Report receipt. He noted that it would be a problem on the probation side to issue a warrant in such a short period.

Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Mississippi concurred with Louisiana stating that they had no control of judiciary nor the speed in which they can comply with issuing the warrant.

Chair B. Burks (TX) will relay this information to the Rules Committee at their next meeting.

Executive Committee Update: Executive Director A. Lippert informed the region that the national office completed its comprehensive review of ICAOS Advisory Opinions.

Chair B. Burks (TX) added that several of these opinions were revised or withdrawn being resolved via rule changes or no longer applicable.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that the national office completed its review of Benchbook and was working on an online document search and management system. Currently, there is no method by which an individual can search or cross reference ICAOS legal documents and related resources making it difficult to find the necessary information. An electronic document search tool will allow users to locate all the information published by the Commission on a specific topic, rule or process.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that this year, commissioners started receiving quarterly email updates of their compliance performance. The ICAOS Dashboard Compliance email notification includes a snapshot of the graphs for each of the six monitored compliance standards, as well as a PDF attachment containing the entire report. The screenshots will help compact members to identify areas of compliance that need attention. If a state chooses to examine their compliance performance in more detail, a link to the ICAOS Dashboards is included in the email. Earlier in July, the Compliance Committee reviewed the annual compliance dashboard reports and sent letters to states with a score below the 80% threshold.

The national office sent letters to states regarding the FY20 compliance warrant audit. She reminded states that the deadline to submit required documents was September 1.

Executive Director A. Lippert stated that the national office launched the 2019 Annual Business Meeting registration for San Diego, CA.

The national office completed its annual fiscal year audit. The FY19 Annual Report is also in its final draft stage.

Chair B. Burks (TX) informed the region that he attended the face-to-face Executive Committee meeting a few months ago. He complimented the Commission and the ICAOS National Office for a job well done.

He added that the Executive Committee reviewed ongoing compliance issues with the U.S. Virgin Islands and authorized providing them technical assistance.

AP 02-2018 Enhancement Requests for Electronic System Authorized by the Commission: Executive Director A. Lippert informed the region that the Executive Committee adopted a policy on Enhancement Requests for the Electronic System Authorized by the Commission. The policy defines procedures for referring and managing ICOTS enhancement requests authorized by the Commission and outlines the responsibilities for the request originator, Technology Committee, national office, and Commission. She added that the new enhancement process mimics the rule amendment process and gives all commissioners an opportunity to provide their input.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

The region will meet again on October 8 in San Diego, CA. The region will discuss the final rule amendments as well as hold the region chair elections.

Chair B. Burks (TX) expressed his interest in continuing to serve as the South Region chair.

Adjourn

Commissioner T. Langer (AL) motioned to adjourn. Commissioner C. Moore (GA) seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 2:34 pm ET.