**STATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance**

Mrs. Wanda Miller – VOCAL

Sinquetta Miles – DOC

Charles Edwards – At Large Appointee

Denson Clark – Governor’s Executive Appointee

Tom Langer – Alabama’s Commissioner

**Guest**

Lee Ishman – Alabama Deputy Compact Administrator

Beverly Gilder – State compact Administrator

**Quorum**

Yes

**Call to Order**

**Old Business** (from February 2024 meeting)

* The Bureau of Pardons and Paroles in December moved its offices from the Capital Commerce building back to its old location – 301 South Ripley Street, Montgomery, Al. 36104.

* The OS staff attended the ICAOS 2023 Annual Business Meeting in North Fork, Virginia last September. Lee and Beverly attending this year.

* DCA Lee Ishman will discuss any new rules and enhancements to ICOTS. Lee will discuss what changes or enhancements took place at the Annual Business Meeting.
* The OS Unit has an open-door communication policy. We will continue to maintain communication efforts with the field to address issues in supervising and tracking OS offenders. This policy has proven successful for the last several years as it provides communication between the field officers, the OS Unit, the stakeholders and is important when handling issues or situations.

* The OS Unit will continue to provide remedial training to those OS officers who are in need to be updated on the ICOTS system, process, and rules. This is done to assist the field officers who do not deal with OS offenders on a regular basis or are having issues.
* Request additional and/or updated training due to changes, enhancements, or modification to ICOTS procedures and ICAOS rules changes from the National Office for all ICOTS officers and supervisors when needed. Note: 2024 Rule Amendment & New Resources Training is set for 2/20/2024.
* The OS Unit will make every effort to maintain a 90% or higher compliance standard for the six (6) areas the Compact Unit is audited for by the National Office. The OS Unit continues to meet this goal through communication with the field officers.

* The OS Unit is occasionally experiencing situations where a judge will not issue a nationwide warrant. We must then explain to the judge why it must be done per ICAOS rules and what the sanctions could be to *our state* if the warrant is not issued nationwide. The OS Unit has been able to work these situations out with the judge or the receiving state at this point. However, we may need the State Councils assistance in the future to help us to stay in compliance with the ICAOS Rules and Procedures.

**New Business**

* The OS staff attended the ICAOS 2024 Annual Business Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. The theme was collaboration. We broke into groups to discuss innovative solutions, perspectives, the impact, and strategies to rule-making. These groups provide hands-on experiences and allow participant to express their viewpoints to develop effective solutions in the advancement of ICAOS governance. Communications was also a key factor and how other states handles issues involving supervision of supervised individuals.
* The National Office has contracted with Optimum Technology to build a ICOTS new application. The current framework and database are due to expire it functionality. The new application will cost approximately 1 million dollars. Each state voted on option 2, which was a 50/50 split. Fifty percent of the cost will come from savings and fifty percent will come from the states. Each state will pay for it by increasing their annual dues. This increase will affect FY 26 and FY 27.

* DCA Lee Ishman will discuss any new rules and enhancements to ICOTS. At this year’s ABM meeting, it was voted and passed that all Interstate Compact Staff should now address parolees and probationers that are supervised under the Compact as “Supervised Individuals”, this will not affect any local or state Legislative Laws. This will go into effect on November 1, 2024.
* ICOTS End User Training will be conducted on November 13th, 2024. This mandatory training is to be held at the Bureau’s Training Center in Hoover, Alabama. The participants will be certified once the training has been completed and will receive CEU credits for the training.
* The OS Unit has an open-door communication policy. We will continue to maintain communication efforts with the field to address issues in supervising and tracking OS offenders. This policy has proven successful for the last several years as it provides communication between the field officers, the OS Unit, the stakeholders and is important when handling issues or situations.

* The OS Unit will continue to provide remedial training to those OS officers who are in need to be updated on the ICOTS system, process, and rules. This is done to assist the field officers who do not deal with OS offenders on a regular basis or are having issues.
* Request additional and/or updated training due to changes, enhancements, or modification to ICOTS procedures and ICAOS rules changes from the National Office for all ICOTS officers and supervisors when needed. Note: All ICOTS End Users were required to retake and complete all the new updated ICOTS Training Modules. Officers who completed the training received 3 hours of CEU’s credits.
* The OS Unit will continue to make every effort to maintain a 90% or higher compliance standard for the six (6) areas the Compact Unit is audited for by the National Office. The OS Unit accomplishes this by notifying the supervising officer by email at least two (2) time before the deadline. Also, the National Office sends out reminder messages to the supervising officer.
* The OS Unit is occasionally experiencing situations where a judge will not issue a nationwide warrant. We must then explain to the judge why it must be done per ICAOS rules and what the sanctions could be for *our state* if the warrant is not issued nationwide. The OS Unit has been able to work these situations out with the judge or the receiving state at this point. However, we may need the State Councils assistance in the future to help us to stay in compliance with the ICAOS Rules and Procedures.
* There was a brief discussion about the Electronic Monitoring (EM) programs and Mandatory Release (MR) offenders. Mrs. Miller asked the eligibility for Mandatory Release offender. Mandatory Release offenders are eligible to be released from prison if they are within 12 months or less of their End-of-Sentence date. Per Bureau’s policy all MR offenders will be placed on the EM device. Offenders wanting to transfer out-of-state we will fill out their transfer application. The OS Unit makes sure that the receiving state knows about the EM condition. In the transfer request, we ask the receiving state if they are willing to enforce the EM supervision condition or if they will not be able to enforce that condition.

 **Discussion: None**

**Approval of Minute’s – 10/22/2024**

 **Adjourn**