



ASSOCIATION OF JUVENILE COMPACT ADMINISTRATORS
Mid-Winter Workshop
March 22, 2001
Reno, Nevada

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jim Chaffee, Arizona	Judy Miller, Arkansas	Amanda Beagles, Florida
Cindy Pittman, Georgia	M. Jody Taylor, Idaho	Sarah Jane Stark, Iowa
Karen King, Kentucky	Sarah LeBlanc, Louisiana	Beth Meng, Louisiana
Rose Ann Bisch, Minnesota	Lisa Johnson, Mississippi	Michael Reddish, NE-Parole
April Honey, Nevada	Michael Epstein, NJ-Parole	John Gusz, NJ-Probation
Pamela Helbling, North Dakota	Victor Congleton, Oregon	Donna Bonner, Texas
Margo Bryce, Vermont	Jeff Patnode, Washington	Pam Snodgrass, Nevada
Sharon Brophy, NJ-Parole		

Secretariat:

Kristine C. Prince

1. WELCOME

Mike Reddish welcomed everyone. Roll was taken by the Secretariat. Mr. Reddish asked Ron Leffler to report on the progress of the committees in yesterday's review of the AJCA Manual.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS ON AJCA MANUAL REVISION

Mr. Leffler reported that after reviewing assigned sections of the Manual for possible revision and/or rewrite, each of the committees has determined that all the necessary, up-to-date information was already contained in the Resource Manual which Donna Bonner compiled to assist in her training of new ICJ staff. It was felt that to revise the AJCA Manual would be a duplication of efforts, and that the Resource Manual should be adopted (with a few revisions) and renamed the AJCA Manual.

The following revisions were agreed to by those in attendance:

- Donna Bonner suggested that language be added clarifying the policy that the decision to accept or reject supervision of a juvenile is a decision that is made by a state's ICJ office, not by probation officers or parole officers.
- The AJCA Manual will be in a three-ring binder.
- The Manual will contain all of the information in the Resource Manual as a basic document.
- In the Table of Contents, the word "procedures" will be changed to "operations."
- A section on Legal Issues will be added which will contain both legal opinions regarding the Compact written by attorneys general in various states, and those

legal opinions authored by Dr. Mitchell Wendell along with other legal opinions sought by AJCA throughout the years.

- A section containing mediation summaries will be added.
- A section with important information from OJJDP will also be added. (Particularly important to include is the letter from OJJDP stating that they would not withhold federal funding if non-delinquent juveniles are detained.) All of the information on the Compact revision will also be contained in this section.
- On page 68 of the Resource Manual, item #4, add sub-item G, which would be a list containing conditions that ARE NOT sufficient reasons for a state to deny supervision.
- On page 69, number 8, add language stating that the type and quality of supervision is determined by the *receiving state*.
- On the same page, add a statement that the "*sending state* determines the legal status of the juvenile and whether s/he is a minor." These two additions will be given to the Rules and Regulations Committee with a recommendation that a new Rule be written covering them.
- It was suggested that another statement be incorporated that says: "Any court-ordered treatment for a juvenile who is residing in a receiving state shall be paid for by the sending state." Again, this will be given to the Rules and Regulations Committee for its review.
- The following statement should also be written into the Manual: "Restitution in and of itself is not a sufficient reason to continue supervision." Again, this will be given to Rules and Regulations for its review.
- It was suggested that the matrix on page 22 should be reconfigured to show the following information: column A would show the date that the Compact was signed into law in that particular state; column B would list the cite of the state statute containing the Compact; column C would show whether a particular state was signatory to the Runaway Amendment; column D would show whether a state was signatory to the Rendition Amendment; and, column E would state whether a particular state was a signatory to the Out-of-State Confinement Amendment.
- Regarding the matrix on page 60 (Juvenile Sex Offender Laws), add something to indicate the "level" of public notification required by the that state. Additionally, include the statutory cite as part of the matrix and anything other information considered important about that state's sex offender law.
- It was also suggested that another matrix be created which would show what state agency oversees the Interstate Compact on Juveniles Office, and whether that ICJ office is responsible for the Adult Compact and ICPC as well.
- Another suggestion was made to create a matrix detailing the date when the Governor in each state signed the Compact into law.
- Mr. Congleton suggested that the issues having to do with AJCA and the issues pertaining to the actual Interstate Compact be separated in the Manual. Jody Taylor suggested that those separations be titled "Part A" and "Part B."

The next step in the process is to make all of the revisions noted above, copy the

Manual for each state, and mail the proposed Manual to each state and territory thirty days before the Annual Meeting in New Orleans. Ms. Bonner and Mr. Edwards agreed to be responsible for this mailing.

Members were then divided into the four remaining committees and excused to convene in those committees and report back to the membership in the afternoon.

3. LUNCH

The group reconvened for lunch at 11:45 am. Brian Kunzi, Chief Deputy Attorney in the Nevada Attorney General's Office, was the guest speaker.

4. RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Judy Miller reported that the Rules and Regulations Committee met and would like to address the the following issues of concern:

- Ensure that there are instructions on the back of all forms.
- Review the transportation issue and write a recommendation regarding when juveniles should be escorted on their return to their home states.
- Survey each state/territory regarding their concerns with the Compact, and then compare those concerns to the current Rules and Regulations to determine if each concern is currently addressed in the Rules and Regulations or whether a new rule should be written to address that concern.
- Review the staff/case ratio and make a proposal regarding the recommended ratio between the two.
- The committee briefly discussed the issue of "confidentiality" and suggested language be added to Rule 4-109 stating that decisions regarding disclosure of information from a sending state to other state agencies within the receiving state be made "with respect to the confidentiality policy of the receiving state unless otherwise requested." Because of the importance of this issue, the membership asked the Rules and Regulations Committee to draft a proposed rule to be recommended to the full membership at the next Annual Meeting.
- The committee also briefly discussed the issue of sending states not retaking their parole/probation violators.

In further discussion on the transportation issue, it was pointed out that Article VI of the Compact states that the home state decides how a juvenile will be transported, including whether s/he will be escorted to their home state or not. It was suggested that under Rule 5-110, language be added that the decision regarding whether a juvenile will be escorted to the home/demanding state should be based on the assessments of both the home state and the asylum state. Mr. Edwards stated that the Form III as written,

gives this discretion to the judge of the asylum state. Ms. Beagles suggested that perhaps Form III should be changed.

Jim Chaffee felt very strongly that the Rules and Regulations of AJCA regarding the transport of juveniles should be consistent with the rules of public conveyance (airlines) and should take into consideration the exposure to risk and the liability of each state involved in the return. Donna Bonner pointed out that on page 82 of the Manual there is a list of rules for ICJ staff to review and consider when making a decision regarding transporting juveniles. It was decided that the Rules and Regulations Committee will research this topic and make a recommendation to the membership at the Annual Meeting. All of the issues listed above will be prioritized, and with time permitting, each will be reviewed and researched in that order.

5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Pamela Helbling reported that the Professional Development Committee will request the same budgetary amount for fiscal year 2002 as was requested for 2001. She further reported that one of the important goals of this committee during the past year was the completion of the Resource Manual. This task has been completed, and Donna Bonner and her staff of the Texas ICJ office were thanked for all of their work in compiling this Manual.

Another AJCA newsletter is being planned, and articles for the newsletter are to be sent to the Secretariat by April 15th. Ms. Helbling reported that Donna Bonner has agreed to provide the training in August at the Annual Meeting, and either Amanda Beagles or Cindy Pittman will assist her with this training. The display booth has become old and cumbersome and the committee recommends that a new, lighter model be purchased. The old display booth will be stored by the Nevada ICJ office until such time as it is determined that it is no longer needed.

The committee also proposes that the tri-fold ICJ brochure be rewritten and updated. Beth Meng and Sarah LeBlanc of Louisiana agreed to revise both the small ICJ Handbook as well as the brochure in time for the Annual Meeting. They will also update the photographs and descriptions for the new display booth. Ms. Meng will also investigate a small gift to be given to attendees at the Annual Meeting.

Ms. Helbling presented the names of proposed regional representatives for the next year:

Northwest Region
Midwest Region

April Honey of Nevada
Pamela Helbling of North Dakota

Midwest Central Region
Mideast Coast
Northeast Coast
Southeast Coast

Lyle Cunningham of Missouri
Fred McDonald of West Virginia
Linda Bombaci of New Hampshire
Dawne Gannon of South Carolina

Mike Reddish will write a letter to these regional representatives thanking them for accepting this responsibility, and will attach a newly written job description for regional representatives.

6. STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mike Epstein reported that the Strategic Planning Committee will bring a proposed new strategic plan to the Annual Meeting. The strategic plan that was adopted in 1998 will be revised and will become what Mr. Epstein called the "Interim Strategic Plan." This plan will be in effect until the new compact has been enacted. The committee proposed the following:

- Regional representatives will be responsible to convene regional meetings at least once during the year to discuss regional issues. Those meetings may be held via teleconference.
- Training be provided at the Mid-Winter Workshop and the Annual Meetings each year on public safety issues such as the transfer of sex offenders, the air transport of juveniles, etc. Specific topic areas would be identified each year and training would be coordinated and presented.
- It is recommended that additional funds to provide technological assistance be sought.
- It is recommended that the duties, responsibilities and titles of officers of the Association be written into the AJCA Bylaws, perhaps considering whether to change some titles or delete some offices.
- The committee also recommends that two training packages be developed for use by ICJ staff in their home states to train their own ICJ staff, and to train judges. They further suggest that a team of trainers be developed who could possibly become traveling ICJ trainers for states who request that training.
- The committee recommends that a Transition Committee be formed which will assist states during the time period when states are transitioning from the current Compact to the new Compact.

Mr. Epstein reported that the Association should be proud of the fact that many goals in the 1998 Strategic Plan have been reached such as the creation of a Mediation Panel, the creation of an AJCA webpage, and Secretariat services have been contracted for. The Committee will put the above recommendations into a report which will be sent out to the membership before the Annual Meeting.

7. AJCA DRAFTING RECOMMENDATION COMMITTEE

Mike Reddish reported that his committee met and brainstormed a list of recommendations they felt were important to be presented to the new ICJ compact drafting committee. Those recommendations will be presented and discussed tomorrow.

8. ADJOURN

Ron Leffler asked that letter of thanks be sent to those guests who have provided welcoming remarks or luncheon remarks. April Honey of the Nevada ICJ Office agreed to write those letters to Judge James Farris, Brian Kunzi, and Willie Smith.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kristine C. Prince, AJCA Secretariat
April 3, 2001