



Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

VIRTUAL **ABM 2021**

TRAINING, EDUCATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Commissioners of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

From: Joselyn López, Chair, Training, Education & Public Relations Committee
and Commissioner, State of Wisconsin

Training Committee Members

Joselyn López (WI), chair, commissioner
Martha Danner (MD), commissioner
Russell Marlan (MI), commissioner
Sally Reinhardt-Stewart (NE), commissioner
Roberta Cohen (NM), commissioner
Katrina Ransom (OH), commissioner

Patricia Coyne-Fague (RI), commissioner
Jim Parks (VA), commissioner
Tracy Hudrlik (MN), Ex-officio, DCA
Mark Patterson (OR), Ex-officio, DCA
Tanja Gilmore (WA), Ex-officio, DCA

The Training, Education and Public Relations Committee is responsible for developing and enhancing educational resources and training materials for use by affected member states and stakeholders. In addition, the committee is responsible for enhancing public safety through awareness and consistent administration.

The committee continued to improve and expand training efforts to assist states in educating criminal justice professionals involved in Interstate Compact business, with some accomplishments highlighted below.

Last year, committee members identified the need for state council training. As a result, the national office reorganized the State Council Toolkit in the national website to enhance the state council resources available for all states.

Compact Staff training

In February, Training Coordinator Mindy Spring delivered compact staff training, with the assistance of DCA Liaison Committee Chair, Suzanne Brooks, and members of the Training Committee: Katrina Ransom and Tracy Hudrlik.

The training covered the following updates and announcements:

- *ICOTS email bounces - What states need to know/do to prevent them*
- *2021 ICOTS enhancements – What’s coming?*
- *New DCA Liaison Chair & New Dashboard program kicking off July 2021*
- *FY22 Rejection Assessment plans/pilot update*
- *ICOTS data issues Reporting Instruction requests*

In April, the national office hosted training sessions for compact staff that included two new Dashboards: Case Closure Reason and Transfer Decision Summary, practical use of the Dashboard Retaking Report, and a preview of the DCA Dashboard Program.

We continue to have between 5,000 - 6,000 staff accessing our on-demand modules.

Training Bulletin 1-2021i

At the recommendation of the West Region, the Training Committee approved a training bulletin to address ICOTS user behavior when processing requests for reporting instructions (RFRI) for offenders living in the receiving state at the time of sentencing. The training bulletin emphasized that states should cease the practice of submitting RFRI for ‘living in the receiving state at the time of sentencing’ as “expedited” when outside the 7-day timeframe.

American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) Institute Presentations

This year, we were chosen to present at the American Probation and Parole Association Winter and Summer Training Institutes. In February 2021, our virtual presentation “*Navigating Interstate Compact during a Pandemic*”, included interactive activities for the audience and highlighted the collaboration that states experienced as they worked together to find solutions for challenges during the pandemic. In August 2021, our in-person presentation “*Interstate Compact Success for you and your state*” will cover effective strategies for improving compliance and addressing enforcement of the compact rules.

Special thanks to DCA Tracy Hudrlik (MN) and Training Coordinator Mindy Spring for their work and support during these presentations.

Roundtable Discussions

As states continued to experience the impact of the pandemic, the national office hosted roundtable discussions on topics that proved to be challenging activities for some states. The roundtables aimed to engage stakeholders, promote discussion, and encourage solutions that support the mission and purpose of the compact.

Roundtables held in March 2021 included discussions on *Remote Sentencing/Hearings* and *Electronic Signatures*. General Counsel Tom Travis, Special Counsel Rick Masters, National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) Executive Director Nelson Bunn, and Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) member Katherine Stocks moderated these roundtable discussions. As a result of feedback received on the Remote Sentencing discussion, General Counsel Travis drafted a white paper - *Legal Implications of Remote Hearings in Relation to*

ICAOS Rules. In addition, the national office included a question-and-answer section in the white paper to provide clarification on concerns that resulted from the roundtable discussions.

In August 2021, the roundtable included discussion on *Retaking Challenges*. This discussion aimed to engage states in sharing how they comply with Rule 5.105 - Retaking within 30 days and discuss retaking challenges and practices states implemented to collaborate during the pandemic when conducting extraditions. This roundtable discussion was moderated by ICAOS Vice-Chair Commissioner Hope Cooper, James Group Consulting CEO, Alicia James, and National Sheriff's Association (NSA) member Sheriff Heath Taylor.

Identified goals for FY 2022

1. Expand our outreach to stakeholders and other organizations to increase education on the mission of the Compact.
2. Training on rule amendments and ICOTS enhancements for warrant tracking.

I want to thank our committee members for their collaboration and ongoing support this year. Furthermore, this committee would not be able to deliver these quality resources without the work, knowledge, and talent of the national office team, especially our Training Coordinator, Mindy Spring. Thank you for all you do to support our mission. We are always looking for new members that can help us build on our training, education, and outreach. Please spread the word and consider joining us next year!

Thank you to all Commission members for your attention and continuous support to the efforts of the Training, Education, and Public Relations Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Joselyn López

Joselyn López
Chair, Training, Education & Public Relations Committee
Commissioner, State of Wisconsin