Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision
Victim Representative Teleconference Meeting
February 22, 2007
4:00 p.m. EST

Victim Representatives in attendance

Dan Levey, AZ
Denise Giles, ME
David Voth, PA
Suzanne Elwell, MN
Pat Tuthill, FL
Meg Carter, MO
Ann Gustafson, WI
Janet Good, KS
Amy Vorachek, ND

Guests

Warren Emmer, ND (ICAOS Chair)
Bill Rankin, WI (Rules Committee Chair)
Don Blackburn, Executive Director ICAOS
Jan Olson, Victim Advocate

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. Nine victim representatives were present. Pat Tuthill chaired the meeting and welcomed all participants and guests. She asked everyone to introduce themselves and their position.

The agenda was reviewed and P. Tuthill asked D. Blackburn to address the group regarding state councils. He presented the following:

- Overview of the Compact and explained that the legislation requires a State Council be appointed in each state or territory with a victim representative as a member to be active and represent victim interests to their state council.
• Role of victim representative on state council is to be active and bring to the state council public safety and victim concerns regarding how the Compact rules impact these issues.

• Goal of ICAOS is to have active state councils advising commissioners on operation of compact, rules, public safety, victim issues, and compliance issues.

• Sex offender issues have surfaced in many states and the victim representatives can reach out to victim organizations and report back to the state council the atmosphere and concerns regarding sex offender transfers, travel and victim safety.

S. Elwell asked D. Blackburn what kind of issues he thought victim reps should take to their council. Don responded that he thought it best that they bring general victim issues that they see as concerns in their state to inform probation and parole. He added that he believed states may have issues that are specific to their states or region. Don also indicated he did not expect them to bring specific case issues.

P. Tuthill encouraged victim reps to reach out to victim organizations in their state to provide education and awareness of the Compact and solicit input from these organizations on victim issues to inform their commissioner and state councils. Outreach and support from other victims’ organizations is essential to victims’ interest being represented.

This concluded D. Blackburn’s presentation and Bill Rankin ICAOS Rules Chair was introduced by P. Tuthill and asked to briefly provide an overview of the rules process and how rules come before the Commission for change or promulgation of new rule.

**Rules**

B. Rankin explained the process of how the rules committee functions and the various ways rules may be introduced or changed:

• Introduced by any or all of the 4 four regions within the country
• Introduced by any of the standing committees
• Introduced by Commissioners or rules committee members.

• The rules committee reviews proposed rules for conflicts with other rules, technical corrections, and necessary language changes that will not change the intent of the rule as submitted to the rules committee.

• The rules committee has an obligation to carry forward the proposed rules to the full Commission by posting proposed rules and justification on the National Commission web site.
• If a rule is submitted by a Commissioner or committee member and after review is not adopted by the rules committee it will not go to the full Commission. The rationale is that often there may be a duplication of similar ideas that are combined, or proposals that are submitted are not clear and do not have adequate justification.

• Also, a Commissioner may propose rule change to the region or on the Commission floor.

• B. Rankin provided a brief overview of current proposed rules provided on web site that will be reviewed at the February 27, 2007 meeting of the rules committee in Lexington.

• Draft rules will be posted on the Commission web site by mid March for review by and comment by Commissioners, regions, standing committees, state council members and victims. This concluded B. Rankin’s discussion on rules.

P. Tuthill will address the following concerns regarding rules at the next meeting of the rules committee on February 26.

• In rules 3.103 and 3.106 involves supervision of the offender reverting back to the sending state while the offender physically remains in the receiving state with no supervision.
• Also a serious concern related to rule 4.111 regarding an offender requesting to return to the sending state and not allowing enough time for victim notification and safety.

**Other**

P. Tuthill told everyone that the National Office will begin working with her to develop a victim representatives’ page on the web site and requested suggestions from all of the representatives of what information should be included and most helpful to them in their role.

A brief survey for victim representative will be developed by P. Tuthill to determine how their level of involvement with the Compact and how it may be improved as well as their overall recommendations.

There was no further discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.