April 12, 2011

Attendees: Commissioner Margarita Perez, Deputy Compact Administrator
Frank M. Torres, Assistant Deputy Compact Administrator (Probation) Mario Fox,
Assistant Deputy Compact Administrator (Parole) Maurice Geddis, Deputy Attorney
General Deborah Bain, Judge Ronald S. Coen, Chief Probation Officer Wesley Forman,
and San Joaquin Sheriff Stephan Moore

Absent: Mr. Anthony Williams

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m.

I. Introductions
   a. New Member Deputy Attorney General/Victim Rights Representative
      Deborah Bain: Explained her extensive involvement in working with victims and
      expressed her interest and excitement in being a part of this council.

      Frank Torres mentioned he updated the phone list, asked Council members to verify
      information is correct.

II. Approval of Minutes
    a. Minutes for California State Council Meeting October 19, 2010: Minutes
       were approved previously to today’s meeting.

      A discussion began about AB 109, with attendees expressing many concerns about its
      implementation. Counties worried that the main details have yet to be figured out
      insufficient staffing as is, GPS, and lack of funding/possibility of funds running out.
      Judges divided on what to think is best. Uncertainty mentioned on the effect it will have
      on Interstate Council.

III. Commissioner’s Report
    a. New Interstate Compact Rules: Due to Clemens case in Washington State,
       the definition of a “violent offense” was changed.
    b. Annual Business Meeting: Will be held September 12-14, 2011
    c. Vacant Position – Speaker of the Assembly Appointee: Many letters
       written, but still a vacancy.
IV. Parole Reform (addressed later)

V. State Council Members Report
   a. Victim Rights – Deborah Bain: Mentioned that victims are concerned and objecting to the implementation of AB 109. Also, provided information for the events going on that week, as it was Victims’ Rights Week.
   b. Judicial – Judge Ronald Coen: Mentioned that the courts have more important things to be worried about than AB 109, and that they are suffering as it is with the caseloads.
   c. Sheriff – Stephan Moore: Mentioned the effect the Herzog case had on his county and reiterated the affect AB 109 will have on the counties. Deborah Bain mentioned that one thing the counties can work on is to help provide victim information, as restitution money has been collected for them and is waiting to be handled over. Frank Torres mentioned he could offer training to the counties on how Interstate operates.
   d. Probation – Wesley Forman: Mentioned that beds are already limited parole would require serious community supervision, that budgetary aspect is scary, but that even though they are anxious to see what happens, they are willing to do what is needed.
   e. Senate Rules Committee – Anthony Williams: absent

Break

IV. Parole Reform – Margarita Perez
   a. Robert Ambroselli, Director, for the Division of Adult Parole Operations, came to talk about Parole Reform: Parole is continuing to move forward, in lieu of Parole Realignment, with respect to: the number of offenders requiring supervision will be fewer than the current number, as Probation takes over many of the case; the emphasis on being policy driven and evidence-based practices; the groups that will be discharging; Span of Control; Global Positioning System for gang members; California Parole Apprehension Team lowering the number of parolees-at-large; the conversion of Parole Agent IIs from Specialist to Supervisors; and the Field training Program.

A discussion began about community resources, how a big part of the job market in California is for the government, and how more jobs need to be created for convicted felons. In addition, that all groups that affect and are affected by parolees, should discuss how to deal with and help them.

Back to agenda order.

VI. Compliance Report
   a. Goals for Next Audit: Last year’s report was not very good, with a 60 percent compliance rating for the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision rules. The plan is to have a much better report for this year.
   b. Re-organization for ICU Staff: Due to vacancies because of the budget, there is reorganization going on in the Interstate Compact Unit. People are learning new duties so that all the work is done.
VII. Parole Issues – Frank M. Torres: Hoping for exceptions on hiring, so that vacancies will be filled and wanting to offer training so that people know how the process works.

VIII. Probation Issues – Mario Fox: Hoping to bring Probation up to speed with where it needs to be.

IX: Questions: Frank mentioned that he would like to have these California State Council meetings twice a year or even quarterly. He suggested having the meeting downtown for convenience. He requested topics that members want to discuss, so that they can be included on the agenda.

X. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.