



## Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision

### West Region Meeting MINUTES

April 23, 2020 · 2:00 PM ET  
Teleconference

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#### **Members in Attendance:**

1. Roberta Cohen (NM), Chair
2. Rebecca Brunger (AK)
3. Dori Littler (AZ)
4. Dwight Sakai (HI)
5. Sheri Sliva (NV)
6. Jeremiah Stromberg (OR)
7. Dan Blanchard (UT)
8. Mac Pevey (WA)
9. Coltan Harrington (WY)

#### **Members not in Attendance:**

1. Merideth McGrath (CO)
2. Jeff Green (CA)
3. Denton Darrington (ID)
4. Cathy Gordon (MT)

#### **Guests:**

1. Lorna Colver (AK)
2. Matthew Poyzer (AZ)
3. Chris Smalling (CA)
4. Devon Whitefield (CO)
5. Michael Knott (HI)
6. Victoria Vigil (NM)
7. Bill West (NV)
8. Mark Patterson (OR)
9. Jennifer Calvo (Utah)
10. Tanja Gilmore (WA)
11. Pat Odell (WY)

#### **Staff:**

1. Ashley Lippert, Executive Director
2. Allen Eskridge, Policy and Operations Director
3. Barno Saturday, Logistics and Administrative Coordinator
4. Mindy Spring, Administrative and Training Coordinator
5. Xavier Donnelly, ICOTS Project Manager

### **Call to Order**

Chair R. Cohen (NM) called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm ET, nine out of thirteen members were present; a quorum was established.

### **Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

**Commissioner J. Stromberg (OR) moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner M. Pevey (WA) seconded. Agenda approved.**

**Commissioner D. Littler (AZ) moved to approve the minutes from January 22, 2020 as drafted. Commissioner S. Sliva (NV) seconded. Minutes approved.**

### **Discussion**

*State Updates:* Chair R. Cohen (NM) asked the members to share their state updates.

*Oregon:* Commissioner J. Stromberg (OR) stated that Oregon continued to track offenders and collect data. He noted that they had to educate some of their counties that issued blanket denials.

He reminded the region to register and attend an upcoming judicial webinar provided by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). The webinar highlights interstate compact processes relevant to courts and the Compact's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chair R. Cohen (NM) thanked Commission Chair J. Stromberg for his leadership in this difficult pandemic time.

*Alaska* – Commissioner R. Brunger stated that AK was limiting all compact transfer requests and travel permits, but was reviewing and processing cases to the extent possible with existing mandates and altered operations. She added that due to set limitations, their state troopers were not able to complete extraditions. They would reevaluate the situation in early May.

*Arizona* – Commissioner D. Littler stated that AZ was waiting on the Governor's decision if there was a need to extend their quarantine. Per his orders, sentencing was postponed when possible. Probation and parole are operating as normal as possible. They utilized different methods and variety of technology to supervise offenders and complete investigations. AZ is limiting outgoing discretionary cases and parole is limiting extradition for non-violent offenders.

She thanked the Commissioner of New Mexico for working together on difficult cases and upholding the purpose of the Compact.

*California* – DCA C. Smalling stated that recently CA met with the national office. As a result, CA was working on putting together a plan for processing transfers going forward. They were under mandated shelter in place orders and therefore were restricting CA offenders' movement.

*Colorado* – DCA D. Whitefield stated probation and parole are continuing to operate. They send regular updates on their restrictions and limitations to the national office.

*Hawaii* – Commissioner D. Sakai noted that the Governor may extend their state of emergency. HI is restricting extraditions and retakings. Everyone must impose a 14-days quarantine. The Compact Office has limited access into their court building due to current shelter in place orders.

*Idaho* – DCA J. Mesick noted that things were business as usual in ID and its borders were open. ID is not doing home visits and is restricting incoming discretionary transfers. Processing transfer request process is also taking longer than usual.

*Nevada* – Commissioner S. Sliva stated that NV, as the rest of the states, are telecommuting and processing only mandatory cases. She introduced their new DCA – Bill West.

*Utah* – Commissioner D. Blanchard stated that they were processing limited incoming and outgoing transfer requests. They asked to communicate difficult transfer cases through the compact office. He noted due to telecommuting, the emails are the preferred way of communication. UT will evaluate their restrictions in place by May 1.

Instead of a mandated quarantine, UT asked everyone to complete a health questionnaire upon their arrival.

*Washington* – Commissioner M. Pevey noted that Washington had not implemented any formal state restrictions related to COVID-19. They are under Governor’s orders to “Stay at Home and Stay Healthy”. They are minimizing contact with the population they supervise, and were at 50% operational capacity. They are in the process of releasing approximately 1,000 individuals early from their prisons.

*Wyoming* – Commissioner C. Harrington stated that his state imposed a 14-day quarantine for everyone coming in to the state. The Compact Office is working remotely and only processing mandatory transfers. He added that of concern are prosecutors who refuse to issue warrants.

*New Mexico* – Chair R. Cohen stated that New Mexico prolonged its quarantine until May 15. They continue monitoring offenders and processing transfer requests. NM Governor issued a stay-at-home orders that limited the Compact Office’s operations, since some staff did not have an access to computers.

NM prisons had no COVID-19 cases.

She thanked the West Region states for working together and cooperating in this difficult time.

*DCA West Region chair report* – DCA T. Gilmore (WA) stated that the West Region DCAs had two meetings in the last month to discuss states’ operational issues during the pandemic.

She expressed gratitude toward the Compact states and their creativity and coordination to maintain the movement of offenders.

*Executive Director Report:* Executive Director A. Lippert presented her report to the committee:

The national office held a full Commission meeting on April 21, 2020. The Commission adopted new Rule 2.111 regarding Emergency Suspension of Enforcement of Rules and invoked it to authorize the Executive Committee to enact its emergency provisions to suspend enforcement of the Commission's rules. Subsequently, the Executive Committee suspended timeframes for Chapters 3, 4, and 5 of ICAOS Rules.

She added that the national office continued monitoring the compliance dashboard data focusing on states' acceptance and rejection rates.

She thanked the DCA region chairs who held multiple DCA region meetings in the last couple of months. The national office used issues brought up at these meetings to build a curriculum for the *Interstate Compact Response to COVID-19* webinar.

She reminded the region that the Technology Committee would post the proposed ICOTS enhancements for review and comments next month and encouraged everyone to comment.

The national office was working on the ICOTS Training Integration Project to host the new training tooltips and tutorial pages within ICOTS. The project was scheduled to be launched by fall 2020.

The Executive Committee discussed a contingency plan for the upcoming Annual Business Meeting and would be making a decision in late May or early June.

### **Old Business**

*Tribal and best practices:* Chair R Cohen (NM) stated that due to the current pandemic, she postponed scheduling a meeting for an ad hoc committee to look at the issue of supervision in tribal regions and development of best practices.

### **New Business**

Commissioner D. Little (AZ) inquired about the legality of offender's electronic signature made without witnesses during the quarantine. She will submit her question to the national office for review and potential referral to the legal counsel.

The region will meet again on July 23, 2020.

### **Adjourn**

**Commissioner M. Pevey (WA) moved to adjourn. Commissioner D. Blanchard (UT) seconded.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 pm ET.