



State of Connecticut JUDICIAL BRANCH

COURT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION
ADULT PROBATION AND BAIL SERVICES
455 Winding Brook Drive, Glastonbury, CT 06033

Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision State Council Meeting Minutes November 15, 2024

Present: Gary Roberge (IC Commissioner & Executive Director, Judicial-CSSD); Alexandra Modica (Deputy Compact Administrator & Chief Probation Officer II, Judicial-CSSD); Joseph Garibaldi (Deputy Compact Administrator & Executive Director, BOPP); Rhianna Gingras (Director of Parole & Community Services, Department of Correction); Gabriel Crespo (Corrections Counselor, Offender Classification & Population); Marc Pelka (Deputy Director II, Office of Victim Services); Timothy Diakon (Parole Supervisor, BOPP); Ruth Muniz (Parole Supervisor, BOPP); Joseph Sanford (Detective, CT State Police); Sarah Nightingale (Interstate Compact Coordinator, Judicial-CSSD)

Minutes Taken by: Sarah Nightingale

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Commissioner Roberge called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Greetings and individual introductions took place. It was noted that Corrections Counselor Crespo was filling in for Counselor Supervisor Osden and Director Snyder from DOC. Deputy Director Pelka was in attendance for the Office of Victim Services.

2. Consideration of the Agenda for the 2024 Interstate Compact State Council Meeting:

Deputy Director Pelka moved to approve the agenda. DCA Garibaldi seconded. Motion passed.

3. Consideration of the Minutes from November 7, 2023, State Council Meeting:

Commissioner Roberge moved to approve the minutes. DCA Garibaldi seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

It should be noted that Deputy Director Marc Pelka abstained from the vote on approval of the previous meeting's minutes as he was not in attendance at the meeting.

4. State Council Changes

Commissioner Roberge welcomed the following (new) participants:

- Division of Public Defender Services- John Day (formerly TaSahun Bowden-Lewis)
 - Commissioner Roberge made a motion to accept John Day as council member in place of Chief Bowden-Lewis. DCA Modica seconded. Motion passed.

5. Commissioner/ Executive Committee/East Region Meetings Update

Commissioner Roberge stated he continues to sit on the Executive Committee for the Commission as well as the Chair of the Finance Committee.

He reported a project to re-write the ICOTS system is underway and will be moved to a new platform. He mentioned state dues have been raised and CT Probation splits their dues with DOC. He noted he has been working with ICAOS Executive Director Ashely Lippert, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro and her representatives, and a council of state governments to see if there is grant money that can be used for the project.

Commissioner Roberge reports that CT is in good standing with our surrounding states. He has been on a few calls with NY regarding CT probation cases where Supervised Individuals relocate while their CT VOP is pending. He noted the National Office is involved and they are comfortable with CT's position on the matter. He spoke to other East Regions who indicated they continue to supervise supervised individuals while on VOP status, however, CT statutes prohibit CT from doing this.

DCA Modica added that overall CT has great working relationships with the East Region States.

6. Annual Report

DCA Garibaldi presented highlights from the Annual Report. He mentioned the DCA Dashboard which helps states look at cases where supervised individuals have been retaken and then re-transferred. Director Gingras stated Parole is doing a great job exhausting all sanctions before moving forward with a VOP. DCA Modica stated Probation has conducted 12 retaken/re-transferred in the last year.

He talked about the new DCA Toolkit which is on the ICAOS website and offers training for new DCA's. He noted it is a great resource and 24,000 users have accessed it so far.

He discussed that effective 11/1/24 the term Offender was replaced with the term Supervised Individual.

He advised the group that the National Acceptance rates have stayed the same.

7. Annual Business Meeting

Using a PowerPoint presentation at the State Council Meeting, DCA Modica provided an overview of the ABM that was held in Arizona. She highlighted the Collaborative Progressive Sessions on rule proposals that were held for Absconder Issues, Reporting Instructions for those Living in the Receiving State, Probable Cause Hearings, 'Revocation' Definition & Retaking for New Convictions, and 'Supervised Individual' Rule Package.

Regarding probable cause hearings, Supervisor Diakon stated parole treats supervised individuals as CT residents and automatically conducts a probable cause hearing. He noted rarely do they not find

probable cause. DCA Modica noted probation does not conduct probable cause hearings, as per the compact, the Supervised Individual only must admit to one of their violations, which has not been an issue thus far.

Deputy Director Pelka asked how the succession rates of Interstate Compact cases compare to regular probation cases. DCA Modica stated she would investigate this and get back to the entire committee. Deputy Director Pelka also asked about victim notification and DCA Modica explained the process.

Director Gingras asked about the rule proposal process and what the timeframes are. Commissioner Roberge explained the process.

DCA Modica congratulated Commissioner Roberge, as he was reappointed for the upcoming term as the Chair of the Finance Committee and remains as Treasurer.

Deputy Director Pelka stated he wants to investigate ways to broaden the use of VINE and possibly incorporate it with Interstate Compact. Commissioner Roberge said he would like to continue this conversation and mentioned John Gillis, who is from the National Organization for Victim Assistance and is on the Interstate Compact Commission. Commissioner Roberge stated Mr. Gillis works to make sure the victims' voices are heard.

8. ICAOS Guides

Using the PowerPoint presented during the State Council Meeting, DCA Garibaldi discussed a new resource provided by the National Office, that can be provided to third parties to answer frequently asked questions.

9. Compliance Summary (January 1, 2024 – November 4, 2024)

DCA Modica noted CT is well above 80% threshold on all standards.

Commissioner Roberge thanked DCA Modica, DCA Garibaldi, and Director Gingras for all the work being done to meet these standards.

10. Parole Update

DCA Garibaldi expressed his appreciation for the work of the Parole Compact Office; Supervisor Timothy Diakon, and his Parole Officers.

He mentioned his staff has been working with Director Gingras's fugitive unit on extradition training. Supervisor Diakon noted this has been very helpful and thanked Director Gingras. Director Gingras said it has been great having his staff there to collaborate.

He also introduced Supervisor Muniz, as she has newly joined the Parole IC Office.

11. Probation Update

DCA Modica reported staff changes in the IC office and field due to retirements. She mentioned Pre-Service Training was conducted on 11/8/24 and 23 new probation officers now have access to ICOTS. She indicated the IC office will be relocating in 2026.

DCA Modica thanked Commissioner Roberge, Regional Manager Aquino, and all IC staff.

Commissioner Roberge thanked DCA Modica and her team.

12. Other Member Updates

No updates

13. Old Business/New Business

No old or new business to report.

14. Adjourn

Gary requested a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Deputy Director Marc Pelka and Joe Sanford. The Motion passed and Commissioner Roberge adjourned the meeting at 9:45 am.