

## ICPC Reassessment Survey Results

Surveys were handed out to the Juvenile Court Judges attending the Judicial Conference in Oklahoma City, November 5, 2007. The survey questions were a result of interviews of several Juvenile Judges who are members of the Juvenile Justice Oversight committee.

The following are the questions and the responses to the Reassessment Survey:

1. How often do you converse with Judges in other states to discuss legal issues regarding placement of a child?

Response: 56% never 44% seldom

Comments: a. DHS worker wants to do it all and it takes forever

b. Setting up these conferences is problematic

c. Have spoken with a judge on two occasions re: child's placement issues

d. On occasions; not enough cases for this; no communication with out of state judges

2. ICPC placement decisions are more of a bureaucratic process than a court Function.

Response: 44% Always 40% Often 4% Seldom to Never

Comments: a. setting up these conferences is problematic

b. Bureaucratic issues are the problem with this

c. Only uses courts when process is stuck

d. There were two cases where public schools became involved

3. You issue court orders for ICPC to help expedite the process.

Response: 28% often 24% seldom 20% always 13% never

Comments: a. Make frequent regulation 7 findings

b. only three cases in thirteen years

4. There should be changes in state law to expedite ICPC placements.

Response: 60% strongly agree 19% agree 13% disagree

Comments: a. Do not see how state law changes can help

b. Just streamline the process

c. Have followed process, local worker notifies OKC staff- 2 month delay in OKC before referral to other states. Common problems.

d. The changes have to be federally mandated before coming to the states.

5. There should be changes in child welfare policy or practice to expedite and enhance the interstate placement procedures.

Response: 72% strongly agree 20% agree 3% disagree

Comments: a. Decentralize the process- the state DHS offices are so slow

b. Make more like OCCJEA(?)

6. How often do you require the testimony or presentation of evidence of parties from another state in consideration of an ICPC placement?

Response: 44% never 37% seldom 15% often

No comments

Do you have further comments regarding ICPC process?

-Slow burdensome – various states, including Oklahoma are “territorial”.

-There is no way to know whether the worker is doing their job in applying in a timely way.

-We have no adequate mechanism for doing {ICPC} before adjudication phase. Disposition seems to be earliest trigger.

-We need a streamlined “shortcut” process for temporary “visit” placements, so kids can visit relatives at holidays, summer, spring break, etc.

-“It stinks”; it takes 3 months – 1 year to go through.

-Most problems have been with other states. Changing our DHS policy would not help.