

## Introduction

The Children's Bureau at HHS has directed the Court Improvement Program in Virginia to assess how the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) has worked and how, if at all, the courts of Virginia have become involved in the process so as to expedite the interstate movement of children. As a result, we have prepared this survey as one of the ways to collect and provide information to the federal authorities regarding this issue.

You are receiving this survey because you are the Director of a local Department of Social Services or Human Services in the Commonwealth of Virginia, or because your agency Director has identified you as a person with knowledge about your agency's involvement with the ICPC and he/she has asked you to respond.

So that you could properly prepare for this online survey, a PDF copy of the survey instrument was provided to you for review and use as part of any investigation into your agency's ICPC involvement. Please respond to the questions presented based on your own personal knowledge, the review of any documents you deemed relevant, and any discussions you had with other social workers/caseworkers from your agency.

The questions below should take no longer than 10 minutes to answer. Please note that questions marked by a red asterisk (\*) must be completed in order to move forward. Also, you will not be able to move backward through the survey once you enter an answer.

If during the time that you are completing this survey you are called upon to do something else, you can exit the survey form and return to it at a later time. To do so, click the "Exit this Survey" button in the upper right corner of the survey. When you wish to return to the survey to complete your answers, click on the survey link we originally provided to you. You will be allowed to continue answering the questions from where you exited.

### \* 1. I am currently

- The Agency Director
- The Agency Deputy Director
- The Agency Chief of Services
- A Child Welfare Supervisor for the Agency
- Other (please specify)

### \* 2. I have been in my current position

- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- 16-20 years
- More than 20 years

### \* 3. From available information, our agency has been involved in the following number of cases in which the ICPC was an issue during the past 5 years:

- 0-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- 16-20
- More than 20

★ 4. During the past 5 years, our agency has seen improvement in the manner in which ICPC cases are processed.

Yes

No

**Based on the experience of your agency over the past 5 years, please answer...**

★ 5. Please identify from the list below, five (5) reasons your social workers/caseworkers have observed for delay in the ICPC process. Rank each reason from one (1) to five (5), 1 being the most common to 5 being the least common. You will be allowed only one response per number column.

	1	2	3	4	5
Delay in entry of the court order placing the child in care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in the agency preparing the ICPC package to send to the Sending State ICPC Office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in the Sending State ICPC Office reviewing and approving the package and sending it to the Receiving State ICPC Office	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The need by the Sending State ICPC Office to return the ICPC package to the local agency for some reason, such as it was incomplete	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay by the Receiving State ICPC Office processing the case and sending it to the local agency in the Receiving State for the Home Study to be done	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The need by the Receiving State ICPC Office to return the ICPC package to the Sending State ICPC Office for some reason, such as it was incomplete	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in the Home Study being done by the local agency in the Receiving State	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Negotiations between the two ICPC offices regarding issues of concern found by the Home Study	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining required FBI checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining Sending State – State Police checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining Sending State - Local Police checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining National Sexual Offender Registry checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining Sending State Sexual Offender Registry checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining Receiving State Sexual Offender Registry checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining Sending State Child Welfare Registry Checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Delay in obtaining Receiving State Child Registry Checks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

★ 6. When a placement in a case was identified as requiring ICPC approval, how often did your staff bring that to the attention of the judge(s)?

90% - 100% of the time

75% - 89% of the time

50%- 74% of the time

25% - 49% of the time

Less than 25% of the time

I don't know

**\* 7. Who brought the issue to the attention of the judge(s)? (Mark all that apply. If you don't know, mark only "I don't know" and proceed to the next question.)**

- The Caseworker/Social Worker
- The Child Welfare Supervisor
- The Attorney for the Child Welfare Agency
- The Parent's Attorney
- The Children's Attorney/GAL
- I don't know
- Other (please specify)

**\* 8. If the judge(s) was/were made aware of the need for an ICPC application, when, in most cases, was it brought to his/her/their attention?**

- Within five (5) working days of the agency's discovery that an ICPC was needed
- Between one (1) week and thirty (30) days of the agency's discovery that an ICPC was needed
- Between thirty (30) and ninety (90) days of the agency's discovery that an ICPC was needed
- More than ninety (90) days from the agency's discovery that an ICPC was needed
- I don't know
- Other (please specify)

**\* 9. When the judge(s) became aware that the ICPC was required, how often did s/he/they make a placement in the other state without following ICPC requirements?**

- 90% - 100% of the time
- 75% - 89% of the time
- 50%- 74% of the time
- 25% - 49% of the time
- Less than 25% of the time
- The judge(s) always follow(s) ICPC requirements
- I don't know

**\* 10. When the judge(s) became aware that the ICPC was required, how often did s/he/they continue cases for further information when the process was not yet completed?**

- 90% - 100% of the time
- 75% - 89% of the time
- 50%- 74% of the time
- 25% - 49% of the time
- Less than 25% of the time
- Never
- I don't know

**\* 11. If the judge(s) did continue cases in order for the ICPC process to be completed, on average how far away did s/he/they continue the cases?**

- To the next regularly scheduled hearing, no matter how far away that was
- A hearing was scheduled within a short period of time (30 days or less) for an update on progress to the judicial officer and the parties
- A hearing was scheduled within 30-60 days for an update on progress to the judicial officer and the parties
- I don't know

**\* 12. How often did the attorney(s) for the agency ask for an early court review date regarding any ICPC matter?**

- 90% - 100% of the time
- 75% - 89% of the time
- 50%- 74% of the time
- 25% - 49% of the time
- Less than 25% of the time
- I don't know

**\* 13. How often did the attorney(s)/GAL(s) for the child ask for an early court review date regarding any ICPC matter?**

- 90% - 100% of the time
- 75% - 89% of the time
- 50%- 74% of the time
- 25% - 49% of the time
- Less than 25% of the time
- I don't know

**\* 14. How often did the attorney(s) for a parent ask for an early court review date regarding any ICPC matter?**

- 90% - 100% of the time
- 75% - 89% of the time
- 50%- 74% of the time
- 25% - 49% of the time
- Less than 25% of the time
- I don't know

**\* 15. If no attorney was in court for your agency, how often did your social worker/caseworker ask for an early court review date regarding any ICPC matter?**

- 90% - 100% of the time
- 75% - 89% of the time
- 50%- 74% of the time
- 25% - 49% of the time
- Less than 25% of the time
- I don't know
- Our lawyer is always in court

**\* 16. If a 2nd delay occurred in cases regarding the ICPC process before the court, what action did the judge(s) most typically take when s/he/they learned about this delay?**

- There was never a 2nd delay
- No action
- S/he/they ordered a report on progress to be given at the next regularly scheduled hearing
- S/he/they scheduled a hearing within a short period of time (30 days or less) for an update on progress to the judge and the parties
- S/he/they scheduled a hearing within 30-60 days for an update on progress to the judge and the parties
- S/he/they took direct action – i.e. called his/her/their Sending State ICPC Office, or called judicial officer in receiving state
- I don't know
- Other (please specify)

★ 17. If the judge(s) took some action at any time, what did s/he/they normally do to ensure that everyone knew what was happening? (Mark all that apply. If you don't know, mark only "I don't know" and proceed to the next question.)

- Allowed counsel to be present during any phone call by the judge(s) to obtain information on ICPC progress
- Allowed no one to be present during any phone call by the judge(s) to obtain information on ICPC progress
- The judge(s) provided a written report to the parties and/or counsel of the results of the phone call and what was discussed
- The judge(s) sent an email with copies to the parties and/or counsel
- The judge(s) sent any email s/he received in response to the parties and/or counsel
- Nothing
- I don't know
- Other (please specify)

★ 18. If members of your staff have taken action by calling, writing, or emailing an ICPC office or contacting a judicial officer in another state regarding an ICPC case, what has been the most typical response your staff have received from the people that you called, wrote, or emailed?

	Consistent cooperation	Inconsistent cooperation	No cooperation	No contact
In the Sending State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
From Receiving States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
From judicial officers in Receiving States	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

★ 19. In what DSS Regional Boundary are you located?

- Western Region
- Piedmont Region
- Northern Region
- Central Region
- Eastern Region

## THANK YOU!

Your participation in this survey is very much appreciated.

Please submit your answers by clicking the "Done" button below.