



MILITARY INTERSTATE
CHILDREN'S COMPACT
COMMISSION

Note from the Commission Chair

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Dear State Commissioners and Ex-Officio Members,

Recently I was reflecting on some of the habits and practices we've had to adopt to cope with this pandemic – wearing masks in public, washing and sanitizing hands frequently, disinfecting everything from shopping carts to the pump at the gas station. It reminded me of my Army service, in which we regularly practiced to fight in a chemical or biological warfare environment. The practices were similar – wearing special clothing, avoiding contamination, cleaning and disinfecting equipment. But the thing is, our mission didn't change – attack to seize an objective, defend a terrain feature, etc. What changed was the conditions under which we had to accomplish our mission.



The same is true for us right now. The purpose of the Interstate Compact and the mission which our organization exists to complete – the successful educational transitions of military-connected children – remains the same. But the conditions under which we must accomplish it – a global pandemic, nationwide demonstrations for social justice, heightened awareness of racial discrimination, the changing tempo of PCS transfers – have changed and I believe will continue to change.

It's important that we keep our eye fixed on our duty – to use the lawful authority of the Compact to help those children negotiate their transfers from state to state. And like the best trained units in our military, we have the knowledge, the abilities, and the will to make it happen, regardless of the conditions in which we must operate. Transitions are happening and schools are preparing to open this fall, although I anticipate things will look different as we embrace a new normal. We will be needed to do our part, and flexibility is key.

We have some housekeeping items to attend to. End of year reports are due, with the deadline extended to September 30. Annual dues are also coming up. And if you haven't held a state council meeting this year, please be sure to do so! The national office staff and the Executive Committee are available if you need help.

I want to thank you all for your responses to the mid-year survey. Your feedback and insights are valuable in helping us chart the way forward.

As you know, this year's Annual Business Meeting will be held solely through web

based conferencing. It will be challenging, but I'm sure we can do it. For the basic format, the Executive Committee is considering two days of four hours each. Some of the activities that we would normally see at the ABM, such as breakout sessions, may take place in another format (webinars, for example). The national office staff are working on the details of how we will make the meeting function, such as procedures for being recognized to speak, how to move or second, and how to vote. The Leadership Nominating Committee is also working on the procedures for holding the election of officers.

Independence Day is this weekend. While our celebrations this year may look a little different, our nation's love of freedom and commitment to the rights enumerated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution remain unchanged. As we support those who stand on the front line to defend our freedom, I wish you all a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Respectfully,
John I. "Don" Kaminar
Chair

FY20 END-OF-YEAR REPORTING

- Member state annual reports are typically due by June 30. Due to the pandemic, the report and annual state council meeting deadline **are extended to Wednesday, September 30, 2020.**
- Review the *State Council Meeting Report* to ensure your meeting date is posted and provide your documentation (agenda and minutes) to the national office for the your state archive. The report will be published in the Annual Report and the ABM Docket Book in September.
- Check your state webpage to ensure the information listed is accurate.
- For more information on state requirements, refer to *Policy #1-2017: State Coordination* or contact the national office for assistance.



**VIEW THE STATE COORDINATION POLICY
AND THE STATE COUNCIL MEETING REPORT (6/23/3030)**

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