



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**April 19-21, 2022**

**Origin Hotel in Lexington, KY**

PRESENT	Laura Anastasio Ernise Singleton Brian Henry John "Don" Kaminar Steve Bullard Chad Delbridge Mary Gable Shelly Ramos Dianna Ganote Lori Phipps	Connecticut Commissioner Louisiana Commissioner Missouri Commissioner Arkansas Commissioner Kentucky Commissioner Wyoming Commissioner Maryland Commissioner Texas Commissioner Int Military Representative, USDOD Director of Op, School Liaison Prog.	Chair Vice Chair Treasure & Finance Past Chair Compliance Comm & Outreach Rules Training Ex-Officio Department of the Air Force
STAFF	Cherise Imai Lindsey Dablow Stephanie Ramsey Samantha Nance Stuart Michael	Executive Director Training & Operations Assoc. Communications Associate Embry, Womack, Merritt, and Nance General Counsel Embry, Womack, Merritt, and Nance General Counsel	Secretary
EXCUSED	Chuck Clymer	Military Representative, USDOD	

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. Chair Laura Anastasio called the meeting to order at 8:12 AM ET on Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

**ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL**

2. Roll call was conducted by Cherise Imai, Executive Director (ED). A quorum was established.

**ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

3. Commissioner Ernise Singleton (LA) motioned to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Don Kaminar (AR). Motion carried.

**ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

4. Commissioner Kaminar motioned to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2022, meeting as presented, seconded by Commissioner Steven Bullard (KY). Motion carried.

**ITEM 5 – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

5. Commissioner Singleton motioned to move into Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Kaminar.
6. Commissioner Singleton motioned to exit Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Kaminar.

7. **Model Compact Language Citation Error Identified by Utah Commissioner Ben Rasmussen** – Commissioner Kaminar motioned for General Counsel to 1) conduct a fifty state and District of Columbia review of the model compact language and provide a legal memorandum on the compact language citation error and reference to the National Guard and Reserve; and 2) conduct a second review to ensure there are no other errors in the Compact language. Further to review the entire statute to ensure there are no other errors. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullard. Motion carried. (OPEN ITEM)
8. **California San Diego Unified School District Case** – Commissioner Singleton motioned to file a notice of default letter with the state of California and the San Diego Unified School District to begin the process of litigation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kaminar. Motion carried. (OPEN ITEM)
9. The Executive Committee (EXCOM) asked ED Imai to notify the California Commissioner once the letter was approved and was sent to the school district by General Counsel.
10. **Kentucky Elizabethtown School District Case** – Commissioner Chad Delbridge (WY) motioned that the EXCOM take no further action on the case and authorize General Counsel to prepare a letter to send to the parent. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mary Gable (MD). Motion carried. (OPEN ITEM)

## ITEM 6 – REPORTS

11. **Chair** – Chair Anastasio said the National Guard and Reserve item would be discussed later in the agenda. She added she looked forward to the upcoming Tier Group Meetings next month.
12. **Vice Chair** – Vice Chair Singleton reported the Mentor Meet and Greet was held on March 18<sup>th</sup> and the event went well. She said the ex-officio group met twice and exchanged information activities of their organizations, and what the Commission is doing.
13. **Executive Director** – ED Imai reviewed the recent. She reported on trainings and the webinars by the National Office. ED Imai noted the Council of State Governments (CSG) affiliates met on the 8<sup>th</sup> and they will survey organizations on the partnerships. She also reported the CSG Headquarters participated in a virtual trivia contest to celebrate Month of the Military Child.
14. **General Counsel** – Ms. Samantha Nance reported Counsel conducted a statutory analysis either external to or part of the Compact for PA, VA, FL. In addition, they issued a legal advisory for on request by Hawaii Commissioner Kathleen Berg on Kindergarten and school accreditation as contained in the Compact. At the moment, the advisory remains with the Rules Committee and will be sent to the EXCOM for review.
15. **Rules** – Commissioner Gable reported the Committee reviewed the Rulebook; are developing an Open Policy to address requests to the National Office for data and information; and will review the Hawaii Legal Memorandum on Kindergarten at their next meeting.
16. **Leadership Nomination** – Commissioner Kaminar reported the Committee met on March 21<sup>st</sup> and they will meet again on May 16<sup>th</sup>. They reviewed the electoral process timeline and documents. They also discussed prior Committee and Annual Business Meeting (ABM) feedback from Commissioners. He noted New York Commissioner Debra Jackson agreed to serve as Vice Chair.

17. **DOD Liaison** – Ms. Dianna Ganote, Military Representative, reported a recent GAO study was released on Special Needs and Impact Aid. She also noted they continue to promote their campaign to build awareness on the School Liaison program through the services and Military OneSource. This will elevate the presence and awareness of the SL role and support for military families. Ms. Lori Phipps thanked the Members for their support both national and local level. She stressed the collaboration between Commissioners and School Liaisons in their state.

## ITEM 7 – OLD BUSINESS

18. **Florida Commissioner Update** – ED Imai reported a memoriam was made in Mrs. Buehn's name to St Mary's in Jacksonville. In addition, on behalf of the Commission, a card was sent to Commissioner Bob Buehn notifying him of the donation. He expressed gratitude and thanks for the EXCOM's thoughtfulness.

19. **MIC3 Awards** – Vice Chair Singleton motioned to approve outgoing Maine Commissioner, Tyler Backus, for the State Service Award, seconded by Commissioner Kaminar. Motion carried.

20. ED Imai reported a Community Award was presented to Ray Proctor, Superintendent of Business Services, Fallbrook Unified Elementary Schools, for his support of the Compact and military students. This award did not need EXCOM approval.

21. **Tier Group Relaunch** – Vice Chair Singleton reported the meetings will be held in the May/June timeframe. She and Chair Anastasio met with the Tier Group Facilitators discuss the agenda and rollout. Members agreed a presentation by the General Counsel on the statute citation and the NGR are appropriate topics.

22. **Vanderbilt Research** – ED Imai reported Jenny Cogbill's survey of the Commission was completed in February. Ms. Cogbill will follow up with members that indicated willingness to participate in follow up interviews. The study will be completed by the end of June with the final report in August.

**Recess** – Commissioner Singleton motioned to recess for lunch at 11:50 AM ET, seconded by Commissioner Kaminar. Motion carried.

**Reconvene** – Commissioner Singleton motioned to reconvene at 1:07 PM ET, seconded by Commissioner Kaminar. Motion carried.

## ITEM 8 – NEW BUSINESS

23. **Communications Update** – Ms. Stephanie Ramsey, Communications Associate, provided an update on the Month of the Military Child (MOTMC) activities. She said many states have sent her or tagged the Commission with photos from their events which have been reshared through social media. In addition, the EXCOM would be doing a special TikTok for MOTMC. She met recently with Bloom, the teen led organization, to discuss opportunities to partner with the Commission. The discussion is on-going however it is primarily centered on educating teens about the Compact which is an untapped opportunity. Finally, she announced the Commission had new TikTok and Instagram accounts, and she has been posting and sharing information on the Compact. ED Imai recognized Ms. Ramsey's contribution to the National Office and Commission which has increased our support for military families.

24. **U.S. Secretary of Education Support Letter and MOTMC** – ED Imai reported Secretary Cardona provided a support letter on the Compact which was disseminated to state superintendents of

education. This has been shared widely on our social media and with the Commission in this month's newsletter. In addition, Secretary Cardona has been speaking about the Compact at various events and venues. Yesterday, he spoke at the National Military Family Association conference and highlighted the importance and awareness of the Compact. Members expressed appreciation for this support and the Secretary's engagement.

25. **Suggestion: Stipends for New Commissioner Mentors** – ED Imai reported Commissioner Greg Lynch suggested the Commission provide stipends for the time and support mentors provide to new members. While members thought this was a novel idea, they expressed concern about a conflict of interest with state ethics laws, as Commissioners are appointed by their states and serve without compensation. Due to these concerns, members concluded they could not support this idea. However, they acknowledged the importance of mentors and the role they have in supporting new members. They agreed a recognition at the ABM would be appropriate to acknowledge their time and volunteerism, and perhaps a token of appreciation could be provided to mentors.

26. **Ambassador Program (from C&O)** – ED Imai reported the C&O Committee forwarded this item to the EXCOM for review. In sum, the recommended the item be dropped from the strategic plan. While it may have been a good idea three years ago, it was no longer relevant, and it would not add value to the Commission. Based on this recommendation, the EXCOM agreed to not pursue this item. Commissioner Delbridge thanked the EXCOM and said he would notify the Committee.

27. **2022 ABM Planning** – Members agreed the purpose of the event was a business meeting to address the affairs of the organization, and to prepare members for their role and responsibilities in managing the Compact in their respective state. Members agreed it was not a conference.

28. Members discussed overall cost and reviewed the cost analysis. They noted costs continue to grow, and the pandemic has increased overall event costs. They agreed that due to the pandemic, registration fees would remain the same this year. However, they may consider an increase next year.

29. They reviewed the draft itinerary and agreed on the two-day format, which is different from the prior half-full-half itinerary. The change was based on member interest and feedback for a two-day format. They also considered feedback from the ABM post-event survey.

30. **Mid-Year Survey** – ED Imai reported prior to the pandemic, the Commission conducted a mid-year survey. The prior survey sought feedback on the strategic plan, and prior to that, questions were committee driven and focused on collecting data on training and communication of the Compact by member states. ED Imai asked if the EXCOM would like to do a survey this year. Members agreed if a survey was conducted, it was purposeful in intent, and data gathered would be relevant to our work; and perhaps a survey of members could focus on the strategic plan. Members tabled this item for discussion at a future meeting. (OPEN ITEM)

31. **Strategic Plan** – Chair Anastasio yielded the floor to Consultant Brian Riggs to facilitate the Strategic Planning session.

**Recess** – By acclamation, Chair Anastasio recessed the meeting at 5:00 PM ET.

**Reconvene** – By acclamation, Chair Anastasio reconvened the meeting at 8:00 AM ET on Wednesday, April 20, 2022.

32. **Strategic Plan** – Consultant Brian Riggs facilitated the Strategic Planning session.

**Recess** – By acclimation, Chair Anastasio recessed the meeting at 4:00pm ET.

**Reconvene** – Treasurer Brian Henry motioned to reconvene the meeting at 8:00 AM ET on Thursday, April 21, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Kaminar.

#### **ITEM 9 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

33. **April MOTMC and Purple Up!** – Ms. Ramsey previewed the MOTMC TikTok video. Members agreed it was great and fun to do. Ms. Ramsey reported tags on social media has increased and the toolkit for MOTMC has been used widely. ED Imai added Ms. Ramsey will create a video and slide deck of all the events taking place around MOTMC.

34. **Upcoming Events** – Training and Operations Associate, Ms. Lindsey Dablow, provided an overview of recent trainings and webinars.

35. **Successful Transition Video Program** – Ms. Ramsey reminded members about the program and submittals are due June 1.

36. **Future ABM Locations** – Members provided suggestions to staff for consideration.

#### **ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT**

36. Chair Anastasio thanked members for their hard work over the past two days and wished everyone safe travels home.

37. Commissioner Bullard motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Treasurer Henry. With no further business to conduct, Chair Anastasio adjourned the meeting at 8:52 AM ET.