

Interstate Compact for Juveniles

November 2015

When a juvenile runs from North Carolina to another state or to North Carolina from another state, or when a juvenile is adjudicated delinquent in one state and needs to be supervised in another state, interstate procedures apply to facilitate coordination between the two states.

In the N.C. Juvenile Code, those procedures were set out in Article 28, the Interstate Compact on Juveniles, for many years. A revised compact, the **Interstate Compact for Juveniles**, is set out in Article 40 of the Juvenile Code. The revised compact governs North Carolina's interactions with all states in juvenile interstate matters. Article 28 was officially repealed (by S.L. 2005-194, s. 2) when Georgia became the last state to enact the revised compact in 2014.

Article 40, unlike the earlier compact, does not provide specific procedures or guidance for dealing with interstate matters involving juveniles. Instead, it addresses purposes, definitions, and the organization and role of an Interstate Commission for Juveniles. That commission is charged with promulgating the rules to which states look for procedures and guidance in juvenile matters involving more than one state. So, the Juvenile Code no longer informs court counselors, attorneys, judges, or others about what should occur when a juvenile runs to or from North Carolina or needs supervision in a state other than the one in which the juvenile was adjudicated. However, judges and other court officials can access the complete ICJ Rules on the commission's website.

The ICJ Rules are lengthy and can be difficult for those unfamiliar with the compact to understand. Fortunately, the commission has developed several tools to help judges navigate ICJ proceedings, including a bench book and online toolkit. These resources and others are available at the commission's website, at the links below:

1. **Toolkit for Judges.** This easy-to-use online toolkit is available on the ICJ website and provides quick and easy access to information needed by judges, attorneys, or other legal professionals.
<http://www.juvenilecompact.org/Legal/ToolkitforJudges.aspx>
2. **Bench Book.** A 2015 **Bench Book for Judges & Court Personnel** can be accessed at the link below. Because it is quite lengthy, you might review or print the Table of Contents, beginning on page 2 (of 286 pages), to determine which parts are likely to be most useful to you.
http://www.juvenilecompact.org/Portals/5/library/legal/benchbook/Bench%20Book_Web.pdf
3. **Rules.** The Rules issued by the Interstate Commission for Juveniles can be found at http://www.juvenilecompact.org/Portals/5/library/rules/ICJ%20Rules_Final.pdf. The Rules are also included in the Bench Book described above, beginning at page 136 (of 286).
4. **Forms.** The Interstate Commission for Juveniles prescribes forms for use in interstate matters. These can be found at <http://www.juvenilecompact.org/Forms/Forms.aspx>.
5. **Other information.** The home page of the Interstate Commission for Juveniles is <http://www.juvenilecompact.org/>. From there, you can link to "About" "Events" "Forms" "Directory" "Training" "Legal" "Resources" "Tools".