

1978 WL 35066 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

August 28, 1978

**\*1 RE: Interstate Compact on Juveniles**

Grady A. Decell  
Director  
Youth Services  
P. O. Box 21487  
Columbia, S. C. 29221

Dear Mr. Decell:

You have inquired about implementation of various provisions of the Interstate Compact on Juveniles. Section 24-17-10, et seq., S. C. Code of Laws (1976). After a review of the questions presented, I am of the opinion that the procedures for implementation of the Compact are properly matters which should be attended by those charged with carrying out the provisions of the Compact.

As you are aware, the Director of Juvenile Placement and Aftercare (J.P.A.) has been designated as the administrator of the Compact. Article XII of the Compact states that the governor of each state shall designate an officer who, acting jointly with like officers of other party states, 'shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of the compact.'

It appears that the Interstate Compact authorities have undertaken to coordinate notice to family and other officials of a juvenile's return and will coordinate the actual return of the child to his home or alternative placement. Such procedure has apparently been adopted in furtherance of the goals outlined in the Compact, and the procedure outlined appears to be reasonably related to implementation of the Compact.

Article IV of the Compact concerns run-a-way juveniles who have not been adjudged delinquent. That Article provides the mechanism for return of run-a-way juveniles, and the Article specifically sets out the procedures to be followed for the return of such juveniles. It is my opinion that the procedures outlined in Article IV must be complied with before a juvenile is turned over to the appropriate authorities of the demanding state.

I trust that this letter has sufficiently answered your inquiries. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

With kind regards.  
Very truly yours,

William K. Moore  
State Attorney

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