



**Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency
for the District of Columbia**
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

CSOSA FACT SHEET

May 2004

INTERSTATE COMPACT

Did You Know?

- Offenders under Interstate Compact supervision make up approximately three percent of the nation's probation and parole population.
- The Interstate Compact for the Supervision of Adult Offenders (established in 1937) was the first compact enacted by all fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.
- DC Code offenders who are granted parole by the USPC to reside in other jurisdictions are supervised by the Federal Probation Office.
- Generally, the sending state determines the duration of supervision; the receiving state determines the degree of supervision.
- The Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision has been in effect since June 2002 when adopted by 47 states. The new compact aims to improve offender accountability and increase cooperation among signatories.

The Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision (Interstate Compact) is an agreement permitting supervision of probationers and parolees across state lines. The Compact allows the transfer of adult offenders in the United States while ensuring cooperative efforts and mutual assistance to prevent crime and to rehabilitate offenders. Offenders under Interstate Compact supervision make up approximately three percent of the nation's probation and parole population.

The Interstate Compact was preceded by the Interstate Compact for the Supervision of Adult Offenders which arose following the enactment by Congress of the Uniform Enabling Act of 1937. The Act provides that a state "may enter into a compact with any of the United States for the mutual helpfulness in relation to persons convicted of crimes or offenses who may be on probation or parole." It was the first compact enacted by all fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Compacts are viewed as contracts between states; however, they also have the supremacy granted federal law, taking precedence over conflicting state laws.

Prior to enactment of the first Compact, offenders could not leave the state in which their conviction occurred; or, in certain cases they were subject to release conditions which required that they leave the jurisdiction never to return. There was no thought given to their supervision when relocating to other jurisdictions. The primary purpose of the Interstate Compact was to prevent such situations.

The Interstate Compact is a highly effective tool in promoting the safety of the public through the control of offenders' movement between states. It recognizes legitimate needs of certain offenders who meet eligibil-

ity criteria to relocate to another state to improve their chances for successful rehabilitation. It also ensures public safety by recognizing the needs of both the sending and receiving states to continue their supervision of offenders.

The National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 transferred parole grant jurisdiction from the DC Board of Parole to the United States Parole Commission (USPC) in August 2000. Since that time, DC Code offenders who are



granted parole by the USPC to reside in other jurisdictions are supervised by Federal Probation who report violations directly to the USPC. DC probationers who live in other states, and probationers and parolees from other states who live in DC, are still provided supervision under the Interstate Compact.

Paul A. Quander, Jr., Director of CSOSA, serves as the Interstate Commissioner and Compact Administrator for the District and is responsible for ensuring efficient communication to report violations and supervision compliance to other state Compact offices and coordinates with the Superior Court with regard to DC probationers who receive the benefit of supervision transfer to other jurisdictions. The Director also communicates with other Commissioners to resolve issues between states. Catherine Terry-Crusor of CSOSA serves as the Deputy Compact Administrator

The Interstate Compact Branch of

CSOSA is divided into units—Investigative and Supervision.

The Investigative Unit consists of three teams. They work with receiving states to process transfers for cases on offenders whose offenses originated in the District of Columbia but who are ultimately supervised in another jurisdiction. Investigations for offenders requesting supervision transfer into the District are conducted in the diagnostic Branch by the TIPS teams. Acceptance of such requests is contingent upon offenders meeting Compact eligibility requirements.

Two supervision teams provide a full range of case management services to adult offenders who are supervised in the District but who were convicted in other jurisdictions. These offenders are held accountable to the same standards which prevail for all offenders under CSOSA's supervision. Supervision Officers prepare and submit reports to the sending state for every offender under Interstate Compact supervision.

Offenders must meet certain criteria before they are recommended for supervision in the District of Columbia or any other jurisdiction in the United States. The sending state determines the length of supervision; the receiving state determines the level of supervision. The sending state may permit an offender to reside in any other state, if such person is in fact a resident of the receiving state as defined by the Compact and has a visible means of support, or if the receiving state consents to the offender residing in that jurisdiction.

The Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision has been in effect since June 2002 when it was adopted by 47 states. The new compact aims to improve offender accountability and increase cooperation among signatories.