

# COURT TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE SURPASSES EXPECTATIONS



Report to  
Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter  
and the 2nd Regular Session of  
the 61st Idaho Legislature

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Idaho continues its far reaching utilization of technology to advance the court's ability to meet increasing caseloads and demands for service. Several major initiatives are either underway or were completed during this past fiscal year.

## **Victim notification available**

Working with the Idaho Sheriff's Association, electronic court data is being provided daily to the Victim's Notification System –VINE. Citizens who want to receive electronic alerts about a court case can sign up for VINE. Pilot testing is currently underway, with full statewide implementation slated for January 1, 2012.

## **Statewide hardware upgrade almost complete**

A statewide refresh of over 1,300 desktop and 65 notebook computers, along with 44 servers, over 500 printers and the newest software is complete in all but two counties, Ada and Bonner. Ada is scheduled to receive their equipment and software in November of 2011, with Bonner slated for early 2012. This new equipment will facilitate future technology advances to better serve Idaho's citizens.

## **Electronic citations improve public safety**

Working closely with law enforcement, handwritten tickets are being replaced by citations produced by computers housed in police vehicles or from handheld devices. The Idaho State Police completed their roll-out of 191 e-citation systems in their cars across the state. Over twenty other law enforcement agencies are currently using e-citations or are in the process of implementation. The increased accuracy of the data collected at the time of issuance, combined with the elimination of redundant data entry has resulted in substantial workload savings for law enforcement and the courts.

## **Court fees and fines "intercepted" successfully**

For the second year, Idaho courts intercepted state tax refunds to pay overdue court fees and fines due the courts. Since January 1, 2011, over 12,500 refunds have been intercepted, with \$2.4 million dollars being collected. Over the past two years, 28,500 refunds were intercepted and \$5.6 million dollars have been collected through this legislative initiative.

## **Idaho Court's website provides new array of services**

The judiciary's website continues to be enriched with new content and improved navigation. Through the website, which receives over 102,000 hits per day, the public can find case status information for any case filed in Idaho's trial courts. Should they need assistance in preparing a court proceeding such as a small claims action, they can receive assistance through an electronic self- help center. The Supreme Court posts proposed court rule changes, soliciting public comment. These are just a sample of what the public can do for themselves through the convenience of the judiciary's website.

## **E-filing plans underway**

During the upcoming fiscal year, a major technology project will commence that will allow the public to electronically file court documents with the courts. E-filing, combined with electronic document management will provide increased access to Idaho's courts, while helping court officials adjudicate cases brought before the courts in a timely manner.