

Court Collaboration

WITH JUSTICE PARTNERS



Court Collaboration

The Idaho courts have a long tradition of close collaboration with private and public partners to effect meaningful change to systems and improve the lives of Idahoans.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEES

The Idaho Supreme Court has appointed a number of multi-disciplinary committees to identify best practices and develop administrative policy recommendations for the Supreme Court. Committees work in a variety of areas such as child protection, guardianships & conservatorships, and treatment courts. Membership includes participants from executive branch agencies, the Legislature, the Idaho State Bar Association, and treatment providers from the community. In addition, the Administrative Office of the Courts meets regularly with representatives from executive branch agencies to discuss topics of common interest and ensure good coordination across the justice system.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

Leadership from the Idaho courts also serve on various state governance boards to provide relevant input when developing systems-level policy recommendations. For example, the Administrative Director of the Courts and judges serve on the Criminal

Justice Commission, as non-voting members. This body was created by executive order of the Governor in 2005 to “address important criminal justice issues and challenges, and develop and propose balanced, cost-effective, best-practice solutions to achieve a safer Idaho.”

IDAHO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNCIL

The most recent example of this type of collaboration is judicial branch participation in the work of the Idaho Behavioral Health Council. During the 2020 legislative session, all three branches of Idaho’s government took action to establish the council. Though created by Governor Little’s executive order, this council was directly supported by a Supreme Court Proclamation and Order and a Concurrent Resolution in the Legislature. All three documents tasked the thirteen-member council with developing a strategic plan with action-oriented, time-bound recommendations designed to review and improve the state’s behavioral health system. The council works collaboratively with local governments, educators, community partners, and private entities as it is developing this plan. Pursuant to the executive order, the plan will be delivered to the leadership of all three branches by the end of June 2021.

