

# Coordinated Family Services



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In 2001, Title 32, Chapter 14 of the Idaho Code established Coordinated Family Services to promote timely and effective resolutions of family-related disputes involving civil and criminal cases. Coordinated Family Services have three collaborative yet distinct service areas: Family Court Services (FCS), Court Assistance Offices, and Domestic Violence Courts.

## SERVICES

The Legislature established the Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and Family Court Services Fund to support a variety of court services, including FCS. This past fiscal year, \$233,858 was used to provide direct services including mediation, parenting time evaluations, brief focused assessments, and co-parent education to families involved with the courts in each judicial district. These funds allowed the courts to assist 680 cases through mediation, conduct 50 parenting time evaluations and 33 brief focused assessments, and provide co-parent education classes to parents in over 8,300 divorces and 2,500 modifications to prior divorce decisions. These important services continued despite the COVID-19 Pandemic; parent education classes continued using online platforms.

## SUPERVISED VISITATION

Supervised visitation providers allow a parent without custody to have visitation with his or her child(ren). FCS supported supervised visitation providers to ensure that parents can safely visit their children under the supervision of skilled professionals. Providers supervised over 180 parents and 2,500 visits in the past year.

## GUIDE & FILE

Civil protection order forms can be filed in any Idaho court online, via the Guide & File tool. A series of questions are asked to complete and file court forms remotely. Guide & File helps improve the accuracy and efficiency of any filing by selecting the appropriate forms based on interview questions, while minimizing any delays that illegible forms might cause. Frequently asked questions can be answered without the need to contact or visit the court. Expanded online filing was part of an effort to provide remote accessibility to Idaho courts while ensuring public safety.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURTS

Idaho's domestic violence courts are designed to promote safety by connecting victims with advocacy and other services while holding offenders accountable through judicial oversight. Judicial review hearings are based on comprehensive reports provided by probation officers, treatment providers, and victims (if appropriate and possible) to monitor compliance and progress. Idaho has ten domestic violence courts in five judicial districts.

In FY2020, domestic violence courts provided referrals and assisted over 1,300 victims navigate the court system and conducted over 3,300 judicial review hearings. After April 2020, review hearings were held remotely due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

For more information about Coordinated Family Services, visit: [annualreport.isc.idaho.gov](https://annualreport.isc.idaho.gov)

