

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE

It is an honor to report on the state of the judiciary in our great state. I would first like to acknowledge my immediate predecessors, retired Chief Justices Gerald F. Schroeder and Linda Copple Trout. During their careers they both made significant contributions to the judiciary and to our state.

I have been a judge for over twenty-one years, serving as a magistrate judge in Owyhee County, as a district judge and administrative district judge in the Fourth Judicial District, and now as a justice on the Supreme Court. The current state of the judiciary can best be understood by reviewing some of the changes that I have observed during the last 20 years.

Idaho's population has grown almost 60%. A population growth typically causes an increase in court filings, and that has happened in Idaho. Case filings have increased over 40%, so that during 2007 almost one-half million cases were filed in Idaho's state courts.

During the last 20 years, the case loads of District Judges has increased by 57%. The largest increase has been in felony drug cases, which have increased almost 700%.

Idaho's judges are carrying much heavier caseloads than they did twenty years ago. Even with heavier caseloads, they are disposing of cases in a timely manner, often being required to work evenings and weekends. The cases in our trial courts have median ages that are less than half of the time standards we have adopted.

We continue to place great emphasis on our very successful drug and mental health courts. To preside over these courts, judges must take specialized training, learn new skills, and devote additional hours to their jobs. With offenders returning to court regularly to receive rewards for doing well and consequences when struggling, the judges spend more time with each offender than the traditional manner of handling such cases. That investment in the lives of addicts and the mentally ill by trial judges is paying priceless dividends to our State.

The Ada County Drug Court is our state's largest drug court, with 483 graduates. I had the opportunity to help create that court and presided over it for two years. The typical graduate had been using drugs for almost 17 years, with the overwhelming majority of them addicted to methamphetamine. When they entered drug court, on average they were using over \$3,600 in drugs per person per month. Since only 41% were employed, they were not buying drugs with their paychecks.

It takes the average graduate almost 17 months to complete the drug court program. While they were in drug court, the graduates stopped using drugs and obtained jobs. 97% were employed when they graduated. On average, the graduates' annual incomes increased almost \$14,000 during the time they were in drug court.

Statistics cannot reflect, however, the impacts on the addicts' lives. I have been to many drug court graduations, and the most common statement by the graduates is, "Drug court saved my life." As they stopped using drugs, we have also seen familial relationships restored. Family members who have not spoken to each other for years began rebuilding their relationships.

The success of Idaho's drug and mental health courts and other innovations such as Family Court Services and Court Assistance Offices would not have been possible without the cooperation of all three branches of government. Idaho's trial judges have demonstrated their commitment to expand these vital services.

Last February, the Supreme Court appointed a task force to make recommendations ranging from the future structure and operations of the Court of Appeals to staffing, technology, and facility needs. Based upon the task force's recommendations, we ask this legislature to add one more judge to the Court of Appeals as the next step in ensuring that it can continue to fulfill its critical role in the judiciary. Our proposal is to move the Court of Appeals into the Supreme Court building and to relocate the law library to a suitable location.

In spite of increasing caseloads, Idaho's judges are fulfilling their Constitutional mandate to serve the citizens of our state and to address some of the most difficult social issues facing our state. We are very fortunate in Idaho to have an outstanding working relationship among the three branches of state government. On behalf of Idaho's judges, I thank you for your support of the judiciary.

DANIEL T. EISMANN Chief Justice

"State of the Judiciary" address, delivered January 7, 2008



Chief Justice Daniel T. Eismann

2008 BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The 2008 priorities for Idaho's courts focus on improving access to the courts and maintaining quality service as the demands on the Idaho Judiciary continue to grow.

In the past 25 years, Idaho's Court of Appeals has experienced a 250% increase in workload. Coupling this with an increased complexity of appeals has stretched the limits of the court. In order to assure that opinions of the highest quality are rendered, it's imperative that a fourth judge be added to the Court. This affords Idaho's Court of Appeals the ability to be among the best appellate courts in the nation.

Idaho continues to experience rapid population growth. An influx of new residents throughout the state has increased caseloads. Instead of adding additional judgeships, the Court seeks to expand the use of Senior Judges. This solution allows cases to be heard in a timely and fair manner while reducing costs.

Trial judges have expressed their willingness to expand the use of problem-solving alternatives that have been effective and have the potential to reduce costs incurred by state and local agencies. Innovations such as drug courts and mental health courts provide a cost-effective, community-based alternative to prison growth and decrease the burden felt by taxpayers.

In order to attract outstanding lawyers and judges to the state judiciary, Idaho must provide competitive salaries. Salary increases are also requested to address Idaho's shortage of highly skilled court reporters. The Court asks that court reporters receive pay increases relative to their skill sets.

Today's judiciary consists of a complex array of judicial and non-judicial positions, which are state funded, county funded, and often times contractual or grant funded. In order to increase system efficiency and comply with current code, a human resource office must be added to the Courts.

Lastly, The Supreme Court, in coordination with the University of Idaho College of Law and others, proposes to build an Idaho Law Learning Center, with planning funds requested in the FY09 budget. The Idaho Law Learning Center will fortify legal education in Idaho through the use of state-of-the-art technology, a greater presence in Boise for the Law School, and the integration of law, social science, education, and other areas of academic scholarship.





Shoshone County Courthouse

REPORTS TO GOVERNOR BUTCH OTTER AND THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE 59TH IDAHO LEGISLATURE

Drug Courts and Mental Health Courts

After nine years of operation, Idaho now has 52 drug and mental health courts. The number of offenders supervised continues to increase. Eighty-four percent of the 1,103 felony defendants either remained in drug court or mental health court at the end of the year, or successfully met all requirements and graduated. There were 404 graduates from Idaho drug and mental health courts in 2007. A rigorous outcome evaluation of ten felony drug courts over four years demonstrated statistically significant reductions in recidivism.

Children and Families in the Courts

The successful collaboration of all three branches of government makes Idaho court leaders in the nation for innovation. In 2007, over 33,000 Idahoans and over 14,500 children benefited from Idaho courts improvement efforts. Highlights include: increased attendance in parent education courses; the development of best practice guidelines and training conducted in juvenile, child protection and court connected services that support families; and the Idaho Interactive Court Forms Project.

Guardianship and Conservatorship Pilot Program

The Idaho Supreme Court used its highly successful "problem-solving court" model of cooperation with other branches of government in addressing the needs of a critical and rapidly expanding segment of Idaho's citizens – the elderly, minors and other incapacitated persons. Uniform inventory and annual reporting forms have been developed and adopted and are now being used in the six pilot counties designated in 2006: Ada, Bannock, Bonner, Bonneville, Caribou, and Payette.

Juvenile Courts

Idaho's juvenile courts continue to serve their communities by holding juveniles accountable, requiring juvenile offenders to develop needed competencies and assuring the community is protected. These functions are the elements of the Balanced Approach, the foundation for Idaho's juvenile justice system. Highlights of 2007 include increased intervention opportunities, implementation of SB1142, which provides substance abuse assessment and treatment, and strengthened judicial leadership through the Juvenile Justice Advisory Team.

Child Protection

In Idaho, both the number of child protection petitions filed and the number of children in foster care continue to rise. The Idaho Supreme Court Child Protection Committee continues to strengthen the court's role in the protection system and improve outcomes for the children served. Extensive multi-disciplinary training is underway, technology efforts have been expanded, and measures are being taken to strengthen legal representation for the Department of Health and Welfare in child protection cases.

Idaho Celebrates 10 Years of Court Assistance Services

Idaho courts celebrate a ten-year history of providing greater access to courts for Idahoans of limited or modest means who are unable to obtain legal representation to help them in court proceedings. An effort which began in 1998 with three pilot project offices has now expanded statewide with services accessible through court assistance officers, or deputy court clerks, in all of Idaho's 44 counties. The number of Idahoans turning to the court for help in understanding how to seek an effective resolution of their legal disputes, reflects not only the success of this program, but also the great need for these types of services.

Senior Judges

In 2007, 34 Senior Judges worked 1,501 days. This is the equivalent of almost 7.0 additional judge-ships. A Senior Judge is a Judge or Justice who leaves office or retires and is then given the designation "Senior Judge" by the Supreme Court. While serving under assignment, Senior Judges have all the judicial powers and duties of a regularly qualified judge of the court to which the Senior Judge is assigned.

CHIEF JUSTICE SCHROEDER REFLECTS ON 38 YEAR CAREER

After 38 years serving in the justice system, Chief Justice Gerald Schroeder retired in July.

Throughout his time on the bench, Chief Justice Schroeder witnessed major legal advances such as the implementation of the Uniform Probate Code, the shift in sentencing provided by the Truth in Sentencing Act, and the 1971 Court Reform that modernized Idaho's court structure.



Former Chief Justice Gerald Schroeder

Highlights of his career include 13 years as an administrative district judge, a collaborative effort with the former Dean of the University of Idaho College of Law to authorize the first book on the Uniform Probate Code and time spent teaching the subject across the country. Chief Justice Schroeder was also instrumental in the planning of a learning center in Boise that will allow scholars to come together for a greater range of opportunities in the study of law.

While he has seen many improvements to the courts, Chief Justice Schroeder is leaving at a time when many challenges remain. As the population of Idaho continues to grow, so does the challenge of providing adequate and timely access to the courts.

"I leave grateful for the privilege having worked side by side with outstanding individuals and having experienced an open and collaborative relationship between the judiciary and the other branches of government, the likes of which reflects upon the unique character of this great state."



Former Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout

JUSTICE TROUT RETIRES

Supreme Court Justice, Linda Copple Trout retired at the end of August. Trout, who served as a magistrate judge from 1983 to 1990, and as a district judge from 1990 to 1992, before her appointment to the Idaho Supreme Court in 1992 by Governor Cecil Andrus, was the first woman appointed to the Idaho Supreme Court. She was also the first woman to serve as the Chief Justice of the Idaho Supreme Court.

During her time leading the Court, Chief Justice Trout was a champion of ensuring access to Idaho's courts including the development of highly successful Court Assistance Offices and training and utilization of interpreters. She was also a strong proponent of bringing drug courts to each of the state's judicial districts and as Chief Justice regularly traveled the state to visit first hand with court personnel, elected officials and citizens.

In retiring from the Court before the end of her current term, Trout offered several reasons for doing so, one of which related to the current election process. She openly criticized the election process as increasingly political and not focused on the merits and qualifications of an individual wanting to serve on the Court. Justice Trout supports a retention election system, similar to that used currently for Idaho's magistrate judges. She also noted that by leaving before the end of her term she provided Governor Otter with the opportunity to appoint an individual based on their "qualifications, legal ability, wisdom and integrity."

Justice Trout is currently serving as a Senior Justice, at both the appellate and trial level, and providing leadership in an array of statewide court improvement efforts.



Ada County Courtbouse



Justice Warren Jones

WARREN JONES NAMED SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter named attorney Warren Jones to the Idaho Supreme Court. Jones, an insurance defense attorney at the Iaw firm of Eberle, Berlin, Kading, Turnbow, McKlveen and Jones, will fill the vacancy left by Chief Justice Gerald Schroeder who left the court at the end of July. This term is set to expire in January of 2009, meaning Jones will stand for election in May of 2008.

"His colleagues in the Idaho Bar agree that he is balanced, fair and impartial, and that his temperament will fit well in a collegial setting with the other justices," Governor Otter said in a press release.

Jones, a lawyer for 37 years, graduated from the College of Idaho and the University of Chicago Law School. Jones, 64, has two grown stepchildren and a wife, Karen, who is a retired nurse.



Justice Joel Horton

JUDGE HORTON REPLACES JUSTICE TROUT

On September 18, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter appointed 4th District Judge Joel Horton to fill the Idaho Supreme Court vacancy created when Justice Linda Copple Trout stepped down August 31. He will serve the remainder of Trout's term, and will stand for election in May 2008.

Justice Horton became a judge in the 4th Judicial District in July 1996. He previously was an Ada County magistrate judge, a deputy state attorney general and a deputy Ada County prosecutor. He also was legislative counsel for the Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association for two years and worked in a private law practice in Lewiston. He is a Nampa native. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington and a law degree from the University of Idaho. He is married to Ada County Magistrate Judge Carolyn Minder.



HIGHLIGHTS 0 (1)

Boise County Courtbouse

LAW LEARNING CENTER PROPOSED

The Idaho Supreme Court is proposing construction of an Idaho Law Learning Center, to be erected across the street from the current Supreme Court building. The 79,615 gross square foot facility will cost approximately \$30 million. The Permanent Building Fund Advisory Council received the proposal in October 2007. Engineering and design planning is proposed to begin in FY 2009, with construction slated for completion in FY 2012.

The Idaho Law Learning Center will consist of a law library and related spaces, several large, flexible, multi-functional instruction/meeting places and space for some University of Idaho College of Law programs. The facility will prove useful in supporting the instructional functions of the Idaho Supreme Court, the local legal community, the Idaho state library and other state agencies. It will also serve as a legal information resource to the public.

The Learning Center will be a valuable asset in "helping the legal community" stated Chief Justice Eismann. "It also enhances legal access for both students and the public."

COURT TECHNOLOGY PLANS UPDATED

The Idaho Supreme Court maintains a five-year forecast of technology improvements to the Idaho court systems. John Peay, Director of Information Systems for the Court, indicated Idaho's systems are very advanced and is one of the first states in the nation to have all cases from trial courts to appellate courts computerized.

Recent improvements include equipping every courtroom in the state with modern digital recording equipment which enables each court to comply with the requirement that every court proceeding must be recorded.

Technology plans for FY 2008 - FY 2010 include: enabling filing of certain routine documents electronically and making them available for viewing on-line; acquisition, testing and implementation of research/knowledge management software to enable access to court documentation on-line; the conversion of the current Supreme Court case management system to a web-based system; and leveraging technology to help deliver training to judges and court staff.





Kootenai County Courthouse

DRUG COURT AND MENTAL HEALTH COURT INSTITUTE

Idaho's Drug Court and Mental Health Courts Institute annually attracts district and magistrate judges who preside over Drug Courts and Mental Health Courts, coordinators for those 52 Courts, probation officers, treatment providers, and other team members from these problem-solving courts. Participants attended their choice of several breakout and round-table sessions relating to their specific areas of responsibility.





Participants at 2007 Institute

LAW SCHOOL INAUGURATES VISITING JURIST PROGRAM

Between April 11 and April 25, 2007 Chief Justice Gerald F. Schroeder inaugurated the Justice Alfred Budge Visiting Jurist Program at the University of Idaho College of Law. The U of I College of Law's newsletter *First Monday* reported that, "during his service as the law school's first jurist in residence, Chief Justice Schroeder undertook research on a work of scholarship, guest taught classes in civil procedure and professional responsibility, met with University of Idaho President Timothy White, participated in the McNichols Inns of Court and engaged in a busy schedule of consultations with students, faculty, and visitors to the law school."

The Justice Alfred Budge Visiting Jurist Program was established in May 2003. Operational expenses are funded by an endowment established by Justice Budge's son, Hamer, himself a distinguished jurist and member of Congress. The stated purpose of the visiting jurist program is "to enhance understanding of the judicial function in a democracy grounded in the rule of law and to encourage research on improving the administration of justice."

REVISED MEDIA GUIDE IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE

The Media/Courts Committee released the newly revised *Media Guide*, now on-line and available for use at the court's website <u>http://www.isc.idaho.gov</u>. The content has been updated and enhanced, with a new format, making it easier to navigate. A PDF version of the guide is also available.



IDAHO STATE JUDICIARY MEDIA GUIDE



2007 JUDICIAL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

As submitted by Trial Court Administrators

1st Judicial District

- the Kootenai County Drug Court and the Bonner County Drug Court received state funding to expand their programs and the Guardianship Pilot Project in Bonner County continues to develop.
- Attorney Scott Nass was appointed to serve as the Kootenai County DUI Court Judge.
- Judge Simpson and Kootenai County Magistrate Judges initiated the Judicial Mediation process to resolve high conflict divorce cases and have instituted a Unified Family Court model.
- Justice Eismann presented Tanya Reynolds, Kootenai County Drug Court Coordinator, with an Award of Excellence for her continued commitment to the Kootenai County Drug Court.

2nd Judicial District

- District Judges John R. Stegner and John H. Bradbury started Mental Health pilot projects in Latah County and Idaho County respectively.
- Magistrate Judge Kent J. Merica initiated a district-wide Family Law Arbitration Project offering an alternative dispute resolution mechanism. Judge Merica also started a DUI Court in Nez Perce County.
- Jeff P. Payne was selected by the 2nd District Magistrate Commission to replace Judge Michael Griffin of Idaho County.
- the 2nd District received a one-year extension of the Adult Felony Drug Court Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. The grant expands the continuum of treatment in the four adult felony drug courts in the 2nd District by providing additional funding for residential and mental health treatment.
- Nez Perce County broke ground on a new jail to be completed in 2008.

3rd Judicial District

- Owyhee County Magistrate Judge Tom Ryan was appointed to the district judge position left vacant by the retirement of Judge James C. Morfitt. Dan Grober was appointed by the 3rd District Magistrates Commission to fill the magistrate judge position in Owyhee County.
- A mental health court was inaugurated in Canyon County with Judge Renae Hoff and Judge Frank Kotyk presiding.
- Judge George Southworth assumed the duties of presiding over the Canyon County Drug Court. Also, after being one of the counties in the Quad County Drug Court for the past 4 years, planning has been completed for Gem County to have its own drug court early in 2008.
- to The conversion of all courtrooms in the district to digital recording systems was completed in 2007. Washington County commenced an extensive remodel project of the annex building which houses the county's magistrate division offices and courtroom.



JUDICIAL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



4th Judicial District

- Ada County.
- In June, the International Game Fish Association, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the Valley County Probation Department, and Judge Boomer, with help from Senior Judge John Vehlow, sponsored "Judge Boomer's Gone Fishin' Day" for at-risk youth.
- Nearly every district judge in the 4th Judicial District has presided over the Ada County Felony Drug Court, and each district judge has assigned cases to drug court. Supreme Court Justice Joel Horton and Chief Justice Daniel Eismann have dedicated volunteer time to the program.
- Enrollment in the Ada County Mental Health Court increased from 19 to over 30 in 2007. In conjunction with the Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority and supported fiscally by the County, the Ada County Mental Health Court established a two-bedroom apartment for up to three defendants in need of safe and sober housing.
- ☆ In Family Court Services, "The Focus on Children Class" has seen a 14% increase in participation with an estimated 2,605 parents attending the class, which will benefit an estimated 2,300 children.
- the Guardianship Monitoring Program of Ada County will be recognized by the AARP and the American Bar Association as having best practices in monitoring in two studies.
- The 4th District Court Interpreter services processed 3,181 requests for interpreters, including: 2,275 requests for the SPANISH language; 183 requests for RUSSIAN language; 166 requests for FARSI language; 157 requests for BOSNIAN language; and 97 requests for SIGN language.
- to In 2007, jurors donated their fees in record numbers. Over \$14,000 was raised and supported rides for jurors without transportation, child care and pet care for sequestered jurors.
- With the help of the mediation staff, of the 1,174 scheduled small claims cases, 79% were processed with a 65% settlement rate while maintaining a 91% compliance rate. The mediation staff performed 4,742 service hours acting as facilitators for clients of contested cases; an additional 602 hours were dedicated by the staff members in training to enhance their mediation skills.
- The Ada County Domestic Violence Court (DVC) had 140 active cases, which are subject to bi-monthly reviews to ensure compliance. The court is receiving statewide and national attention for processing cases quickly and comprehensively. This early engagement keeps overall costs down and helps enhance the victim and family's safety.



WELCOME TO THE CANYON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

JUDICIAL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS



5th Judicial District

- The 5th District lost two very fine district judges: Hon. John Hohnhorst and Hon. Monte Carlson died in 2007. We also had the retirement of Hon. John Varin who had been a "super star" in our district for many years overseeing juvenile case loads in six of the eight counties.
- The 5th District now has eight problem-solving courts operating: three Felony Drug Courts, Felony Mental Health Court, Misdemeanor DUI Court, Truancy Court, Meth Court and Juvenile Drug Court. Added to these courts are three outstanding programs: Youth Alternative Court, Status Offender Program, and Children and Families Program.
- In November, the 5th District held a deputy clerk training in Twin Falls, which was attended by a large number of clerks from throughout the eight counties. The emphasis was on using ISTARS and media relations.

Judicial District

- All six counties within the 6th Judicial District use digital recording in their courtrooms, making the court record clearer and more accessible.
- the Child Protection Drug Court convened February 1, 2008. This problem-solving court will work with approximately 25 children and their parents to address substance abuse, mental health, and other physical and emotional issues.
- Hon. N. Randy Smith was appointed to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals; Hon. Ronald E. Bush was appointed as a federal magistrate judge for the District of Idaho; and Steven A. Thomsen was appointed Bannock County Magistrate Judge, replacing Hon. Boyd B. White who retired after 24 years of service.

Judicial District

- District Judge Joel Tingey (Bonneville County) was sworn in to replace retiring District Judge Richard St. Clair.
- Jefferson County moved into the newly completed courthouse in May.
- The 7th District continues their expansion of drug and mental health courts in 9 counties these problem-solving courts now have over 350 active participants and 15 different judges.
- Sonneville County and the 7th Judicial District were awarded a grant to implement a comprehensive alternative sentencing program that for the first time provides a fully integrated continuum of treatment options in the jail, work release, residential, half-way, and intensive outpatient and aftercare.





Washington County Courtbouse

NEW JUDGES, RETIREMENTS, AND TRANSITIONS IN 2007

New Judges in 2007

Supreme Court Honorable Warren E. Jones Justice of the Supreme Court August 2007

Honorable Joel D. Horton Justice of the Supreme Court October 2007

2nd Judicial District Honorable Jeff Payne Magistrate Judge, Idaho County October 2007

3rd Judicial District Honorable Thomas Ryan District Judge September 2007

Honorable Dan Grober Magistrate Judge, Owyhee County September 2007

Supreme Court Honorable Gerald F. Schroeder Justice of the Supreme Court Retired July 2007

Honorable Linda Copple Trout Justice of the Supreme Court Retired September 2007

2nd Judicial District Honorable Michael Griffin Magistrate Judge, Idaho County Retired September 2007

3rd Judicial District Honorable James Morfitt District Judge Retired April 2007

Honorable Thomas Ryan Magistrate Judge, Canyon County Appointed District Judge September 2007 **4th Judicial District** Honorable John Hawley Jr. Magistrate Judge, Ada County April 2007

Honorable Patrick Owen District Judge (New Position) August 2007

5th Judicial District Honorable Jason Walker Magistrate Judge, Camas County June 2007

Honorable Randy Stoker District Judge May 2007

Honorable Thomas Kershaw Magistrate Judge, Twin Falls County August 2007

Judges Leaving Office in 2007

4th Judicial District Honorable Joel Horton District Judge Appointed to the Supreme Court September 2007

5th Judicial District Honorable John Varin Magistrate Judge, Camas County Retired May 2007

Honorable John Hohnhorst District Judge Deceased February 2007

Honorable Randy Stoker Magistrate Judge, Twin Falls County Appointed District Judge May 2007

Honorable Monte Carlson District Judge Deceased June 2007 Honorable Michael Crabtree District Judge October 2007

6th Judicial District

Honorable Steven Thomsen Magistrate Judge, Bannock County July 2007

Honorable David Nye District Judge July 2007

7th Judicial District

Honorable Joel E. Tingey District Judge September 2007

6th Judicial District Honorable Boyd White Magistrate Judge, Bannock County Retired June 2007

Honorable Randy Smith Appointed U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit March 2007

7th Judicial District Honorable Richard St. Clair District Judge Retired August 2007

NEW JUDGES RETIREMENTS TRANSITIONS

Latab County Courthouse





IDAHO AIR NATIONAL GUARD HONORS IDAHO JUDICIARY

Patti Tobias thanked by Judge Petrie The Idaho chapter of the Employer Support for Guard and Reserve (ESGR) recognized the state of Idaho and its judicial branch. Chief Justice Gerald F. Schroeder received an award for his outstanding support

to Colonel and Judge Gordon Petrie during his 18-month sabbatical to train and serve with the 116th Brigade Combat Team in Iraq during operation Iraqi Freedom III. Judge Petrie also presented a "Freedom Award" medal to the Idaho Legislature and one to Patti Tobias as a special thank you for her support and correspondence while he was in Iraq.



Judge Petrie and Chief Justice Schroeder

NORMA JAEGER ELECTED TO NATIONAL BOARD

Norma Jaeger, Idaho's Statewide Drug Court and Mental Health Court Coordinator, was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. The association serves as the voice of drug courts in the United States and administers drug court research as well as drug court practitioner training and drug court team training. The 26 member board, chaired by Hon. Chuck Simmons, operates with 16 subcommittees. Jaeger represents the perspective of state-level coordinators and state drug court systems. She is appointed to the Research Committee, the DWI Court Subcommittee, and the Mental Health Court Committee. Jaeger has provided presentations at the annual NADCP training conferences for the past three years and has co-authored the association's *The Ten Guiding Principles of DWI Courts* publication.

JANICA BISHARAT CHAIRS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

After several years of working with the Consortium for State Court Interpreter Certification, Janica Bishart has been named Chair of its Executive Committee. The Consortium is a multi-state (40+) partnership dedicated to developing court interpreter proficiency tests, making tests available to member states, and regulating the use of the tests.

JUDGE HEISE ASSUMES PRESIDENCY

Four years ago, Bonner County Magistrate Judge Debra Heise was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Idaho Magistrate Judges' Association. In October, at the Annual Judicial Conference in Sun Valley, she assumed the office of President for a two-year term.

As president of the association, Judge Heise will also have a seat at the table during the Supreme Court's quarterly Administrative Conference.





Old Adams County Courtbouse

REYNOLDS RECOGNIZED

Colleagues and friends of Tanya Reynolds, Kootenai County Drug Court Coordinator, surprised her with a reception as she was presented an Award of Excellence for her "service and commitment to the State of Idaho, Kootenai County and the Kootenai County Drug Court" by Chief Justice Daniel Eismann.



Tanya Reynolds



BANNOCK COUNTY TEAM RECEIVES AWARD

Ed Axford, the Program Manager of Behavioral Health in Region 6 of the Department of Health and Welfare, presented the Bannock County Mental Health Team with the traveling award, The Adult Mental Health/Children's Mental Health Team Award. The award signifies outstanding efforts by a team to help individuals with mental health issues regain their lives.

The Bannock County Mental Health Team was the first recipient of the award. The award will travel annually to other teams who excel as a group when working on mental health issues.



Judge Ronald Bush receives the award from Ed Axford.

Members of the Bannock County Mental Health team are Judge Ronald E. Bush; Kathy Heyneman, Department of Corrections; Deanna Smith, Bannock County Mental Health Court Coordinator; Casey Locke, ACT team member of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare; Christine Collaer-Muzzo, ACT team member of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare; Beth Regan, Idaho Department of Vocational Rehabilitation; Kent Reynolds, Deputy Public Defender; JaNiece Price, Deputy Prosecutor; Kathleen Ballard, Deputy Sheriff; a member of NAMI; and Kerry Hong, the Sixth District Court Services Director.





Lewis County Courtbouse

NATE APPOINTED TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter has appointed Dr. Ronald Nate, a professor of economics at BYU-Idaho, to replace Helen McKinney on the Idaho Judicial Council. McKinney's term expired on June 30, 2007. Dr. Nate's six-year term will expire June 30, 2013.

STATE BAR NOMINATES JUDGE WILPER TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL

The State Bar Board of Commissioners voted to appoint Judge Ronald Wilper to the Judicial Council, replacing Judge Randy Smith. Judge Wilper, a district judge in the 4th Judicial District, was confirmed by the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee.

JUDGE MCLAUGHLIN RECEIVES PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

Judge Michael McLaughlin was honored by the Idaho Judiciary for his judicial professionalism. A district judge for the 4th District, Judge McLaughlin is the 2007 recipient of the Granata Award, presented each year to an Idaho judge in recognition of his or her professionalism.

The Granata Award honors the professionalism exhibited by Judge G. Granata Jr. in his 20 years of service on the bench. The award recipient is selected based upon his or her significant contributions to the Idaho judicial system, proven professionalism, and status as a role model.

KRAMER AWARD GIVEN TO DAVID NAVARRO

David Navarro is the 2007 recipient of the Kramer Award for Excellence. As Clerk of the District Court, Ex-Officio Auditor and Recorder for Ada County, Navarro was recognized by the Idaho Judiciary for his exemplary work in the administration of Idaho's judicial system.

The Kramer Award is presented to an individual based upon his or her contributions to improving the administration of justice in Idaho, the impact of his or her contributions and his or her status as a role model. The award is named for the late Blaine County District Judge Douglas Kramer who was widely recognized during his years on the bench for his contributions to the improvement of the administration of the Idaho courts.





Bear Lake County Courthouse

CASELOAD HIGHLIGHTS 2007

- 50 936 appeals were filed with the Supreme Court during 2007, which is 64 fewer than were filed during 2006.
- △ District Court filings were up 2% during 2007 when compared to 2006.
- to Civil filings in the district court increased by 5%, while criminal filings fell by 358 cases or 3% from the numbers reported for 2006.
- Felony DUI filings reported a staggering 30% increase over the number reported just one year before. Felony drug filings dropped to their lowest point in five years.
- Continuing a decline that began in 2003, the number of domestic violence protection orders requested dropped 5% or 266 cases when compared to 2006.
- After increasing for three years, misdemeanor DUI filings fell slightly from the number reported during 2006. A total of 11,280 misdemeanor DUI filings were reported during 2007.

CASELOAD

HIGHLIGHTS

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- During 2007, small claims filings dropped by 2.6% from the number reported for 2006.
- Juvenile case filings increased to the highest point in ten years, with 14,817 cases entering the system. When compared to 2006, there was an 8.3% increase in filings.
- Infraction filings increased to their highest point since 2001, with 232,456 infractions being filed across Idaho. During the previous year, there were 221,265 infractions entering the system during 2006.



DISTRICT COURT CASES FILED

									% change	% change
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006-2007	2000-2007
Civil	5,881	6,759	7,274	7,198	7,107	6,761	6,867	7,256	+5%	+19%
Criminal	11,118	11,262	11,245	12,227	12,591	13,208	12,537	12,179	-3%	+9%
Special	378	550	590	594	660	714	612	898	+32%	+58%
Total	17,377	18,571	19,109	20,019	20,358	20,683	20,016	20,333	+2%	+15%

MAGISTRATE DIVISION CASES FILED

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	% change 2006-2007 20	% change 000-2007
Civil	72,797	74,503	79,780	83,137	85,374	79,943	83,915	80,042	-5%	+9%
Criminal	144,637	136,594	128,691	126,462	127,937	127,546	136,804	138,685	+1%	-4%
Infraction	s 235,453	243,295	231,894	221,848	216,406	215,839	221,265	232,456	+5%	-1%
Juvenile	13,831	13,725	12,508	12,379	12,819	12,991	13,676	14,817	+8%	+7%
Special	15,009	15,179	15,353	15,671	16,307	16,550	15,852	15,849	0%	+5%
Total	481,727	483,296	468,226	459,497	458,843	452,869	471,512	481,849	+2%	0%





Chief Justice Daniel T. Eismann



Justice Roger S. Burdick



Justice Jim Jones



Justice Warren E. Jones



Justice Joel D. Horton

2007 ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT JUDGES

Hon. John Luster - 1 st Judicial District
Hon. Carl Kerrick - 2nd Judicial District
Hon. Gregory Culet - 3rd Judicial District
Hon. Darla Williamson - 4th Judicial District
Hon. Barry Wood - 5th Judicial District
Hon. Peter McDermott - 6th Judicial District
Hon. Brent Moss - 7th Judicial District

2007 TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS

Karlene Behringer - 1st Judicial District Steven Caylor - 2nd Judicial District Dan Kessler - 3rd Judicial District Larry Reiner - 4th Judicial District Linda Wright - 5th Judicial District Suzanne Johnson - 6th Judicial District Burton Butler - 7th Judicial District

CONTRIBUTING TO THE REPORT

Patricia Tobias - Administrative Director of the Courts Corrie Keller - Deputy Administrative Director John Peay - Director of Information Services Shirley Throop - Executive Assistant

Supreme Court Cover Image by Senior Justice Wayne L. Kidwell

The Idaho Heritage Trust has significantly contributed to this publication by providing courthouses images by photographer Jan Boles.

The Idaho Heritage Trust was created by Idaho's Centennial Legislature to help preserve the historic fabric of Idaho for the state's Bicentennial in 2090. Fifty cents from each standard Idaho plate goes into an endowment fund. The interest from the fund, in partnership with money from local communities, helps to preserve historic buildings, sites and artifacts throughout Idaho. To date the Trust has helped more than 300 organizations and has funded projects and architectural, engineering and conservation assistance in every county in Idaho.

One of the decisions made by the Idaho Heritage Trust's Board of Trustees is to document the historic buildings of Idaho in our time as a gift for the coming generations. This year, in addition to photographing Trust projects throughout Idaho, the Idaho Heritage Trust has asked photographer Jan Boles of Caldwell to document the state's courthouses and the Trust is proud to share a few of those photographs with the Idaho Supreme Court for this report.

IDAHO COURTS MISSION STATEMENT

Provide equal access to justice, promote excellence in service, and increase the public's trust and confidence in the Idaho courts.

Goal 1

Increase Access and Service to the Public

Goal 2

Improve the Fast and Fair Resolution of Court Cases

Goal 3

Promote Excellence in Service by Expanding Educational Opportunities

Goal 4

Increase the Public's Trust and Confidence in Idaho Courts