

THE STATE OF IDAHO
SUPREME COURT



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NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho Supreme Court Issues 2010 Annual Report

(Boise) – The Idaho Supreme Court has released its 2010 annual report on the Idaho judiciary. Chief Justice Daniel T. Eismann said, “As with other state agencies, the Judicial Branch has experienced significant budget cuts, but despite these challenges, the judiciary is still able to fulfill its constitutional responsibilities to the people.”

*The full report, including county by county trends, is available on the court’s website:
<http://www.isc.idaho.gov/2010annual.htm>*

The challenging economic times are not over, but Idaho’s courts are dedicated to keeping the courthouse doors open and continuing to provide all of Idaho’s citizens justice without delay. Recognizing the severe financial constraints facing state government, the Idaho Courts have requested no general fund enhancements in Fiscal Year 2012, continued a hiring freeze that has lasted for 24 months, and found new and innovative uses of technology to save money. At the same time, the Courts voluntarily contributed 1% of its general fund budget in the spirit of “sharing the burden” with the rest of state government.

“It is important to acknowledge the many Idaho judges who work evenings and weekends to keep up with increasing caseloads and the senior judges who play a critical role in enabling the Idaho judiciary to dispose of cases in a timely manner. During 2010, the days worked by senior judges were the equivalent to almost nine judicial positions and that translates into significant savings for the citizens of Idaho,” said Eismann.

It is also worth noting that during difficult economic times, crimes are still committed, and Idahoans are seeking access to Idaho courts at record high levels. In 2010:

- Child protection petitions increased 9.2%
- The number of requests for court assistance climbed 9.3%
- Divorce and child custody filings increased 7%
- Drug and mental health court supervision rose 3.2%
- Civil appeals grew 13%
- District Court criminal filings were up 14%
- DUI filings increased 25%

Despite these challenges, Idaho continues to be recognized nationally for its work, progress, and innovation and is committed to providing timely justice to the citizens of Idaho

For additional information:

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