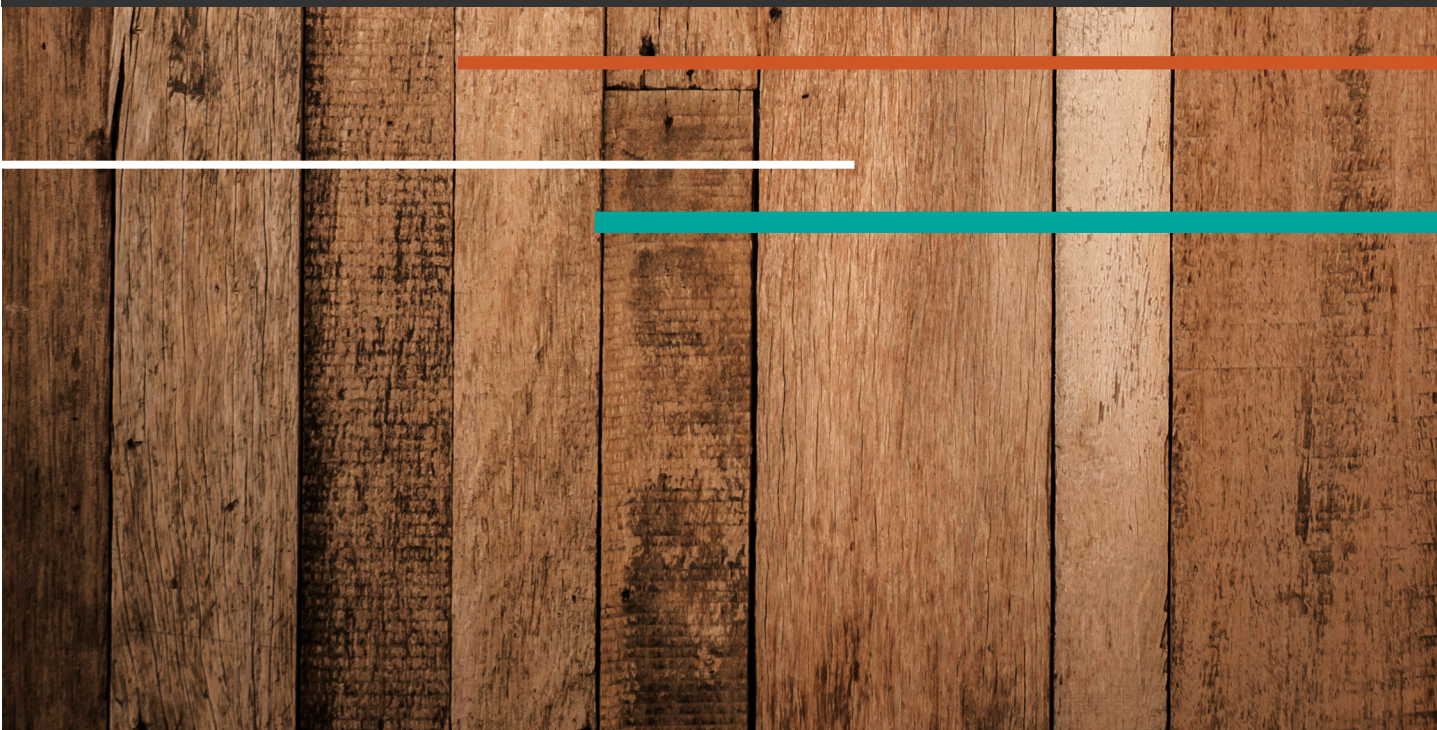


FY2014 Annual Report of the Idaho Judiciary





Message from the Chief Justice

This past year was a transitional time for the Idaho Judiciary. From innovations in court technology and improved business processes to criminal justice reform to personnel changes, the Idaho Courts are being transformed in many exciting but challenging ways.

First and foremost, the Judiciary forges ahead with plans to provide Idahoans with a state-of-the-art case management and electronic filing system. The Judiciary greatly appreciates the support of the Legislature in this endeavor, as continued funding is vital to the success of this project. This new system will

better position the Judiciary to meet its goals to provide fair and timely justice, ensure access to justice, promote effective and innovative services, and increase public trust and confidence in the Idaho Courts. We will see a reduced need to travel to courthouses, improved information exchange, and significant cost and time savings for court users and court personnel.

The Court Technology Committee and its Design and Implementation Team have been hard at work over the past year preparing for the first go-live event in the pilot county, Twin Falls, in Spring 2015. The team has been configuring the new software to prepare for the transition from 44 separate installations of ISTARS to a single, standard installation for the entire Judiciary. Efforts have been underway to lay the foundation to convert data from our legacy system without losing historical data and working diligently to establish and enhance data exchanges with our justice partners to provide a fully integrated system for Idaho's citizens.

Effective July 1 of this year, the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) brings significant change to the criminal justice system in Idaho. JRI is a collaborative effort between the three branches of Idaho government to reduce recidivism and decrease prison populations by promoting evidence-based supervision and correctional programs. We are in the implementation phase of JRI and the Courts will be vigilant in retaining judicial independence and will continue to protect Idaho's citizens.

In August of this year, the Judiciary celebrated the completion and signing of the final decree in the Snake River Basin Water Adjudication (SRBA). The SRBA is the largest completed single-stream adjudication in the United States. It took more than 25 years to complete and required judicial determinations on more than 150,000 claims for surface and ground water rights. It marks an extraordinary accomplishment for the State of Idaho! There is more work to be done, however. The Coeur d'Alene-Spokane River Basin is now being adjudicated and funding will be requested to initiate the Palouse River Basin Adjudication in FY2016.

Finally, the Judiciary is facing a number of personnel changes, judicial and non-judicial. After serving as the Administrative Director of the Courts for more than 20 years, Patti Tobias left the Judiciary this year to pursue a consulting career with the National Center for State Courts. Though we are thrilled for Patti, she will be greatly missed. Former Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout serves as the Court's Interim Administrative Director.

There have also been many retirements on the district and appellate bench and many more likely to come in the near future. Eighteen district and appellate judges have retired since 2009 and as of June 30, 2014, another 34 (63%) are eligible to retire within the next five years. It is crucial during this time of transition that we continue to recruit the most highly qualified individuals to serve in the Judiciary and that we ensure they are adequately trained and supported.

Innovation, progress, and shifting demographics will change the face of the Judiciary in the coming years. Fortunately, we are well-equipped with effective leadership, immense talent, and strong partnerships with the Idaho Legislature and the Executive Branch. We look forward to the many benefits that will come from these changes for the good of all Idahoans.

Mission Statement of the Idaho Courts

As the Third Branch of Government, we provide access to justice through the timely, fair, and impartial resolution of cases.

VALUES OF THE IDAHO COURTS

Integrity. Fairness. Independence. Respect. Excellence. Innovation.

STRATEGIC GOALS & MAJOR OBJECTIVES OF THE IDAHO COURTS

GOAL 1 - To provide Timely, Fair, and Impartial Case Resolution.

- » Advance justice by resolving cases as early as possible, while guaranteeing the rights of the parties.
- » Resolve cases involving children and families through the combined efforts of the courts, the family, and community services in ways that are least adversarial and intrusive.
- » Improve the safety and well-being of children and families involved in child protection cases.

GOAL 2 - Ensure Access to Justice

- » Strengthen and expand Court Assistance Office services options for legal representation for persons of limited means, language access services, and disability assistance while increasing the public's awareness of these services.
- » Enhance the ability to efficiently conduct court business by using technology to increase access to and integration of information, as well as to improve business practices.

GOAL 3 - Promote Effective, Innovative Services

- » Assure the highest level of service by recruiting highly-qualified judges and court personnel and advancing their professional development through educational opportunities.
- » Enhance court programs and services by actively working with the legislative and executive branches of state government, counties, cities, and stakeholders to foster the necessary resources to meet the evolving needs of Idahoans.
- » Provide long-term resolution of cases through effective application of the principles of problem-solving justice.

GOAL 4 - Increase Public Trust and Confidence in Idaho Courts

- » Protect communities, reduce recidivism, and hold offenders accountable through evidence-based sentencing practices.
- » Increase awareness of the importance of the jury system—as well as the public's participation in that system—and develop strategies to improve jury service and appreciation.
- » Protect and empower vulnerable individuals under guardianship or conservatorship through education, monitoring, enforcement, and community support.

-Adopted by the Supreme Court October 31, 2011; revised June 16, 2014



Promoting Effective, Innovative Services through Judicial Excellence and Education

Integrity

The Idaho Judiciary promotes leadership and excellence through ongoing improvements to judicial performance evaluation and education. To that end, the Idaho Supreme Court wishes to implement a Judicial Excellence and Education program to further those goals.

Fairness

The Idaho Courts began the Judicial Performance Evaluation Project in 2000. Since then, district, magistrate, appellate, and senior judges have participated on a voluntary basis. Participating judges receive feedback through an anonymous survey from attorneys and clerks who are familiar with their work and use those assessments for self-improvement. In 2012, the Court's Administrative Conference voted unanimously to encourage all judges to participate in this performance evaluation system. That same year, the Supreme Court asked Chief Justice Burdick to chair a Judicial Performance Evaluation (JPE) Committee to review and improve the system and to expand it to all judges to promote self-improvement, wellness, and ongoing education.

Independence

In FY14 the Court and the Judicial Council jointly applied for a grant to plan, strengthen, and implement a more effective judicial performance evaluation program. The grant secured the assistance of national experts to review Idaho's current performance evaluation survey and develop a new survey. The experts also convened focus groups to gain the input of Idaho judges, attorneys, and court staff regarding these evaluations.

Respect

One unique aspect of the new judicial excellence surveys is that the judge being evaluated and a facilitator judge will review the evaluation survey results together to discuss the feedback and access resources for professional development as appropriate. Facilitator judges will be both sitting and senior judges. Surveys will be administered randomly and on a rotational basis with every judge participating every three years. Those surveyed will include attorneys, other judges, and court personnel.

Excellence

Performance evaluation surveys are part of the Judiciary's larger plan to ensure excellence throughout a judge's service. This plan begins with the recruitment of highly qualified judges and continues through pre-bench orientation, new judge mentoring and education, periodic surveys and access to resources to improve performance, ongoing education, and extending to retirement and subsequent senior judge service. The Idaho Judiciary is committed to 100% participation in the program for district, magistrate, appellate, and senior judges. The Judiciary is seeking an appropriation to support this program and hopes to implement a pilot in July 2015, with statewide implementation slated for January 2016.

Innovation

FY 2014 Changes within the Judiciary

FIRST DISTRICT - No Changes

SECOND DISTRICT

New Appointments-

Hon. Jay P. Gaskill, Former Magistrate appointed to District Bench, February 2014

Hon. Michelle Evans, Magistrate Judge, Nez Perce County, June 2014

Retirements-

Hon. Carl Kerrick, District Judge, January 2014

THIRD DISTRICT

New Appointments-

Hon. Robert Jackson, Magistrate Judge, Payette County, August 2013

*Hon. Christopher Nye, District Judge, Canyon County, December 2013

Retirements-

Hon. A. Lynne Krogh, Magistrate Judge, July 2013

FOURTH DISTRICT

New Appointments-

*Hon. Andrew Ellis, Magistrate Judge, Ada County, October 2013

*Hon. Laurie Fortier, Magistrate Judge, Ada County, October 2013

Hon. Joanne Kibodeaux, Magistrate Judge, Ada County, October 2013

*Hon. Steven Hippler, District Judge, Ada County, November 2013

Hon. Jason Scott, District Judge, Ada County, March 2014

Retirements-

Hon. David Day, Magistrate Judge, Ada County, September 2013

Hon. Ron Wilper, District Judge, Ada County, December 2013

Hon. Terry McDaniel, Magistrate Judge, Ada County, June 2014

FIFTH DISTRICT

New Appointments-

Hon. Daniel Dolan, Magistrate Judge, Camas County, January 2014

SIXTH DISTRICT - No Changes

SEVENTH DISTRICT

New Appointments-

*Hon. Alan C. Stephens, District Judge, Jefferson County, October 2013

Hon. Jason Walker, Magistrate in Teton County, Former Magistrate in Camas County,
January 2014

**Indicates creation of new judgeships, legislation was authorized for additional district judgeships, funding was provided for additional magistrate judgeships.*



Court Highlights for FY 2014

HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES

- » Idaho's nine domestic violence courts monitored over 1,500 offenders, and domestic violence court coordinators assisted over 1,250 victims in navigating the court system.
- » Domestic violence courts have an expedited calendar that includes a pretrial within 7-14 days and a trial date within 45-60 days of arrest. In addition to improving court efficiency, this accelerated process provides victims with timely access to advocacy support and services and ensures offenders receive treatment more quickly. Last year domestic violence cases were resolved 30 days faster when processed in domestic violence court as compared to the traditional court process.
- » Court-appointed conservators are required to submit an annual report of accountings to ensure effective asset management for persons under conservatorship. Last year, more than 2,600 annual reports were submitted reflecting more than \$353 million in assets.
- » A pilot project has begun in the Third and Fifth Judicial Districts to implement best practices for monitoring guardianship cases through enhanced case review procedures, ensuring protection for persons under guardianship.
- » Idaho's four child protection drug courts served a total of 68 families, including 100 children. Thirteen participants graduated from a child protection drug court. 41 children were reunified with their families.
- » Volunteer guardians ad litem appointed in child protection cases contributed over 91,000 hours to advocate for Idaho's abused, abandoned, and neglected children.
- » The Idaho Supreme Court unanimously approved statewide implementation of the Idaho Rules of Family Law Procedure (IRFLP) and all seven judicial districts have adopted the new rules. The IRFLP aim to simplify and streamline court processes, facilitating early case resolution, saving time for attorneys, and increasing access to the courts for self-represented litigants.
- » Court assistance offices processed over 62,000 requests for services and information, a historic high.
- » Visitors to the court assistance website increased by 70% last year. Website users are increasingly reliant on mobile devices; as many as 21% of last year's visitors accessed the site using a mobile device.



Judge Jerold Lee presides over Domestic Violence Court in the Third District

HIGHLIGHTS FROM PROBLEM-SOLVING COURTS AND SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES

- » The Supreme Court Felony Sentencing Committee has played an instrumental role in implementation of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (Senate Bill 1357) by providing judicial leadership and guidance on issues such as the restructure of discretionary jail, early discharge from probation, and design of a supervision matrix with an emphasis on incentives and sanctions for those on probation.
- » An Idaho delegation attended the Pretrial Justice Policy Forum sponsored by the National Center for State Courts and the Public Welfare Foundation. The Idaho Criminal Justice Commission subsequently formed a statewide committee on Pretrial Justice, which is tasked with developing consistent, evidence-based practices in pretrial justice.
- » A 2014 outcome evaluation found that felony drug court offenders have significantly lower rates of combined recidivism and early program termination, compared to offenders sentenced to felony probation or retained jurisdiction.

Court Highlights for FY 2014

- » Idaho's veterans treatment courts are expanding and making a difference. Eighty-seven veterans participated in these courts last year, bringing the total to 181.
- » In response to a recent report issued by the Office of Performance Evaluation recommending improvements to Idaho's juvenile justice system, the Supreme Court's Juvenile Justice Advisory Team is coordinating with the Department of Juvenile Corrections to enhance practices known to reduce recidivism among juvenile offenders and improve community safety.
- » At a recent National Center for State Courts summit on juvenile justice reform, an Idaho team identified the following three priorities for system improvement: 1) enhance probation services to ensure adequate evidence-based interventions are available to juvenile offenders and their families; 2) enhance training for public defenders handling juvenile cases; and 3) seek statutory and rule changes to limit public access to juvenile records.



Canyon County Veterans Treatment Court Graduation June 2014

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE INFORMATION DIVISION

- » The Judicial Branch launched the first year of a business plan to significantly transform all court records and business practices through the use of technology. The focus is on improved access to court records, greater convenience for users, better information exchanges with judicial partners, and improved efficiency for court personnel.
- » The Court Technology Committee and the Design and Implementation Team continue working to modernize the Court's case management system. These groups have been working toward the replacement of Idaho's current aging system—the Idaho Statewide Trial Court Automated Records System (ISTARS)—with a new case management system, Odyssey, which is a proven solution across the country.
- » The Court Technology Committee is leading the effort to transition the Courts to a fully electronic court record, which will include the use of electronic judicial workbench tools for judges, electronic filing for attorneys and self-represented litigants, and enhanced web-based portal access for the public.
- » The Information Division held its first Odyssey data-conversion review "Hack-a-thon", a key transition piece from ISTARS to Odyssey where data converted from the old system to the new is tested for accuracy. Clerks from all over the state were invited to participate, resulting in tremendous positive feedback and 130 case-reviews completed.
- » Necessary enhancements to the Court's technology infrastructure are in progress to support the transition to a statewide case management system, including improved servers, storage, and greater network capacity.



Odyssey Data-Conversion Hack-a-Thon, November 2014

Highlights from Idaho's Judicial Districts

The administration
of justice is the
firmest pillar of
government.
~George Washington

1ST DISTRICT

- » The Kootenai County Mental Health Court celebrated its 10th anniversary and has graduated 89 participants since its inception.
- » The Kootenai County Drug Court has graduated 324 participants and the Kootenai County DUI Court has graduated 384 participants since they began.
- » Court interpreters were provided for eight different languages.
- » The family court services office provided mediation services on 126 cases, and 81% of those reached an agreement.
- » The Benewah County Drug Court reported a total of 83 graduates since its inception date of April 2011.

2ND DISTRICT

- » A pre-filing forms workshop is available to assist pro se litigants with cases involving child custody, child support, and modifications. The workshop provides parents with assistance in completing forms and is helping litigants better understand the court process and options available to them. The additional education litigants receive through the workshop is a valuable tool that helps streamline the court process.
- » Beginning December 2013, Michelle Fitting was selected as the new family court service manager. Michelle has worked in the Lewiston/Clarkston area for 20 years in the private sector, as well as contracting to provide court-ordered services to families.
- » The 2nd Judicial District has partnered with the Walla Walla Veterans Administration to create a Veterans Treatment Court (VTC). The new VTC secured a grant to fund SCRAM (Continuous Alcohol Monitoring Systems) to monitor court participants alcohol consumption.
- » The Nez Perce County Adult Drug Court hosted its first visiting court from South Dakota, in its capacity as a nationally recognized mentor court.
- » Nez Perce County has focused on providing low cost drug and alcohol counseling groups for DUI offenders. There are currently two levels available. Group placement is based on a DUI evaluation and financial statement, which dictates cost of treatment varied by offender. The goal for the upcoming year is to implement a third group level to provide services to those offenders with the greatest need.

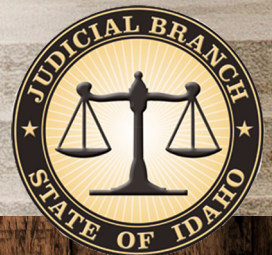
Highlights from Idaho's Judicial Districts

3RD DISTRICT

- » Pursuant to Idaho Supreme Court Criminal Rule 18.1, a successful mediation was conducted in a first degree murder case involving two defendants in Payette County. It saved the county hundreds of thousands of dollars by avoiding a costly trial, while still holding the offenders accountable.
- » The Southwest Idaho Juvenile Detention Center became the first PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) compliant detention facility in the United States.
- » Canyon County opened a new juvenile justice center to provide two courtrooms and ancillary judicial and support staff space dedicated for juvenile and child protection proceedings.
- » A new magistrate division calendar and judicial assignment system was implemented in Caldwell, providing a dedicated judicial position to handle child protection and juvenile corrections cases.
- » A certified court interpreter was hired in Canyon County to provide districtwide language access services.

4TH DISTRICT

- » Ada County Drug and DUI Courts have graduated 889 offenders and 4th judicial district problem-solving courts have graduated more than 1,000 offenders since inception.
- » Ada County developed and implemented a new juror website. This site allows prospective jurors to submit their qualification form online, saving them time and postage costs and reducing paperwork.
- » More than 3,400 court interpreter requests were processed and services were provided in 44 languages.
- » Ada County Marshal's Office participated in a coordinated active shooter training in the courthouse with the Sheriff's Office, Prosecutor's Office and courthouse security officers.
- » Ada County Family Court Services staff screened 1,139 cases to evaluate the safety and appropriateness of mediation. Parents were ordered to mediate in 438 cases.
- » The transcript office provided 461 listening appointments and hearing devices for attorneys and parties appearing in court or handling a case. Listening appointments are scheduled times for parties, attorneys, or members of the media to listen to a portion of an audio proceeding.





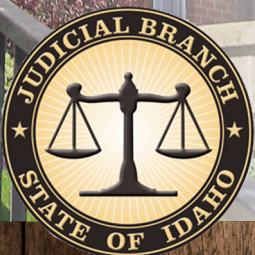
Highlights from Idaho's Judicial Districts

5TH DISTRICT

- » Hon. G. Richard Bevan was selected as one of 48 participants from across the country by the Council of State Governments to be a 2014 Henry Toll Fellow. Judge Bevan attended a six-day “intellectual boot camp” hosted by the Council, alongside officials from each branch of state government.
- » Twin Falls County was selected as the pilot site for implementation of Odyssey, the new statewide case management and record system. Significant preparations are underway, with an anticipated Spring 2015 deployment.
- » A summer BBQ with 5th District judges, legislators and spouses was held at Centennial Park in the canyon. Hon. Rick Bollar gave a presentation on domestic violence courts and Hon. Eric Wildman provided an update on the Snake River Basin Adjudication.
- » 5th district court personnel had the opportunity to attend the National Drug Court Conference in Anaheim, CA as well as a rural drug court seminar in Wisconsin and a mental health court seminar in Utah.
- » Quarterly trainings for court interpreters were held in the 5th District. An average of 10 interpreters traveled to Twin Falls to receive training on various aspects of their jobs with the court.

6TH DISTRICT

- » Bannock County juvenile justice staff were trained in Restorative Practices, Restorative Circles, and Restorative Conferencing. These frameworks strengthen parent and probationer engagement in the probation process. They also provide an opportunity for victims and offenders to sit down, face-to-face, to talk about how to repair harmed relationships.
- » Six veterans graduated from the 6th District Veterans Treatment Court.
- » Bannock County continues to implement the Misdemeanor Pretrial Pilot Project. Misdemeanor Pretrial Day is held each Thursday, where an average of 130 misdemeanor pretrial conferences are held, resulting in about a 50% disposition rate.
- » The 6th district judges and staff attorneys partnered with the federal court and local attorneys for Law Day presentations in schools around the district on the topic of “Every Vote Counts.”
- » 6th district problem-solving court judges participated in “National Drug Court Month” by organizing and attending city council and county commissioners meetings and receiving proclamations from local government officials pronouncing May as “National Drug Court Month.”
- » The 6th District Domestic Violence Court partnered with the Idaho Supreme Court to hold a free training for professionals involved in domestic violence cases in southern Idaho. More than 150 people from around the state participated in this training.



Highlights from Idaho's Judicial Districts

7TH DISTRICT

- » The Bonneville County's Co-occurring Drug Court for Domestic Violence received additional grant funds to expand the domestic violence court review protocol and procedures in Jefferson and Bingham Counties and to expand the court review concept to all ten counties in the district.
- » Lemhi County completed the renovation of their courtroom, including restoration of the historical raised ceiling.
- » Bingham County improved courthouse security by limiting access to a single entrance that the sheriff now staffs using both an x-ray and walk through metal detector.
- » For the fourth consecutive year, the Sixth and Seventh Judicial Districts hosted a three-day deputy clerk training. A wide variety of topics were covered, including handling of exhibits, chain of custody, how to safely provide information to victims and perpetrators involved in civil protection orders through the system, child protection case processing, and code of responsibility for non-judicial county employees.
- » Bonneville County has implemented a pilot felony collections program, which has resulted in a significant increase in felony fine and restitution collections over the past few years. Due to the great success of this program, approval was received to use increased revenues to enhance operations of the county's problem-solving courts.

The care of human life
and happiness, and not
their destruction, is the
first and only object of
good government.
~ Thomas Jefferson

FY 2014 Recognition, Awards, and New Developments

AOC DIRECTOR PATTI TOBIAS ACCEPTS OPPORTUNITY WITH NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

Patti Tobias served more than 20 years as the Administrative Director of the Idaho Courts. She recently accepted an excellent opportunity to work with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), the premier national organization in providing leadership, services, and solutions to state courts. Patti will continue to work with all state courts, including Idaho, as a consultant with the NCSC.

JUDGE RICK BOLLAR PRESENTED WITH THE 2013 GRANATA AWARD

Minidoka County magistrate judge Rick Bollar was presented with the 2013 Granata Award. The Granata Award, named for the late District Court Judge George Granata, is presented annually to an individual in recognition of their professionalism in the judiciary. Judge Bollar's professionalism and his ability to balance justice and compassion have been described as inspirational by his colleagues and those who come before his court. Judge Bollar has previously served as president of the Idaho Magistrate Judges Association and is currently a member of the Supreme Court's Children and Families in the Courts and Court Technology Committees.

JUDGE GUTIERREZ AND MARREEN BAKER-BURTON PRESENTED WITH 2013 KRAMER AWARD

The 2013 Kramer Award is presented annually to individuals who display excellence in judicial administration. Judge Gutierrez has made significant contributions to improving court interpreter services in Idaho. He served as Chair of the Supreme Court's Fairness and Equality Committee and now serves as Chair of the newly formed Language Access Committee, which is tasked with developing a statewide language access plan.

Marreen Baker-Burton, the 4th District Problem-Solving Court Manager, was recognized for her leadership and demonstrated commitment to program innovation. She played a pivotal role in creating Ada County's Drug, Misdemeanor, DUI, and Veterans Courts.

FORMER IDAHO SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE LINDA COPPLE TROUT INDUCTED INTO THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO HALL OF FAME

Former Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout was the first female justice on the Idaho Supreme Court and the only female to serve as Chief Justice. She is a member of the Idaho State Bar Association and the American Inns of Court. She has served on a number of boards of directors as well as judicial and bar committees. Justice Trout has served on the U of I College of Law Advisory Committee and has inspired a new generation of law students by teaching courses in family law. She currently serves as the Court's Interim Administrative Director.

SENIOR JUDGE BARRY WOOD HONORED FOR EXTRAORDINARY WORK DURING LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Former Fifth District Judge Barry Wood was honored by the Supreme Court's Administrative Conference for his significant accomplishments during this year's legislative session. Judge Wood currently serves as the Court's Interim Deputy Administrative Director and chairs the Supreme Court's Advancing Justice Committee.

NORMA JAEGER HONORED WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Idaho Conference on Alcohol and Drug Dependency presented Norma Jaeger with the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her professionalism, her varied contributions, and her passionate commitment to the substance use disorder profession. Norma recently retired as the Statewide Drug Court and Mental Health Court Coordinator for the Supreme Court but continues to work with the problem-solving courts in a consulting role.

FY 2014 Recognition, Awards, and New Developments

KATHY SIMPSON NAMED TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Governor Otter appointed Kathy Simpson of Idaho Falls to the seven-member Idaho Judicial Council to replace Ronald Nate of Rexburg. The Judicial Council oversees recruitment and appointment of Idaho appellate and district judges as well as discipline of all Idaho judges.

SECOND DISTRICT JUDGE JOHN STEGNER APPOINTED TO CHAIR MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE FOR IDAHO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

The charge of the new subcommittee is to increase access to care, training, education, suicide prevention, supervision, supportive housing, treatment and services for individuals with mental illness thereby reducing involvement in the criminal justice system.

JANICE BELLAR SELECTED AS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO BAR'S DISPUTE RESOLUTION SECTION

Concordia University School of Law's Dean Silak has selected Janice Beller to serve as a student representative for the Dispute Resolution Section of the Idaho State Bar. Janice is a law student transitioning from Concordia to the University of Idaho College of Law, in addition to working at the Idaho Supreme Court.

BONNER COUNTY COURT ASSISTANCE OFFICER JAY STURGELL RECEIVES DENISE O'DONNELL-DAY PRO BONO AWARD

The award was presented to Jay Sturgell by CASA for his hours of work donated to advocating for the best interests of abused and neglected children.

BANNOCK COUNTY JUVENILE DRUG COURT SELECTED FOR NATIONAL PROJECT

The Bannock County Juvenile Drug Court was selected as one of 12 courts in the country to participate in a national Juvenile Drug Court Learning Collaborative, a multi-year project for juvenile drug courts to build capacity, assess needs, initiate strategic planning, implement appropriate program improvements, evaluate program performance and help sustain programs.

ADA COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT SELECTED AS A MENTOR COURT

The Ada County Domestic Violence Court is one of three courts selected by the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women to serve as a mentor court, helping other courts develop more effective responses to domestic violence. Magistrate judges Carolyn Minder and James Cawthon jointly preside over the Court.

NEZ PERCE COUNTY DRUG COURT SELECTED AS A NATIONAL MENTOR COURT

The Nez Perce County Adult Drug Court was selected by the National Drug Court Institute. District Judge Jeff Brudie and the Nez Perce County Drug Court were recognized for their leadership and willingness to mentor other drug courts throughout the nation.

IDAHO COURTS IDENTIFIED AS 1 OF 4 STATES HAVING A MODEL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

In a recent report released by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), Idaho was identified as 1 of 4 states that have a governance structure and process that resemble the NCSC's governance principles, which are indicative of a particularly effective court system.

Fy 2014 Caseload Highlights

CASE FILINGS ARE DOWN OVERALL, THOUGH FELONIES, GUARDIANSHIP, CONSERVATORSHIP, & MENTAL COMMITMENT CASES CONTINUE TO RISE

- » A total of 1,062 appeals were filed with the Idaho Supreme Court. Criminal appeals remain steady, increasing by only 1% over last year, while civil appeals are up 6%.
- » Overall, trial court case filings have begun to level off, after a gradual decline over the past few years. District court case filings are 12% lower and magistrate court filings (excluding infractions) are 13% lower than they were five years ago. Total district court filings appear to have leveled off however, with virtually no net change from last year.
- » District court civil case filings continue to gradually decline. They are 9% lower than last year and 28% lower than they were five years ago.
- » District court criminal filings have been on the rise over the past few years and are 13% higher than last year.
- » Both felony and misdemeanor drug cases have been steadily increasing. Felony case filings are up 67% and misdemeanors 16% higher than five years ago.
- » Felony and misdemeanor DUI cases continue to decline. DUI felonies have decreased by 25% and misdemeanors by 36% since FY2009.
- » Since FY2009 guardianship and conservatorship cases have increased by 15% and are up 8% over last year.
- » Mental commitment cases have risen dramatically over the past several years and continued this pattern last year. More than 5,000 cases were filed last year, a 10% increase over last year and an 83% increase over five years ago.
- » After a gradual decline over the past few years, child protection filings leveled off this year, remaining essentially the same as FY2013.
- » Juvenile case filings are down 5% from last year and are 23% lower than five years ago.

Note: Case filings do not necessarily reflect judicial workloads, which vary greatly according to case complexity.

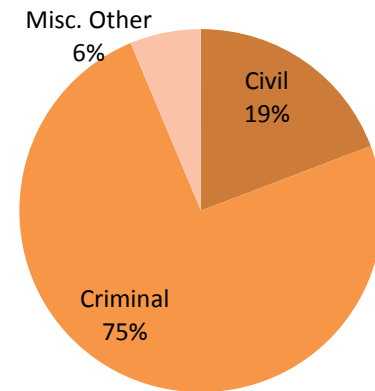
The greatest things are simple
and many can be expressed in
a single word: freedom, justice,
honor, duty, mercy, hope.
~ Winston Churchill

Statewide Caseload Trends

Appellate Court Cases Filed

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014
Civil	219	194	204
Criminal	741	783	791
Misc. Other	87	72	67
Total	1,047	1,049	1,062

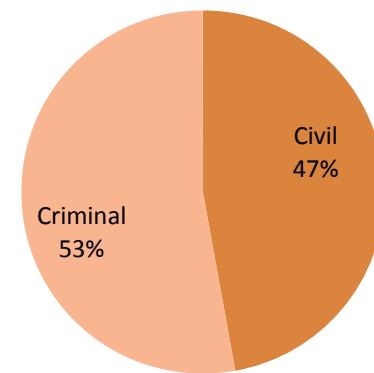
FY2014 Appellate Caseloads



District Court Cases Filed

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014
Civil	9,425	8,112	7,358
Criminal	7,449	7,554	8,247
Appeals	452	453	434
Total	17,326	16,119	16,039

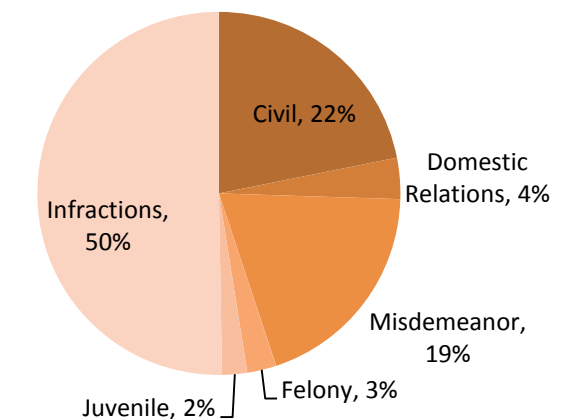
FY2014 District Court Caseloads



Magistrate Division Cases Filed

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014
Civil	81,061	80,300	80,046
Dom. Relations	14,296	13,930	13,405
Misdemeanor	81,432	77,589	71,123
Felony	7,799	8,515	9,488
Juvenile	9,703	8,574	8,128
Infractions	210,550	194,624	184,270
Total	404,841	383,532	366,460

FY2014 Magistrate Div. Caseloads



Note: Probation violations and other post-judgement actions are no longer counted in criminal and juvenile caseloads, as reported in previous Annual Reports of the Idaho Judiciary.

Idaho Court Performance Measures

In 2009, the Idaho Supreme Court adopted nine court performance measures developed by the National Center for State Courts for trial courts. Three of these are statistical performance measures that are monitored and reported regularly: Clearance Rates, Time to Disposition, and Age of Pending Caseloads.

A **Clearance Rate** is the number of outgoing cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases. The Court's goal is to achieve 100% clearance rates for each case type; that is, to dispose of at least as many cases as have been filed or reopened.

Time to Disposition measures the length of time it takes courts to process cases. It is used to compare actual case processing times against pre-determined performance benchmarks, with the goal that at least 90% of each case type meet the established timeframes.

Age of Active Pending Caseload refers to the age of active court cases; cases that have not yet been disposed. This is an interim measure used to ensure active caseloads do not exceed performance benchmarks for case processing. As with time to disposition, the goal is that at least 90% of cases meet established timeframes.

Per Idaho Court Administrative Rule 57, the case processing goals for time to disposition and age of active pending caseload are*:

Civil (District Court)	540 days
Felony (District Court)	150 days
Small Claims	90 days
Other Civil Claims (Magistrate Div.)	180 days
Domestic Relations	180 days
Felony (Magistrate Div.)	30 days
Misdemeanor	90 days
Juvenile Felony	90 days
Juvenile Misdemeanor	90 days
Infractions	60 days

**These case processing goals are currently being reevaluated.*

Justice denied anywhere
diminishes justice everywhere.
~Martin Luther King, Jr.

FY 2014 Statewide Performance Measures

CLEARANCE RATES: NUMBER OF OUTGOING CASES AS A PERCENTAGE OF INCOMING CASES

The Court's goal is to dispose of at least as many cases as have been filed or reopened.



TIME TO DISPOSITION: PERCENTAGE OF DISPOSED CASES MEETING TIME STANDARDS

The Court's goal is at least 90% of cases meet the established time standard.



AGE OF PENDING CASELOAD: PERCENTAGE OF PENDING CASES MEETING TIME STANDARDS

The Court's goal is that at least 90% of cases meet the established time standard, as of June 30th, the end of the fiscal year.



Annual Report of the Idaho Supreme Court

SUPREME COURT

Chief Justice Roger S. Burdick
Justice Daniel T. Eismann | Justice Jim Jones
Justice Warren E. Jones | Justice Joel D. Horton

COURT OF APPEALS

Chief Judge Sergio A. Gutierrez | Judge David W. Gratton
Judge Karen L. Lansing | Judge John M. Melanson

ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT JUDGES

Hon. Lansing Haynes - *1st Judicial District*
Hon. John Stegner - *2nd Judicial District*
Hon. Thomas Ryan - *3rd Judicial District*
Hon. Timothy Hansen - *4th Judicial District*
Hon. Richard Bevan - *5th Judicial District*
Hon. Stephen Dunn - *6th Judicial District*
Hon. Darren Simpson - *7th Judicial District*

TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATORS

Karlene Behringer - *1st Judicial District*
Hon. Jay Gaskill (Acting) - *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*

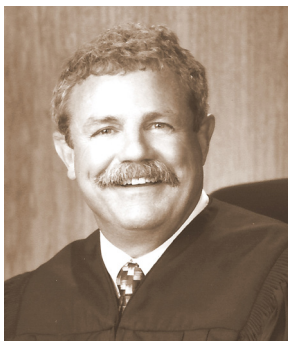
CONTRIBUTING TO THE REPORT

Hon. Linda Copple Trout - *Interim Administrative Director of the Courts*
Hon. Barry Wood - *Interim Deputy Administrative Director of the Courts*
Taunya Jones - *Planning and Research Manager*
Craig Barnes - *Data & Reports Technician*
Camille Nelson - *Technical Writing & Design*

PHOTO CREDITS

The Idaho Heritage Trust has significantly contributed to this publication by providing courthouse 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.



Chief Justice Roger S. Burdick



Justice Daniel T. Eismann



Justice Jim Jones



Justice Warren E. Jones



Justice Joel D. Horton