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Court Adopts New Security Procedures for Idaho Supreme Court Building

Visitors to the Idaho Supreme Court building in Boise will be screened similarly to those visiting any of Idaho's county courthouses, under an order of the Court issued Thursday.

The Court's order also regulates the building's exterior, including items that could be affixed to the Supreme Court building or block its entrances, and prohibits firearms and other weapons from being brought into the building. The order can be read on the Court's website, isc.idaho.gov.

The order is part of an effort to update security measures at the Idaho Supreme Court building following a security audit done by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The changes bring those measures at the Supreme Court up to the level seen across Idaho's 44 local courthouses.

Lawmakers this year approved expanding the number of Idaho State Police troopers assigned to the Court building from one to three through June 2022.

The Court sought to balance security with the importance of public access, according to the order.

"The Court finds that a high level of safety maintained in and around the Idaho State Supreme Court Building to ensure the efficient and safe operation of public business is in the best interests of the general public, judicial officials, and court personnel," the order states. "In addition, reasonable public access to the Idaho Supreme Court building and associated grounds is a high priority."

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