

IDAHO CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

"Collaborating for a Safer Idaho"
Established 2005
C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

2008 Accomplishments

Adopted June 28, 2013

Legislation Drafted and Passed

- NICS Improvement Act. Legislatively passed in 2009.
- Clarified and strengthened Idaho's sex offender statutes, relating to access to children in school buildings and on school grounds and to clarify exceptions to prohibited access and other exceptions, and require GPS monitoring for all violent sexual predators. Legislatively passed in 2008.
- Assisted in developing legislation to standardize misdemeanor probation and fund training opportunities. Legislatively passed in 2008.

Research Studies Completed in Partnership

- The Criminal Justice Research Alliance Subcommittee indentified three areas of research as it relates to an analysis of the criminal justice system:
 - 1) Alternatives to Incarceration with BSU (adults and juveniles).
 - 2) Sex offender research survey in conjunction with Mary Perrien and Boise State University (BSU).
 - 3) Gang reduction with University of Idaho (U of I).
- Four reports were presented to the Commission in those three areas:
 - *Alternative to Incarceration for Juvenile Offenders: A White Paper to the Idaho Criminal Justice Commission* by BSU, Department of Criminal Justice.
 - *Alternatives to Incarceration for Adults* by BSU, Department of Criminal Justice.
 - *Sex offender management in Idaho: A System Review (Assessment, treatment and supervision)* by Dr. Mary Perrien, Idaho Department of Correction, and BSU. Included overview of civil commitment process for serious sex offenders.
 - *Crime Prevention and Re-entry Programs in Idaho: A Report on Current Services and Gaps in Services* by U of I, Department of Political Science and the McClure Center for Public Policy Research
- *Best Practices/Gap Analysis Regarding the Handling of Juvenile Offenders with Substance Abuse, Mental Illness, and Co-Occurring Disorders* white paper by BSU, Department of Criminal Justice. This was a three-part study:

- Part I of the study included a review of evidence-based, best practices literature regarding the handling of juvenile offenders with substance abuse and mental health issues.
- Part II of the study included a gap analysis of how the state of Idaho currently handles juveniles with substance abuse and mental health issues.
- Part III of the study included the formation of strategic policy recommendations on how the state of Idaho might better serve the needs of juveniles with substance abuse and mental health issues based on findings gleaned from the best practices literature as well as the gap analysis.
- A “juvenile delinquency prevention project” was coordinated by a Commission member from the Idaho Department of Education to identify evidence-based practices for statewide distribution of a guide for educators. Dr. Jensen (U of I) completed the research and includes:
 - In-school delinquency and substance abuse prevention programs that achieved statistically significant reductions of alcohol and drug use.
 - Delinquent behavior.
 - Dropouts.
 - Conduct problems.
 - Low self-control.
 - Aggression.
- *The Status of Misdemeanor Probation Nationwide and in the State of Idaho* report by BSU, Department of Criminal Justice. Two-pronged approach for studying misdemeanor probation practices and guidelines for the state: survey of misdemeanor probation officers and research of literature.

Gang Strategies

- A “Law Enforcement Gang Panel” was held to discuss “how to dismantle gang organization’s by use of policy and law.”
- A forum on gang reduction was held at the Capitol building for legislators.

National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Improvement Act Subcommittee

- Established NICS Improvement Act Subcommittee. The purpose was to explore concerns with mental health patients possessing handguns along with a procedure to establish relief from Disabilities Programs.

Other Accomplishments

- Supported and assisted the Office of Drug Policy’s strategic plan development.
- Assisted with efforts to provide judges with information to guide future decisions through the Idaho Felony Sentencing Committee.
- Provided timely, coordinated feedback on the new federal Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

- Sponsored a reentry workshop.
- Reviewed the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards and drafted a letter to Congress seeking relief from unreasonable mandates that jeopardize federal funding.
- Adopted *ICJC Policy Statement – Recidivism Reduction for Offenders* as developed by the Research Alliance Subcommittee.
- Adopted ‘Safer Idaho’ logo.

Conferences Co-sponsored

- 2008 Region 1 Conference, Boise—Co-sponsored by Idaho Department of Correction, this conference addressed criminal gang activity at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Sex Offender Management Forum—Co-sponsored by Idaho Department of Correction, Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections, and Ada County Sheriff’s Office.

