

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission
Regular Meeting
November 15, 2024

Location: In-Person

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Members Present:

Ashley Dowell, Chair, IDJC
Tracy Basterrechea, Chiefs of Police Association
Kieran Donahue, Vice Chair, ISA
~~Chris Mathias~~, House Jud, Rules & Admin
Monty Prow, Health & Welfare
Melissa Wintrow, Senate Judiciary & Rules
~~Bill Gardiner~~, Idaho State Police
Vacant, Public Member
Erik Lehtinen, SAPD
~~Jonathon Brody~~, Judge, District Court

Thomas Sullivan, Judge, Magistrate Court
Todd Lakey, Senate Judiciary & Rules Chairman
Joshua Hurwit, U.S. Attorney, District of Idaho
Jeff Nye, Idaho Attorney General's Office
Darren Simpson, Judge, District Court
~~Bruce Skaug~~, House Jud & Rules Admin
McKenzie Johnson, Office of the Governor
~~Denton Darrington~~, Public Member
Marianne King, Office of Drug Policy

~~Christine Starr~~, Comm of Pardons & Parole
Josh Tewalt, Department of Correction
~~Bernadette LaSarte~~, Public Member
~~Sara Omundson~~, Idaho Supreme Court
Grant Loeb, Prosecuting Attorneys Assoc.
Seth Grigg, Idaho Association of Counties
~~Greg Wilson~~, Department of Education

Comprising a quorum of Idaho Criminal Justice Commission (Commission)

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Members Absent:

Others Present:

Shannon McGuire, Spark!
Lt. Colonel Russ Wheatley, ISP
Jason Spillman, AOC
Shelly Anzioni, Pardon and Parole

Agenda <i>Who's Responsible</i>		Meeting Outcomes/Decisions Reached	Due Date
9:00 am (5 min)	Call to Order— <i>Chair Ashley Dowell</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Roll Call— <i>Chair Ashley Dowell</i> Review Commission's Vision and Mission Statement and Values—<i>Commission Members</i> 		
Commission Management			
9:05 am (5 min)	Action Item – Approve October 2024 Minutes FY25 MOU - Discussion	<i>Seth Grigg made a motion to approve the minutes from October 2024, Jeff Nye seconded. Motion carried.</i> The MOU discussion will be held until the strategic plan is completed.	
Promote Well-Informed Policy Decisions			
9:10 am	Review of the strategic planning timeline - Shannon McGuire, Spark! Consolidated insights from individual meetings - Shannon McGuire, Spark! Facilitation of persona mapping, systems engagement, and priority focus areas - Shannon McGuire, Spark!	We will be looking at the criminal justice system through three frames: Macro Meso Micro Focus on shared human experience. ME (my unique perception) + EM (Their unique perspective) = WE (Our shared human experience) Uncover the challenges: Micro - individuals Meso - organizations Macro - community How do we define the criminal justice system in Idaho? - The system feels disconnected. - Starts with foundations of public safety (LE) and move into the right of the constitution. - It is organizations: LE, prosecutors, public defenders, judiciary, custody facilities. Feel that we should keep it to those otherwise it may cause more harm. - Our laws are an important part of the system as it provides a framework. There needs to be a balance of protection safety and protecting law. And the protection of the Constitution.	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We don't want to get too broad. Prevention pieces: what do interactions look like with LE, courts, and rehab. How do we make sure our citizens are living a productive life when they get to the other side and are no longer in the system. - Two components: criminal justice (process) and then system (it is up to us to define as a commission). Opportunity to define either as broad or narrow as we would like. - There are interactions of the three branches of government. When LE needs clarification they go to the legislature and then there needs to be buy in from the judiciary and the executive branch as well. - There are levels in the system. In the local level there are multiple levels as well. There are processes at the city and county level. The locals have to fund the system that the state establishes. - Mandates are different across the state. Sheriffs have to do civil process. Hearing a definition of criminal justice and then showcasing though the agencies that touches the system. <p>AI definition: The criminal justice system is a structured network of institutions, practices, and legal processes established by governments to prevent, investigate, and prosecute crimes, enforce laws, rehabilitate offenders, and ensure justice for victims while upholding societal order and individual rights.</p> <p>Engage with compassion: Listen deeply and intentionally to community members to identify their values, aspirations, experiences, and barriers to well-being.</p> <p>Human life cycle: Conception, incubation, birth, childhood, teenhood, adulthood, death and transition.</p> <p>This can be pretty simple. Threshold of adventure. Individuals have their daily lives that then have that Call to adventure (crime) where they cross the threshold and this is where they enter the system. What is happening to bring people into the unknown world? They then do, hopefully, cross back out into resurrection and return with the elixir, moving back into the ordinary world.</p>	

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	<p>Empathy mapping: Who are we empathizing with? What do they need to DO? What do they see? What do they say? What do they do? What do they hear? What are they thinking and feeling?</p> <p>Who are the users?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Victims, criminals, general public - Those that are the system. LE, prosecutors, public defenders, plus more. - Those that are targeted in an investigation but never charged. They could never know that they are in the system. - Families of victims and criminals. - There is not one person who doesn't rely on the rule of law and so everyone is part of the system. <p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of resources for all parts of the system. This is usually in the form financial resources. - Sometimes people feel like the only way they feel like they can get resources is to get into the system. - Consistency is a big issue. This can hurt the work done at the state level and even the courts. There is a lot of room for interpretation. Sentencing can be complicated. There is more disparity than you would think for similar cases. Consistency definitely helps breed trust in the system. Consistency needs to also consider the local needs. There might be a process that works better in some areas than others. - Trust from the general public is big challenge. People won't call if they don't trust and understand the system. - Accountability. There isn't a clear process for accountability across the state. Most don't know who is accountable for individuals that don't think they are treated fair. - Need to have quality people in all positions of the system. - Recruitment is a big problem. Even when there is money, agencies don't get applicants to fill the vacant positions. - The states growth is a challenge as well. It is amazing that the state is seeing the growth but there aren't enough employees in the system to serve the growth. 	

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	<p>Where do they enter the system?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law enforcement - Mental health entries - Schools (SROs) - The system is around everyone so some might not actually enter the system. - Victims: Some individuals are forced into the system by a crime. They may enter the system before the defendant. - Child protection. - Civil services - Jurors <p>How are they interacting with the system?</p> <p>Cracks create people in the system inadvertently. Life happens but then there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drug/gang world. People who engage in these will probably end up in the system. The same could be said about victims of domestic violence, poverty, and illness. - Interaction mostly through the media. There are some gaps between what is reported v. what is accurate. This can be created by those who are involved. An example is LE who don't/can't speak about a case. This leaves a gap for others to fill in. - Jurors can be impacted by their interactions in the system. - Navigating how to find information. - Social media - Misinformation within the system itself. <p>Engage and mobilize resources:</p> <p>Potential structure:</p> <p>Idaho Criminal Justice Commission as an overall umbrella but there could be subcommittees such as public safety, prevention and diversion, and rehabilitation. These could have co-leads, identify strategic initiatives, and have subject matter experts on the committees.</p>	

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		<p>There is also the Grant Review Council. This is another committee that is identified in the executive order.</p> <p>We are missing fixing the lack of understanding of the general public. How do we educate the public? (school house rock – Clip)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We can utilize agency staff to help complete the work. - The commission needs to create more direct roles of the subcommittees. They need to know exactly what they need to accomplish. <p>What are the areas of focus should the groups focus on? Current themes: Centering Victim Voices, Riders, Parent Engagement and Education, Help the Helpers.</p> <p>Need to work on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DNA collection as a whole - Education - Vetting legislation. The commission maybe not taking a position one way or another but at least providing feedback. There needs to be a process for doing this. I.e. We invite legislators in to discuss their draft. Public discussion. Another option could be that there is a more formal process. The commission could have one subcommittee review the draft and provide documentation that gives recommendations to the full commission. - Recruitment - Engage workforce development council on criminal justice study fields. - What issues are others/legislators interested in? I.e. human trafficking, agency work? 	
12:00 pm	Adjourn		

Next regularly scheduled meeting to be held in Boise, Friday, December 13, 2024

“Collaborating for a Safer Idaho”