

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission
Regular Meeting
April 11, 2025

Location: Hybrid – Idaho Supreme Court Building

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Members Present:

Ashley Dowell, Chair, IDJC	Vacant, Public Member
Kieran Donahue, Vice Chair, ISA	Erik Lehtinen, SAPD
Tracy Basterrechea, Chiefs of Police Association	Justin Whatcott, U.S. Attorney, District of Idaho
Chris Mathias, House Jud, Rules & Admin	Jeff Nye, Idaho Attorney General’s Office
Monty Prow, Health & Welfare	Darren Simpson, Judge, District Court
Melissa Wintrow, Senate Judiciary & Rules	Bruce Skaug, House Jud & Rules Admin
Bill Gardiner, Idaho State Police	Christine Starr, Comm of Pardons & Parole
Jonathon Brody, Judge, District Court	

Denton Darrington, Public Member
Eric Fredericksen, State Public Defender
Bree Derrick, Department of Correction
Bernadette LaSarte, Public Member
Grant Loeb, Prosecuting Attorneys Assoc.
Greg Wilson, Department of Education

Comprising a quorum of Idaho Criminal Justice Commission (Commission)

Idaho Criminal Justice Commission Members Absent:

Sara Omundson, Idaho Supreme Court	Seth Grigg, Idaho Association of Counties
Thomas Sullivan, Judge, Magistrate Court	McKenzie Johnson, Office of the Governor

Todd Lakey, Senate Judiciary & Rules Chairman
Marianne King, Office of Drug Policy

Others Present:

Jason Spillman, Idaho Supreme Court
Jessie Dexter, Office of Drug Policy
Sara Stover, Governor’s Office
Kelli D. Brassfield, Idaho Association of Counties

Agenda <i>Who's Responsible</i>		Meeting Outcomes/Decisions Reached	Due Date
9:00 am	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			
	Action Item – Approve February 21, 2025 & March 14, 2025 Minutes	<i>Bill Gardiner made a motion to approve the minutes from February 21, 2025, and March 14, 2025, Jeff Nye seconded. Motion carried.</i>	
Promote Well-Informed Policy Decisions			
	Discussion of action items approved by Governor Little and review subcommittees and agency sponsors Action Item- Approve subcommittees	<p>PS-3 Human Trafficking: The Governor stated that some other groups are working on human trafficking already. The AG's office is working on human trafficking as directed by the legislature. They are not doing boots on the ground work. Their report does have some recommendations. The goal is to have all stakeholders represented in the report. The AG's office is also doing some work around sex crimes. ICJC doesn't need to duplicate the work.</p> <p>PS-4 Sex Crimes: The AG's office is also doing some work around sex crimes. ICJC doesn't need to duplicate the work.</p> <p>PD-1 Neurocognitive Holds: The Governor was very supportive of this goal. He would like us to also look at placement of these individuals.</p> <p>COC-1 Support for Victims: The tribal community would really like to be involved in this area. There is a gap between when someone goes through trial and are then incarcerated to when a victim is requested to participate in a parole hearing. We need to make sure victims are receiving resources and support during the time the defendant is incarcerated.</p> <p>RR-1 Riders: The Governor supports this issue.</p> <p>There are a couple of other items the Governor would like ICJC to work on including the coroner system and also public safety positions recruitment and retention.</p> <p>For sex crimes, where would a subcommittee focus that isn't already being done by another group? Legislative recommendations and resources for agencies.</p>	

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	<p>There is also a lot of crossovers between human trafficking and sex crimes. Need to look at prevention and intervention. Educating younger people sooner will help have an impact on this issue. Need to look at the whole system of sex crimes.</p> <p>Although others are working on human trafficking, ICJC needs to have a subcommittee on human trafficking. The AG's office can provide resources and other information. There are other agencies taking care of the victims, but this group could look at the system and prevention. Need to look at objective resources.</p> <p>Not sure if this commission needs to take on the rider issue. There are other agencies that could take on this topic. What would be the focus of the rider subcommittee? We know that riders are not doing what they were intended. The data shows they have not been very successful. We need to determine if we adjust the rider program or find something to replace it? IDOC and the Courts will work on this and report back.</p> <p><u>Human Trafficking - Chaired by the Office of the Attorney General and Idaho State Police:</u> Recommendations for resources from law enforcement and prosecutors, recommendations for education/training for law enforcement and prosecutors</p> <p><u>Sex Crimes - Chaired by the Chiefs of Police Association and State Appellate Public Defender (Erik Lehtinen):</u> Focus on the prevention, intervention and reduction of sexual crimes</p> <p><u>Public Safety Positions - Chaired by the Sheriffs Association and State Department of Education:</u> Work with the Workforce Development Council and Launch to improve recruitment of public safety positions and make recommendations for retention strategies</p>	

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		<p><u>Coroner System - Chaired by the Association of Counties (Kelli Brassfield) and Senator Wintrow:</u> Review of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee report on the coroner system and recommendations for potential next steps to address concerns</p> <p><u>Neurocognitive Holds and Placements - Chaired by the Idaho Supreme Court (Magistrate Judge TBD) and Department of Health and Welfare:</u> Review legislation, strategies and multisystem engagement to explore the impact of neurocognitive disease related to holds and improve or recommend expanded placement options</p> <p><u>Support for Victims - Chaired by Christine Starr and Bernie LaSarte:</u> Explore additional support for victims of crime to include increased education, expanding civil options for recouping restitution and addressing needs related to Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP)</p> <p><u>Riders - Chaired by the Idaho Department of Correction and Idaho Supreme Court:</u> Review policy, procedure and statute related to the rider program and recommend additional or alternative options that may be more effective</p> <p><i>Kieran Donahue made a motion to accept the subcommittee proposals, Bree Derrick seconded. Motion carried.</i></p>	
	<p>Discussion of Pardons and Parole Definition for Strategic Plan</p> <p>Action Item- Adopt strategic plan with definition addition</p>	<p>Added Pardons and Parole to page 6, 8, and a definition on page 9.</p> <p><i>Christine Starr made a motion to amend the box on page 6 to read "pardon and parole" and accept the definition, Erik Lehtinen seconded. Motion carried.</i></p>	
	<p>Discussion on process for legislative requests moving forward</p>	<p>"Thank you for contacting the Governor's Idaho Criminal Justice Commission (ICJC) regarding your proposed legislation. ICJC as a body does not review, endorse, or oppose pending legislation. However, I'm happy to solicit feedback from individual ICJC members."</p>	

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	Action Item- Adopt consistent guidance for legislators requesting ICJC legislative review	<i>Kieran Donahue motion to accept the proposed language, Christine Starr seconded. Motion carried.</i>	
	ICJC MOU and Cost Sharing Options Action Item – Live streaming the ICJC meetings	Need to be cautious about what capabilities are available. It may create a chilling effect. Move to the next meeting.	
	Adjourn	<i>Jeff Nye made a motion to adjourn, Kieran Donahue seconded. Motion carried.</i>	

Next regularly scheduled meeting to be held in Boise, Friday, May 16, 2025

“Collaborating for a Safer Idaho”