

ICJC Sex Crimes Prevention Subcommittee – Regular Meeting

June 4, 2026 @ 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Meeting Location: Office of the Idaho State Appellate Public Defender, 322 E. Front St., Suite 570, Boise, Idaho

Subcommittee Co-Chairs:

Erik Lehtinen, Director, Office of the State Appellate Public Defender

Tracy Basterrechea, Chief, Meridian Police Department

Members Present (7):

Erik Lehtinen

Jen Rupe

Scott Rowley

John Dinger

Roger Sherman

Aleshea Boals

Collin Elias

Members Not Present (9):

Tracy Basterrechea

Elizabeth Spenner

Trina Allen

Dr. Megan Smith

Jean Fitzgerald-Mutchie

Stu Hobson

Cassie Graham

Jean Fisher

Anthony Henry

Other Attendees (1):

Iliana Cano

Meeting Agenda:

1. Subcommittee membership changes

Chair Lehtinen informed the subcommittee of the following changes to SCPS membership:

- Ivie Smart left the subcommittee and was replaced by Cassie Graham, also of IDHW.
- Jen Rupe (AG) joined the subcommittee. Hers is a new seat that will be in addition to whomever the AG hires to replace Meredith Heer.
- Due to ongoing scheduling conflicts, Dr. Lisa Bostaph has left the subcommittee. She may be replaced by Dr. Laura King, also from BSU.

2. Approval of April 30, 2026, regular meeting minutes

Chair Lehtinen informed the subcommittee that there would be no vote to approve the April 30, 2026, meeting minutes because a quorum is not present.

3. Discuss Subcommittee Presentation from the most recent (May 29, 2026) Idaho Criminal Justice Commission meeting:

Chair Lehtinen walked the subcommittee through the PowerPoint presentation that was given to the Idaho Criminal Justice Commission (ICJC) at its May 29, 2026, meeting. The sense was that the presentation went well, and that ICJC members were interested and had good questions and comments.

4. Discuss next steps for subcommittee:

The committee discussed how to narrow and prioritize its approach to sex crime prevention. Members explored the differences among various offenses and discussed the relationship between childhood abuse and the potential continuation of harmful cycles, including substance abuse and future offending behavior. The conversation emphasized both upstream and downstream prevention strategies, focusing on protecting children from abuse to reduce long-term adverse outcomes.

Members agreed that early intervention efforts are generally more common than attempts to identify or intervene with potential offenders before offenses occur, as it is a relatively easier undertaking. The committee discussed several possible approaches and considered existing programs in Idaho. While some programs were identified as potential models, concerns were raised regarding the capacity and resources needed to effectively implement and sustain statewide initiatives.

The committee also discussed the importance of establishing measurable outcomes and identifying reliable methods for data collection to evaluate program success. Members acknowledged the challenges associated with prevention efforts, including the difficulty of identifying offenders, who are often otherwise functioning members of society.

A significant portion of the discussion focused on educational outreach. Members discussed the possibility of partnering with local schools to provide age-appropriate prevention education to children and adolescents. It was noted that education should be tailored to developmental stages and reinforced through ongoing conversations. Members also discussed the value of engaging parents through school-based outreach efforts.

The subcommittee discussed concerns related to children entering the foster care system after experiencing abuse or neglect and the potential for exposure to additional forms of harm. Members also noted disparities in available support services, highlighting the limited resources for male victims compared to those available for female victims.

Additional outreach opportunities discussed included partnering with community organizations, schools, fire departments, hospitals, and elected officials. The committee generally agreed that school-aged children represent a particularly vulnerable population and should be a primary focus of prevention efforts. Educational initiatives could also help students recognize warning signs and risk factors that might otherwise go unnoticed.

The discussion further addressed the lack of statewide data collection following the removal of certain state surveys. Members discussed potential funding sources for future initiatives.

The subcommittee also revisited concerns regarding the absence of specific “sextortion” laws in Idaho. Members discussed the pros and cons of proposing a sextortion statute, and it was suggested that if the subcommittee decides to do so, it should identify existing legislation and best practices from other states that have successfully enacted such laws. Members generally agreed that additional data, research, and foundational work would be necessary before pursuing legislative recommendations. Additionally, members discussed the concern that crafting a new criminal statute may be outside the current mandate for the subcommittee.

The meeting concluded with consensus that the committee should break its proposed three-year plan into smaller, achievable goals to better guide future efforts and measure progress.

5. Schedule next subcommittee meeting (possibilities include July 2, 2026, or July 9, 2026)

It was agreed that the next subcommittee meeting will be July 9, 2026.