

**IDAHO STATE PUBLIC DEFENSE
COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN**
FY 2022 through FY 2025

MISSION

The Idaho State Public Defense Commission is committed to improving the delivery of trial-level indigent defense services by serving the counties and indigent defense providers of Idaho. We strive to ensure that the safeguards for the accused guaranteed by the 6th Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Sect. 13 of the Idaho Constitution are fulfilled by collecting data, supporting compliance with standards, providing training and administering grants to stakeholders.

VISION

Ensuring constitutionally guaranteed fair and just representation for indigent persons in Idaho.

GOALS

FIRST GOAL: Provide stakeholders and the public with clear and understandable rules.

- Objective:** Continue rulemaking of the twenty-one sections rejected by the germane committees following presentation of replacement language during the 2021 legislative session and then adopted as temporary rules by the Commission.
- Performance Measures:** Present the proposed rules, which were the subject of negotiated rulemaking and approved by the Commission, for public hearing and comment in September 2021. Present all comments and recommended pending rules to the Commission and present the pending rules adopted by the Commission to the 2022 Idaho Legislature.

SECOND GOAL: Promote excellence by providing interactive and accessible training to defending attorneys and professional staff.

- Objective 1:** Understand the training needs of defending attorneys and their staff and develop innovative and accessible training.
- Performance Measures:** Survey PDC training participants about their needs and feedback and collaborate with partners to design effective in-person and virtual trainings.
- Assess stated needs and plan trainings each quarter for the following quarter.

Objective 2: Provide live interactive and recorded webinars to defending attorneys.

Performance Measures: Produce and present monthly live webinars featuring Idaho and/or national presenters at no charge to PDC roster members.

Record webinars to be available to PDC roster members at no charge through the Idaho PDC learning management system.

Objective 3: Provide the annual public defense college emphasizing trial skills, holistic defense and mentoring.

Performance Measures: Produce and present an in-person or, if prohibited by Covid, continue with the virtual public defense college at no charge for PDC roster members.

Secure accommodations or platforms by September 2021.

Recruit attorneys from Idaho and across the nation to teach and prepare training materials by May 2022.

THIRD GOAL: Collect accurate indigent defense services data and make recommendations to the Idaho legislature.

Objective: Collaborate with partners to identify and collect accurate case, workload and indigent defense expenditure data.

Performance Measures: Collaborate with stakeholders, Administrative Office of the Courts, policy experts and other partners to identify relevant data and improve forms and develop other methods of data collection by the end of 2022.

During each fiscal year, work with counties and defending attorneys to obtain and analyze specific case and indigent defense expenditure data from the prior fiscal year.

FOURTH GOAL: Provide clear, concise and updated external and internal policies.

Objective 1: Review all PDC policies with the objective of identifying policies that will be eliminated, edited or added.

Performance Measures: Identify all outdated or unclear policies and any policies that are either inconsistent with or redundant of relevant state policy by the second quarter of 2022.

Identify policy topics that are absent from PDC and state policy and necessary for the PDC by the second quarter of 2022.

Objective 2: Draft clear and concise policies linking to state policy where appropriate.

Performance Measures: Present completed internal and external policies to the Commission for review and approval by the second quarter of 2023.

FIFTH GOAL: Provide clear and comprehensive financial assistance parameters and guidance for a more effective and efficient process.

Objective: Identify and draft necessary parameters and guidance for financial assistance applications, awards and accountability consistent with relevant statutes and rules.
Performance Measures: Collaborate with and review prior comments by staff and stakeholders about financial assistance program by February 1, 2022.

Draft parameters and guidance for stakeholders, staff and the Commission for applications, Commission review and award process and expenditure reporting and present these to the Commission for review and approval by March 31, 2022.

Provide specific changes to the financial assistance program to stakeholders in quarterly meetings, open houses, calls, financial assistance instructions on the website and by correspondence prior to May 15, 2022.

EXTERNAL FACTORS

In part, the goals of the strategic plan are dependent on the rulemaking process and reaching a consensus with stakeholders. The Commission will revisit the strategic plan as necessary to ensure responsiveness to the needs of the stakeholders in Idaho.
