Board of Correction

The Board of Correction provides oversight to the Idaho Department of Correction. The Governor appoints the board. Current members are Chairman Robin Sandy, Vice-Chairman Jay Nielsen and Secretary J.R. Van Tassel.

The Department incarcerates adult felons, supervises felony probationers and parolees, and provides pre-sentence investigations for the courts. The Department also provides education, treatment and reentry services to reduce offender risk. IDOC employs 1,557 professionals serving in four divisions: Prisons; Probation and Parole; Education, Treatment and Reentry; and Management Services.

Director’s Message

As we enter the new year, the Department is focused on three key issues: Staff, population and settling the federal Balla lawsuit.

STAFF
Staff come first. We can’t accomplish our mission to protect the public without professional staff.

Training officers and hiring professionals in all positions is expensive. Officer positions require five weeks of POST training. We can’t give raises to meet market rates for these jobs, but are providing incentives to those who work on special teams and are paying overtime for security positions.

POPULATION
Idaho’s inmate population grew by more than 500 inmates during the last fiscal year. The growth demanded action. We moved inmates out of state in August 2012, even as we analyzed every probation and parole violation, and redoubled efforts to do the following:

- Get offenders into treatment in communities.
- Try all alternative sanctions possible prior to violation.

Idaho experienced the most success in managing the offender population with a division leader focused in each major service area, so recently I reorganized from two divisions back to four.

The changes are making a difference. The prison population is down more than 100 inmates in the first five months of the year. I’m asking agency leaders to explore the possibility of returning some inmates to Idaho.

As the inmate population decreases, the probation and parole population increases. This demands we manage community resources effectively, and constantly reevaluate to make certain today’s practices meet today’s needs.

SETTLING BALLA
Idaho has a unique opportunity to settle a 31-year-old federal lawsuit on health care and population issues at the largest state-run prison. IDOC reached a stipulated agreement that requires new health-care positions, more reporting of statistics, and monitoring for two years.

Prisons have changed tremendously since Balla began in 1981. Health-care standards have evolved as well. We need to modernize. Legislative approval is required to make the changes. I believe the changes prepare us for the future and provides the best resolution of this matter for Idaho taxpayers.
HUMAN RESOURCES
This group manages recruitment, training, benefits and employee relations.

Human Resources provides services that promote fair treatment of staff while balancing the needs of employees and the agency.

Correctional officers are the largest job class in the Department. Preparing CO recruits for the Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) requires a significant time and financial commitment.

In 2012, the Department experienced 18% turnover in the correctional officer ranks and 12% turnover in all other classifications.

QUALITY
New in fiscal year 2012, the Director moved quality assurance to his office and launched a department-wide effort.

The quality assurance model adopted focuses on creating a continuous quality improvement environment based on the “Plan, Do, Check, Act” philosophy.

OPS
The Office of Professional Standards investigates complaints and staff misconduct allegations. In FY12, OPS investigated 31 cases and eight preliminary inquiries.

COMMUNICATION
Key communications tools include the idoc.idaho.gov website, a Facebook page and brief sheets.

www.IDOC.idaho.gov
Prisons Division

OVERVIEW
The Prisons Division manages eight prisons across Idaho. Idaho also has inmates in three privately operated prisons under the oversight of Management Services. Security staff in Idaho-managed prisons represents the largest staff group at IDOC. IDOC employs more than 730 prison security staff.

PRISON GROWTH
Idaho’s inmate population grew by 519 inmates in FY12. To manage the increase in inmates, the Department opened a closed unit at the maximum security prison, and added beds at the Orofino prison. Management Services developed a contract for out-of-state beds and increased county jail bed placements.

CONTRABAND REDUCTION
During the 2012 legislative session, Idaho enhanced contraband penalties, making it a felony to bring a cell phone or more than three ounces of tobacco into Idaho prisons. In April, Idaho convicted an inmate under the new law. Tobacco trafficking can create a dangerous environment, often making gangs more powerful. Behind bars, tobacco worth $1 can be resold for $80 in smaller quantities.

GANGS
Assaults in Idaho prisons increased 27% in FY12. Gangs are involved in approximately 80% of all prison assaults.

EXECUTIONS
The Department carried out death warrants issued in the cases of Paul Ezra Rhoades in November and Richard Albert Leavitt in June. The two were Idaho’s first executions since 1994. The agency set a mission to carry out the difficult duty with professionalism, respect, and dignity.

CONTRACTS
One in five Idaho inmates is in a gang. Gang presence continues to increase. Half of the inmates housed at the maximum security prison have a gang affiliation.

Inmate on inmate assaults increased 27% in FY12.
Probation and Parole Division

OVERVIEW
Probation and parole officers supervise felony offenders in communities statewide. This division also performs presentence investigations for the courts, and assesses offender treatment needs.

SUPERVISED POPULATION
The probation and parole population grew by just 19 offenders during fiscal year 2012. The supervised offender population is increasing more rapidly in the first quarter of FY13, up by nearly 100 offenders.

SUPERVISION FEE
Offenders on probation and parole pay a cost of supervision (COS) fee. The fee funds about a third of the supervision costs. In FY12, more than $6 million was collected through COS. Supervision costs $3.86 per day.

CASELOAD SIZE
Officers are managing more offenders than ever before. Caseloads increased by 10 offenders per officer during the past eight years.

FOCUSED EFFORT
Concerned by increasing inmate counts, IDOC now uses a survey to determine why supervised offenders are violating parole. The Department found some opportunities internally to change practices and reinforce efforts to keep people on track.

- The violation process is now challenged and vetted more thoroughly with added informational steps.
- Pre-treatment and expedited service referrals were added to make treatment access quicker.

The Department continues working on multiple fronts to improve systems.

PSI
Pre-sentence investigators (PSIs) provide reports to the court detailing offender history. In 2012, investigators provided 4,741 reports to help judges with sentencing decisions.

Surveys track violations.

District staff are currently piloting new requirements in Idaho Codes 19-2524. The changes call for the Department to screen and assess every newly convicted offender for substance abuse and mental health issues. This information will be included in the PSI to assist the courts in sentencing decisions.

District 4 probation and parole officers visit a probationer at home.

Offenders go through assessments as they begin probation.

District 4 probation and parole officers visit a probationer at home.

Probation and parole officer caseloads are increasing. The chart represents the average caseload system-wide.

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Those with higher risk will be managed at a higher level by district staff.

The supervised offender population grew less than 1% last year.
The judge encouraged mediation after receiving a special master’s report critical of the medical and mental health services at ISCI. As a result of mediation, the Department agreed to staffing, structural and procedural changes at the facility, contingent upon legislative appropriations. The agreement requires monitoring for two years.

MENTAL HEALTH INMATES

The number of Idaho inmates with mental health needs continues to grow. The Department manages 2,136 mental health inmates. Currently, 46% of those inmates fall into the more acute population that require special housing or enhanced clinical interventions.

INMATE MOVEMENT

IDOC manages approximately 8,000 inmates, but moving them to and from court and into the right facility for their custody level and treatment needs is a business of its own.

The agency moved inmates 14,908 times in FY12. The system was at capacity with more than 800 inmates in county jails prior to out-of-state placements in August. Full beds and county jail bed use complicated the already complex inmate movement process.
Management Services Division

OVERVIEW
The business of corrections includes managing contracts to house 2,500 inmates in contract prisons. Idaho sent inmates out of state in August 2012, expanding the use of contract beds and monitoring responsibilities for this division. Business services such as fiscal, grants, construction, research and information technology are also managed in this division.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES
A major focus for the Department is improving data quality and integrity. Management Services is leading a group referred to as OMAP/GAP. The work group is defining process and data elements needed to measure results and manage facilities and programs effectively.

RESEARCH
The Research group is working to eliminate fractured Access databases and implement Crystal Reporting and a data analysis tool. The data integrity initiatives will allow comprehensive, statewide, real-time reporting to staff and information to guide decisions.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
New in 2012, is a Project Management Office. Fortune 500 companies use project managers to effectively implement new processes. IDOC utilized project managers to help with major changes including all IT projects below.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
IT completed development of a Pre-sentence Investigation computer module. The web program allows IDOC and courts to share offender information more effectively.

BUDGET
The budget and payroll group is creating tools to help managers monitor personnel costs.

Idaho inmates are transported to a Colorado prison.

CONTRACT SERVICES
This bureau manages capital construction, contract administration and oversight, and central records.

CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION
The Contract Administration unit develops and administers all major contracts. These contracts include offender health-care services, privately operated prisons, religious volunteer services, and offender phone and commissary. Contracts account for $70 million, 40% of the budget.

In FY12, the contract group developed a request for proposal for out-of-state prison beds, and new concession contracts for offender phone and commissary services.

CONTRACT PRISON OVERSIGHT
This unit monitors performance and contract compliance of three privately operated prisons and monitors inmates in county jails. The unit increased oversight efforts by assigning three full-time monitors to the Idaho Correctional Center.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION
In FY12, the construction unit received $2.3 million in Permanent Building Funds for alteration and repair projects. Projects included construction of an $800,000 maintenance building at the Orofino prison.

Smoothing the foundation for an Orofino addition.

CENTRAL RECORDS
Central Records typically calculates between 300 and 400 court orders per month. In addition to sentence calculations, they retain offender records.
Looking Forward, FY13 Goals

- Retain trained staff
- Monitor and resolve the 31-year-old Balla case
- Develop a mental health facility
- Population management initiatives
- Create adequate IT infrastructure

Budget Facts, FY12 Expenditures

The FY12 Department budget was $177,867,400.

Housing inmates cost $112 million or 63% of the total budget.

Incarcerated Offenders

By Crime Group

- Alcohol: 7%
- Assault: 24%
- Drug: 21%
- Murder/Manslaughter: 5%
- No Crime: 0%
- Property: 22%

By Status

- Probation Violator: 6%
- Parole: 14%
- Rider: 24%
- Term: 80%

By Gender

- Female: 12%
- Male: 88%

The charts represent the 8,097 offenders housed in Idaho prisons at the end of fiscal year 2012 and the percentages of offenders in each identified category.

Probation and Parole

By Crime Group

- Alcohol: 15%
- Assault: 17%
- Drug: 28%
- Murder/Manslaughter: 1%
- No Crime: 4%
- Property: 27%

By Status

- Probation: 79%
- Parole: 21%

By Gender

- Female: 23%
- Male: 77%

The charts represent the 14,052 offenders supervised in Idaho communities at the end of fiscal year 2012 and the percentages of offenders in each identified category.