

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURTS**

Family safety

Offender accountability

*(Presentation by Hon. Rick Bollar)*

## **Domestic Violence Courts**

Created with support of the Legislature

- **Passage of Idaho Code 32 - 1408(3)**
- **Providing funding for Domestic Violence Court Coordinators**

## **Domestic Violence Courts**

- **Enhance victim safety and offender accountability**
- **Provide effective case management**
- **Coordinate information for families with multiple cases**
- **Use one judge to process cases**

## **Domestic Violence Courts**

DV Courts process:

- **Domestic violence cases (criminal)**
- **Protection order cases (civil)**
- **Related divorce, custody, child support cases**
- **Family violence criminal misdemeanor cases**

## Domestic Violence Courts

### Court's Objective:

- Provide a safe environment for families at risk
- Create coordinated responses to family issues
- Avoid separate judges providing different rulings
  - Confusing
  - Have negative consequences to the family

## Domestic Violence Courts

Statewide Domestic Violence Court Coordinator - Amber Moe

- DV Courts and Coordinators in 6 of 7 Judicial Districts
- Different demographics and resources
  - Policies and Guidelines
  - Research-based best practices
  - Identify essential elements for Domestic Violence Courts
- All have
  - Fast-track criminal case disposition
  - Ongoing judicial reviews

## Domestic Violence Courts

- Offenders held to a higher level of accountability
- Concentrate responsibility in a single judge
- Monitor compliance with court orders
- Oversee treatment programs
- Allow victims a greater voice
- Promptly address critical family issues
- Provide resources for victims early in the process

## Domestic Violence Courts

Court Coordinators are critical to the effective operation

- Identify gaps and barriers in services
- Create services and treatment options for victims and offenders in rural areas
- Facilitate development of coordinated community response
- Improve the handling of domestic violence cases within the justice system

## **Domestic Violence Courts**

**Ada County Domestic Violence Court as Mentor Court**

- **Model and host for site visits for judges and prosecutors**
- **Bonneville County District wide and High Intensity DV Court**
- **All Districts are participate in evaluations**

