

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
IDAHO JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION YOUTH COMMITTEE

PREAMBLE

“We, the members of the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission Youth Committee, as a standing committee of the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission, establish this constitution to serve as a voice for the youth of Idaho.”

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization is the *Youth Committee of the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission*, also referred to as the *Youth Committee*.

ARTICLE II – AUTHORITY

The Youth Committee was created the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission (Commission) under the authority of the Governor of the State of Idaho. The Commission was originally established by Governor’s Executive Order 81-4 dated March 5, 1981, and continues to date by virtue of subsequent executive orders.

ARTICLE III – PURPOSE

The purpose of the committee is to serve as a voice for the youth of Idaho. The Youth Committee Mission is to *Represent and Empower Youth in Idaho*. The Youth Committee will effectively represent youth from all districts, including Native American tribes, and will keep the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission informed on issues and needs of youth.

The Youth Committee will present an Action Plan to the Commission at least every three (3) years. This plan will identify the goals and objectives of the Youth Committee, and will help in developing the activities the Youth Committee will focus on to help youth who are in, or are at risk of being in, the juvenile justice system.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Composition: The Youth Committee shall consist of five (5) to twelve (12) members. Members must be a minimum of fifteen (15) years of age and may serve on the Youth Committee until the age of twenty-eight (28). Members should include individuals who have experience within the juvenile justice system, however system involvement is not required.

Consideration: Those interested in joining the Youth Committee are encouraged to attend at least two (2) committee meetings or local district council meetings. After attending two (2) meetings, a resume and application may then be submitted for consideration. The committee will submit a list of nominees to the Commission for approval and appointment.

Terms of membership: The terms of membership on the committee shall be for three (3) years. Names of current members may be submitted to the Commission for re-approval upon expiration of their term.

Meeting attendance: Any member of the Committee who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without being excused by the committee Chair for good cause may have their membership terminated.

Compensation: Members may be reimbursed for travel expense incurred by them in carrying out their duties at the rate established by the State of Idaho. Additionally, youth members may receive honorariums pursuant to Idaho Code §59-509 and subject to the limitations of Idaho Code §67-2008, in an amount not to exceed fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, for being present during 100% of a committee meeting.

ARTICLE V – ORGANIZATION

The Youth Committee officers shall consist of a Chair and Vice Chair, both of which shall be elected by the committee to serve for a term of up to three (3) years. There is no limit as to how many terms the Chair or Vice Chair may serve.

Staff of the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections will serve as advisors for the Committee. Staff will work with the Chair to help develop meeting agendas, provide the budget, and give guidance as needed. Staff will also take meeting minutes and help to distribute information to all members.

Duties of Officers: The Chair shall convene all meetings of the Youth Committee and preside over such meetings. The Chair is prohibited from making or seconding any motion before the committee. The Chair shall coordinate the activities and affairs of the committee. The Chair shall report to the Commission as requested, and will be given a seat on the Commission’s Executive Committee.

If the Chair is unable to be present, the Vice Chair shall perform all the duties of the Chair, except hold a seat on the Executive Committee of the Commission.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

All meetings are open to the public and shall be conducted pursuant to the Idaho Open Meeting Law, Idaho Code §§74-201 through 74-208. Meetings will generally follow Robert’s Rules of Order.

At least four (4) meetings shall be held annually. Special meetings may be called by the Chair if needed.

For all regular meetings, no less than a five (5) calendar day meeting notice and a forty-eight (48) hour agenda notice shall be given unless otherwise provided by statute. The public notice requirement for meetings and agendas shall be satisfied by posting such notices and agendas in a prominent place at the principal office of the Department. The notice for meetings and agendas shall also be posted electronically on the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission website. No special meeting shall be held without giving notice of the meeting and agenda at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance, unless an emergency exists.

Minutes of meetings shall be kept by a designated secretary and distributed to Commission members in advance of the following meeting.

Quorum: For the purpose of conducting official Youth Committee business, a necessary quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of the membership. A majority vote of a quorum is required for any Youth Committee action.

Voting: Only members of the Youth Committee may introduce motions and vote. Consensus will be used as a means of reaching decisions. The Chair shall not vote except to break a tie.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by the Youth Committee or the Commission. The Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission considers and votes on recommended amendments. Commission approval is necessary before amendments take effect.