




Office of The State Appellate Public Defender

JANUARY 25, 2018



I.C. § 19-868: Statement of Legislative Intent in creating the SAPD: The cost of legal representation for indigent defendants on appeal “is an extraordinary burden on the counties....”

- ▶ to reduce that burden
- ▶ to provide competent counsel
- ▶ avoid paying high hourly rates to independent counsel

Capital Crimes Defense Fund

- ▶ Created in 1998 by I.C. § 19-863A
- ▶ CCDF acts like an insurance program
 - ▶ Counties pay an annual premium based upon population
 - ▶ The counties pay a \$10K deductible per case, then the fund covers the additional defense costs
- ▶ As of December 2016, all 44 counties participate
- ▶ CCDF is managed by a 7 member Board of Directors elected by the counties
- ▶ Counties that participate in the fund also receive the services of the SAPD as defined in I.C. § 19-868, et. seq.

The Right To Counsel



- ▶ The right to effective assistance of counsel in an appeal of right from a felony conviction is guaranteed by the United States and Idaho Constitutions.
- ▶ The right to counsel in a post-conviction action is provided by Idaho statute and is discretionary in felony cases and mandatory in capital cases.

SAPD Staff



▶ **Administrative**

- ▶ Eric D. Fredericksen, State Appellate Public Defender, 1 office administrator, 1 part-time runner

▶ **Capital Litigation Unit**

- ▶ 2 lead attorneys (1 is Chief of CLU), 1 staff attorney, 1 mitigation specialist, 1 investigator, 1 support staff

▶ **Appellate Unit**

- ▶ 1 Chief of AU, 11 staff attorneys, 2 support staff, 1 receptionist

- ▶ **Total: 23 Full-Time Employees, 1 Part-Time Employee**

Appellate Unit Case Types

▶ Direct Appeals

- ▶ An appeal from the felony conviction itself or grant of motion in a felony case on appeal by the State of Idaho
- ▶ Review of what occurred in court, on the record
- ▶ Generally reviewing whether the district court did its job consistently with the law

▶ Habeas Corpus Appeals

- ▶ Generally limited to claims regarding conditions of confinement
- ▶ Some claims regarding parole processes

▶ Post-Conviction Appeals I.C. §19-4901, et. seq.

- ▶ Civil Action in which the former defendant sues the State asserting specific errors
- ▶ Allows the petitioner to provide evidence of things that occurred out of court and off the record
- ▶ Proper vehicle to raise claims of Ineffective Assistance of Counsel

Appellate Unit

Caseload vs. Workload

▶ **Caseload** measures the number of **cases opened** by the SAPD within a given fiscal year. The opened date is the date the Notice of Appeal is filed.

- ▶ FY2014: 641
- ▶ FY2015: 702
- ▶ FY2016: 568
- ▶ FY2017: 537

▶ **Workload** measures the average weighted value of case **work handled** by an Appellate Unit attorney.

- ▶ FY2014: 56.29
- ▶ FY2015: 49.70
- ▶ FY2016: 52.80
- ▶ FY2017: 42.00

Capital Unit Case Types



▶ **Post-Conviction Proceedings in District Court**

- ▶ Filing of Petition for Relief
- ▶ Investigation
- ▶ Summary Dismissal Proceedings
- ▶ Evidentiary Hearings

▶ **Consolidated Appeal**

- ▶ Includes both the Direct Appeal and the Post-Conviction Appeal

▶ **Interlocutory Appeals in Post-Conviction**

Active Death Penalty Litigation - Idaho

- ▶ SAPD has 4 Active Case in its Capital Litigation Unit:
 - ▶ Timothy Dunlap – On remand from Supreme Court partial grant of Post Conviction Relief.
 - ▶ Eric Virgil Hall (Hall I) – Awaiting decision in Idaho Supreme Court in consolidated appeal.
 - ▶ Erick Virgil Hall (Hall II) – Pending Evidentiary Hearing in Post Conviction.
 - ▶ Jonathan David Renfro – Death Verdict 11/6/17.
- ▶ 25 Active First Degree Murder Cases in Idaho's District Courts.
- ▶ Death Notice Filed in 6 Cases.

Commissions and Committees

- Idaho Criminal Justice Commission
- Public Defense Commission
- Idaho Grant Counsel
- Idaho Supreme Court Technology Committee
- Idaho Criminal Rules Committee
- Idaho Rules of Evidence Committee
- Idaho Appellate Rules Committee



“There can be no equal justice where the kind of trial a man gets depends on the amount of money he has.”

Griffin v. Illinois, 351 U.S. 12 (1956)