

**Idaho Department of  
Juvenile Corrections  
Institutional  
Policy/Procedure**

NUMBER

677

REVISED

08/13/18

REVIEWED

10/04/21

EFFECTIVE

07/23/15

PAGES

3

SUBJECT: BALANCED AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IMPLEMENTATION

CATEGORY: JUVENILE RIGHTS AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES

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**Policy**

It is the policy of the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC) that the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) philosophy be an integral part of the program design of IDJC facilities and contract providers that provide services to juveniles in IDJC custody. As such, the BARJ philosophy shall impact the operations, practices and intervention strategies of residential and transitional programs. It is the intent of this policy that each residential and transitional program for offenders provide a restorative community that facilitates:

- Accountability for behavior and harm caused to their victims and their community;
- Community Protection;
- Competency Development - Opportunities for juveniles to develop and demonstrate competency skills that enable crime-free and productive community living; and
- Restoration, to the extent possible, to both victims of crime and the community.

IDJC believes that victim reparation opportunities are an important part of the juvenile's reintegration plan. IDJC strives to provide opportunities for victims to participate in programs to help educate juvenile offenders on the personal impact of the crimes they have committed.

IDJC recognizes victim rights and adheres to the state law requirements for victim notification. IDJC also recognizes the reparation needs of victims of all offenses and will apply this policy and procedure regardless of statutory requirement.

**Operating Procedures**

I. Balanced and Restorative Justice

A. The application of the BARJ philosophy in IDJC facilities as documented in program handbooks include:

1. Balanced Approach for Community Protection: To prepare juveniles for increased responsibility and freedom, IDJC will:
  - a. Monitor and assess juveniles for readiness to reintegrate into the community;

- b. Facilitate positive interactions between the juvenile and community; and
  - c. Develop community support networks.
- 2. Balanced Approach for Competency Development: IDJC provides:
  - a. education
  - b. life skills training
  - c. vocational education/work experience
  - d. cognitive skills training
  - e. conflict resolution training
  - f. social skills training
  - g. victim awareness
- 3. Balanced Approach for Accountability: IDJC provides:
  - a. graduated sanctions
  - b. residential placement
  - c. special management
  - d. rewards and incentives
  - e. opportunities for demonstrated progress within program
  - f. victim restitution
  - g. community service

B. The application of the BARJ philosophy in contract providers includes:

- 1. BARJ philosophies are communicated to contract providers via request for proposals, contracts, the Juvenile Corrections Act, and training.
- 2. An IDJC Quality Improvement Services designee conducts regular evidenced-based reviews to ensure compliance with BARJ practices.

## II. Restorative Justice

This policy only applies to known victims of adjudicated offenses listed on the order committing or re-committing, the juvenile to IDJC custody. It is the responsibility of local prosecuting attorney's offices to request and share information with any additional victims that may be identified by their offices. IDJC will provide information, limited to that which is provided to victims of adjudicated committing offenses, to local prosecuting attorney offices upon request.

A. IDJC has a statutory obligation to notify victims for the purposes of:

- 1. Custody Review Board hearings.
- 2. Notification of intent to release.
- 3. Official notification of release/escape.

B. Each IDJC facility utilizes victim-centered restorative processes that focuses on repairing harm to victims and strengthening empathy, responsibility and

accountability for juveniles responsible for causing harm. Other notifications that may be provided are:

1. Victim Participation Notification (DJC-098)
2. Notification of Home Pass (DJC-096)
3. Notice of Intent to Transfer (DJC-146)
4. Transfer Notification (DJC-181)

### III. Restorative Practices

A. IDJC provides additional victim reparation opportunities in furtherance of restorative justice. At each state facility, the Juvenile Service Coordinator, Rehabilitation Specialist and Juvenile Probation Officer may determine the appropriate time in treatment for a juvenile to engage in restorative practices on a case by case basis. Options include, but are not limited to:

1. Apology letters - Victim apology letters include those that are court ordered, requested by the victim via the Victim Participation Survey, or completed as part of the treatment process. Only those that are court ordered or requested by the victim will be sent to the JSC to be forwarded to the JPO.
2. Presentations - Individual treatment strategies implemented while working with juveniles in program may include assignments to make presentations to their peers regarding the effects of their behavior and consequences of their actions.
3. Community Service Hours - Juveniles may have opportunities to complete community service hours that are approved by the county to be applied toward court ordered community service hours. These hours are tracked by the facility.
4. Service Learning Hours - Juveniles may have opportunities to complete service learning service hours that the county may or may not approve to be applied toward any court ordered community service hours. These hours are tracked by the facility.
5. Clarification - For juveniles adjudicated on a sexual offense, and /or as determined by the treatment team, the treatment team working with the juvenile will prepare the juvenile for the clarification process.
6. Safety Planning - For juveniles adjudicated on a sexual offense, and/or as determined by the treatment team working with the juvenile, the treatment team will ensure that safety planning occurs.

*Reference:* [Glossary of Terms and Acronyms](#)  
[Case Management Handbook](#)

*Related Policies:* [Referrals for the Placement of Juveniles \(413\)](#)  
[Release of Juveniles from IDJC Custody \(437\)](#)  
[Juvenile Restitution for IDJC Property Damage \(679\)](#)

*Related Forms:* [Victim Participation Survey \(DJC-098\)](#)  
[Victim Notification Form Letter \(DJC-096\)](#)  
[Notice of Intent to Transfer \(DJC-146\) \(IJOS\)](#)  
[Notice of Transfer \(DJC-181\) \(IJOS\)](#)