

Department of Indigent Defense Services



Justice. Equity. Support.



VISION

JUSTICE. EQUITY. SUPPORT.

MISSION

The mission of the Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services (DIDS) is to assist Nevada counties in developing quality, equitable, and sustainable indigent defense systems that strengthen local communities and meet or exceed the state and federal constitutional guarantees that protect each of us.

GOALS

The goals of DIDS are to build a strong and resilient statewide network of effective indigent defense providers and to support them with regular education, training, and other defense-specific resources, including experts, investigators, social workers, and other valuable tools. DIDS also seeks to create a centralized resource center that provides holistic defense services and complex litigation assistance. DIDS is working to create a pipeline program through Boyd School of Law at UNLV, to bring more qualified indigent defense attorneys into the rural areas.



JUSTICE. EQUITY. SUPPORT.

Where We Have Been

- Legislatively created in 2019
- Challenged by
 - Lean Budgets,
 - Pandemic,
 - Short deadlines in *Davis*.

Justice



- AB480
- Building Plans

Equity



- Regulations
- Weighted Caseload Study

Support



- LegalServer
- Training
- Resources

JUSTICE. EQUITY. SUPPORT.
Vision for the Future

Blueprint for a Stronger Nevada

BLUEPRINT FOR A STRONGER NEVADA

Create
Resilient
Communities

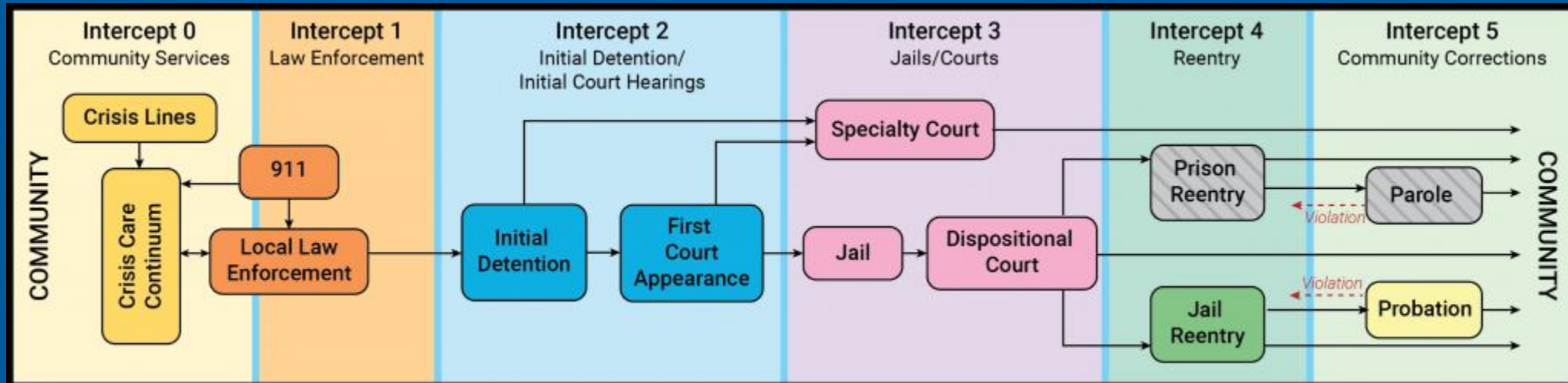
Balance the
Scales

Bridge to
Sustainability

Create Resilient Communities

Holistic Resource Center

- Criminal Justice + Social Justice
- Connects Public Defenders and their clients to social worker / behavioral health / substance abuse
 - HRC will provide aid at Intercept 2 on the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) developed by SAMSHA Gains Center.
 - Catch those falling through gaps (concern of FASTT)
- Provides Rural Attorneys with same resources as in larger counties and Prosecutors (*Davis*)
- Relieve Burden DHHS (Lakes Crossing) with setting up Competency Evaluations
- Reduce Jail Burden (facilitate remote evaluations)





Balance the Scales

Build Complex Litigation Unit

- Provide Death Penalty and Appellate Support for Rurals
- BIDS Regulation 19 – rural counties may transfer responsibility death penalty cases and direct appeals to Nevada State Public Defender (before November 1, 2022)

Increase Compensation to Attract Quality Practitioners (parity)

- *Davis* “Stipulated Consent Judgment” / BIDS Regulation 39
- Data Analyst Request (IFC February 2022)

Adjust Staffing

- Weighted Caseload Study (BIDS Regulation 42)
- AB424 (48 hour in custody arraignments)

Corrective Action Plan Financial / Staffing Support

- NRS 180.450
- Flexibility for Public Defender/Contractor to fill in when necessary

BLUEPRINT FOR A STRONGER NEVADA

Bridge to Sustainability

County Partnership

- Fund Maximum Contribution Formula
- BIDS Regulation 18 -- Maximum Contribution Formula

Support Providers

- Incentives for Data Collection (Westlaw / Tablets);
- Student Loan Assistance;
- Pay Parity (adjust salary / hourly rate)

Community Building

- Fund Travel (Oversight);
- Training;
- Indigent Defense Incubator;
- Continued Development

JUSTICE. EQUITY. SUPPORT.

Blueprint for a Stronger
Nevada:

Create Resilient Communities

Balance the Scales

Bridge to Sustainability



JUSTICE. EQUITY. SUPPORT.

Thank you.

Department of Indigent Defense Services
896 W. Nye, Suite 202
Carson City, NV 89703
775-687-8490

Marcie Ryba, Thomas Qualls, & Peter Handy