

## **IDAHO COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

### **Offender Intervention Telecommunication Services Policy**

The Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance shall be the advisory body for programs and services affecting victims of domestic violence and other crimes in Idaho (Pursuant to Idaho Code Title 39-5201). In-person group sessions are the preferred modality; however, the Council recognizes the need for offender intervention telecommunication services in certain circumstances. This policy shall create a standard of practice for all approved intervention providers. Failure to comply with the policy that has been set forth by the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance can result in termination of telecommunication services.

As such, the council has established the following protocol for offender intervention telecommunication services:

- Participants will participate in an approved Domestic Violence Intervention program that does not exceed more than 12 participants per group.
- Telecommunication services are to be utilized in extreme circumstances only. Hardships include but are not limited to mileage, terrain, employer limitations, transportation. Hardships may be determined by a court.
- The participant may only be enrolled in the telecommunication group upon approval from the court or court's designee. The intervention provider is responsible for keeping signed approval forms from the court on record for monitoring by CODVOIPS.
- The participant may be removed from the group for failure to participate as directed.
- Video Equipment will provide quality sound and picture so that both groups (in person and those on telecommunication) can see and hear each other.
- The software of the telecommunications shall meet or exceed applicable federal and state legal requirements of medical/health information privacy, including compliance with the health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and state privacy, confidentiality, security and medical retention rules.
- A proctor must attend all scheduled Domestic Violence Intervention Groups and is required for each session, though the same proctor is not required to attend each session.
- The proctor will have agreed to confidentiality as outlined by HIPAA and state privacy, confidentiality, security & medical retention rules.
- Proctored sessions must occur in a neutral, secure location that is ADA compliant.
- Proctors should be a neutral third party (e.g. Probation Officer, intervention trainee, etc.). Proctors cannot be less than 18 years of age or have a familial connection to provider or participants.
- Proctors must pass a Criminal History Unit (CHU) background check through Department of Health and Welfare.
- Before engaging in a telecommunication program, the approved Domestic Violence Intervention provider must seek and obtain approval for such program from the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance. This request must be submitted in

writing on an application form provided by the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance. The application form can be accessed at:  
<https://form.jotform.com/91926486975174>