



U.S. FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT (BOISE) EVENT SUMMARY

Event Title: Federal Courthouse Event

Date & Time: October 19, 2017 – 8:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Location: U.S. Federal District Courthouse, 550 W. Fort Street, Boise, Idaho

Number of Students: 62 students and chaperones.

Participating Schools: Boise, Kuna, Middleton, Melba, Renaissance, and Caldwell High Schools

Participating Judges, Attorneys, Probation, U.S. Marshall Service, and Staff: Hon. B. Lynn Winmill, Amy Tate (Courtroom Deputy to the Hon. Candy W. Dale), Kirsten Wilkinson (Chief Deputy of Operations), Hon. Candy W. Dale, Mark Ackley (Federal Defenders of Idaho), Aaron Lucoff (Assistant U.S. Attorney – Criminal Chief), Ryan Lesmeister (U.S. Probation Officer), and Nicole Albright (Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshall).

Summary of Events: For its Fall 2017 Southern Idaho event, Love the Law! invited students to attend its first ever event at the Federal District Courthouse in Boise. The idea for the event first came as a result of requests from students, on past event evaluations, to have an event at the Federal Courthouse or in conjunction with the Federal Court. The goal was to provide the students with the ability observe a live Federal Court proceeding followed by panel discussions with Federal Court personnel including attorneys and officers with the Federal Probation and U.S. Marshall's Office.

The event began with a welcome and introduction to the Love the Law! program by Chair, Courtney Holthus, followed by an overview of what to expect in the Courtroom and a preview of the sentencing hearing by Amy Tate, Courtroom Deputy to the Honorable Candy W. Dale. Committee members then escorted the students to observe a sentencing hearing in the case *USA v. James Patrick Stell*, 1:17-cr-0068-BLW (Count 1: Unlawful Possession of a Firearm and Ammunition and Forfeiture Allegation). Afterwards, the students were escorted back to a meeting room in order to attend a hearing debrief and question and answer session with the following panel members: Judge Candy W. Dale, U.S. Magistrate Judge; Mark Ackley, Federal Defenders of Idaho; Aaron Lucoff, Assistant U.S. Attorney – Criminal Chief; and Ryan Lesmeister, U.S. Probation Officer.

While lunch was served, the students participated in a second panel discussion with Ryan Lesmeister and Nicole Albright, Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshall. Both Mr. Lesmeister and Ms. Albright shared information regarding their background and respective career paths, answering questions about their education and chosen careers, and then shared some interesting stories from their positions with federal law enforcement. Students and chaperones then departed at approximately 1:30 PM.



Student Profiles: 48 Background Information forms were completed at the conclusion of the event. From those forms, the following information was gathered:

- **Gender:**
 - Male: 12
 - Female: 35
- **Age**
 - 16 years old: 3
 - 17 years old: 34
 - 18 years old: 10
- **Grade:**
 - Junior: 2
 - Senior: 44
- **GPA**
 - 2.0-2.49: 1
 - 2.50-2.99: 4
 - 3.0-3.49: 5
 - 3.50-3.74: 13
 - 3.75-4.0: 24
- **Do you Identify as an Individual with a Disability:**
 - Yes: 0
 - No: 48
- **Is English Your Native Language:**
 - Yes: 43
 - No: 4
- **Race/Ethnicity:**
 - Black/African American: 2
 - Asian/Middle Eastern/Pacific Islander: 0
 - Spanish/Hispanic/Latino/Latina: 9
 - White/Caucasian: 37
 - Multi-Racial: 0
- **Religion You Closely Identify With:**
 - None: 14
 - Christianity: 24
 - Catholicism: 2
 - Islam: 0
 - Judaism: 1
 - Buddhism: 2
 - Other: 2
- **Sexual Orientation:**
 - Heterosexual: 42
 - Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender: 2
 - Unsure or Questioning: 1



- **Political Ideology:**
 - Liberal: 14
 - Moderate: 1
 - Conservative: 7
 - Unsure or Questioning: 12
 - None of the Above: 1
- **Mother/Female Guardian’s Highest Level of Education:**
 - No High School: 3
 - High School: 6
 - Attended Some College: 8
 - Earned 2yr Associate’s Degree: 2
 - Earned Bachelor’s Degree: 13
 - Earned Master’s Degree: 9
 - Earned Doctorate Degree: 0
 - Earned Professional Degree (Law, Medicine, etc.): 2
- **Father/Male Guardian’s Highest Level of Education:**
 - No High School: 1
 - High School: 10
 - Attended Some College: 7
 - Earned 2yr Associate’s Degree: 4
 - Earned Bachelor’s Degree: 12
 - Earned Master’s Degree: 8
 - Earned Doctorate Degree: 0
 - Earned Professional Degree (Law, Medicine, etc.): 2

Costs Associated with Event:

Love the Law! funds were used to pay for the following expenses:

<u>Expense</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Food (Baja Fresh)	\$ 0 (Paid for by the District Court using discretionary Court funds).
Water bottles	\$ 0 (Donated by LTL! Committee member, Brit Kreimeyer).
Total	\$ 0

The U.S. District Court graciously approved using Court discretionary funds in the amount of approximately \$639.65 to cover the cost of the food for our event. Additionally, water bottles were donated by Love the Law! Committee member, Brit Kreimeyer. As a result, we were able to host this event at no cost. Concordia School of Law provided complimentary folders in which to place handouts as well as pencils for the students. Each student also received a pocket constitution, courtesy of the Federal District Court.



Student Feedback: 55 LTL! Event evaluations were completed and turned in. Copies of these evaluations are available upon request from Courtney Holthus. A summary of the responses received is as follows:

What they liked best about the event: (Number of same or similar responses indicated in parenthesis)

- The panels (discussion). (19)
- Watching the sentencing. (36)
- Everything. (4)

What they liked least about the event:

- Sentencing Hearing (would've like a different type of proceeding). (3)
- Not familiar with the terminology used, didn't feel as though they understood everything. (3)
- Nothing. (24)
- Panels (too long.) (4)
- Not being able to hear speakers. (2)
- Lack of diversity among the speakers. (1)
- Tight schedule. (1)

How we can improve the event:

- More information on the steps needed to pursue a legal profession.
- Allow for more students to attend.
- Breakout groups or small groups for students to collaborate with professionals and discuss. (3)
- Having more background information on the topics before the sentencing. (4)
- Offer more events.
- Give a tour of the building. (3)

Ideas for other LTL! events:

- Jury Trial (2)
- Talk with lawyers and judges who are involved in a variety of cases.
- An event with the Idaho Legislature. (2)
- A "day in the life of ____" for specifically interested students in a particular area of law or a particular career.
- Article V on Constitutional Convention – hearing from a constitutional scholar/attorney.
- Civil court matter.
- Tour a correctional facility. (3)
- Mock trials. (3)
- Have a court reporter on the panel.
- Forensic science lab event.



Other Comments:

- Very interesting with the insight from an exceptional panel.
- Very interesting. Ryan (panel speaker), was inspiring since my cousin is going through exactly what he did as a kid.
- I became inspired to look into careers in the judicial system after today (did not think I would find that of interest previously).
- I had a great time.
- This was very well organized and I learned a lot. Thank you guys so much for this opportunity!
- Really well put together. Learned a lot and enjoyed it.
- Thank you for putting this together! I learned a lot!
- Keep doing what you are doing. I am more intrigued in law enforcement and law school.
- Thank you so much for providing this opportunity! It made me excited to continue being involved in law.