



A publication from the
Idaho Department of
Insurance

From the Desk of Director Cameron

December 2019

This publication provides an inside look at the state's insurance industry. Thank you for staying up to date!

Sincerely,

Dean Cameron
Director
Idaho Department of Insurance



Idaho Fraud Conference a huge success



2019 IDAHO FRAUD
CONFERENCE

"DON'T LET FRAUD TAKE ROOT"

The Idaho Fraud Conference, held this past October at the State Capitol's Lincoln Auditorium in Boise, was hosted by the Idaho Department of Insurance Fraud Investigations Unit and the Idaho U.S. Attorney's Office.

This nationally recognized, two-day conference, titled "Don't Let Fraud Take Root" was kicked off with a televised welcome from Director Cameron.

Governor Brad Little also welcomed the approximately 125 attendees, many of whom traveled across the country to attend.

"The work you are doing helps protect our citizens and communities," wrote Governor Little. "The insurance industry is a significant part of our daily lives, and I appreciate your hard work in maintaining the integrity of the industry."

The conference, geared toward law enforcement and the insurance industry, included topics such as fraud investigation, organized crime, insurance fraud, and forensics. Keynote speaker Kelly Paxton's presentation "Catch Me If You Can" focused on pink collar crime. Josh Hurwit and Kevin Maloney, Assistant United States Attorneys in the District of Idaho, lectured on federal regulations, insurance fraud, and investigative methods. The Department was also proud to feature Idaho State Fire Marshal Knute Sandahl, who spoke on the topic of arson in his speech "Arson in Idaho City."

A big thank you to the Investigations Unit for a job well done! Fighting insurance fraud is a high priority for the Department and your commitment to detecting and stopping fraud as well as helping law enforcement agencies prosecute those who commit fraud is to be commended.

DOI's Annual Employee Development Day!



The day started off with a bang as DOI employees met on the steps of the Idaho Capitol for group photos this past September. With a hint of chilliness in the air, most employees kept their jackets on for the ten minute stroll from the photoshoot to the conference room at the Marriott in downtown Boise where the DOI Employee Development Day would begin.

**“The DOI has proven over and over again
that cream always rises to the top!”**

Director Cameron opened the meeting by greeting the team, including a special welcome to this year's newest additions to the DOI family. His presentation posed the question, "Why lead?!?!" From DOI becoming leader of the pack in Governor Little's Red Tape Reduction Program to its efforts in supporting a state based system in Idaho to the Department spearheading the initiative for autism coverage in the state—leading to autism being covered in all 50 states—the DOI has proven over and over again that cream always rises to the top!

In between scrumptious snacks and a delicious lunch buffet, the day provided an action-packed itinerary with top-of-the-line speakers, offering insights on business training, personal development, and upcoming trends.

A special thanks to Ellen Wells and Diona Tewalt for all the preparation and logistics that went into this memorable day!

Message from the Idaho State Fire Marshal

Governor Little signs proclamation for Fire Prevention Week in Idaho

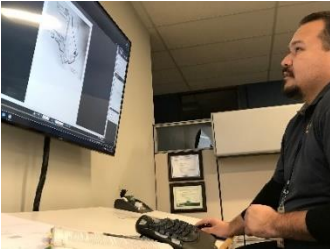
October 6th through October 12th marked Fire Prevention Week in Idaho. According to Knute Sandahl, Idaho State Fire Marshal, fires occur every year where the occupants do not escape in time, resulting in death or serious injuries. "In addition to planning an escape route, a working smoke alarm is absolutely necessary," said Sandahl. "A fire can become deadly in less than three minutes, and nowadays, things we put into our homes are made from plastics and other man-made products." The 3 minutes it takes to reach a flashover—the instance of a fire spreading very rapidly across a gap because of intense heat—use to take an average of 17 minutes when materials in homes were made from natural materials, such as real wood, wool, and cotton.



“A fire can become deadly in less than three minutes.”

Fire Prevention Week's theme was "*Not every hero wears a cape. Plan and practice your escape!*" Prevention through education and practice has dramatically reduced the time in escaping fires. Keeping Idahoans safe in situations of fire is top priority and having good, working smoke alarms in conjunction with planning an escape is paramount.

Extension courses for fire service available in Idaho



Javier Cervantes, Fire Plans Examiner for the State Fire Marshal's Office, attended the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, for training in fire and life safety systems and fire alarm plan reviews. As a fire sprinkler system designer with certification from the National Institute Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET), Cervantes will be available to teach extension courses to Idahoans in the fire service industry.

DOI announces new Deputy Director, Weston Trexler

The Idaho Department of Insurance is pleased to announce our new Deputy Director, Weston Trexler. Effective September 22, 2019, Weston "Wes" Trexler became the Department's Deputy Director.

Wes was hired to the Department as the Product Review Bureau Chief-Actuary in October 2012, and he's been instrumental in the Department's and the Governor's past efforts to make health insurance more affordable and accessible—always being responsive to the needs of Idahoans. With his extensive background and thoughtful, measured approach, Wes has gained the respect of those both inside and outside the Department.



Looking for opportunity? Join the DOI Team!

Excellent benefits package, growth and job opportunities with a great work-life balance while making a difference in the lives of Idahoans! Visit: <https://doi.idaho.gov/About/Careers>

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