

Statewide SAUSA Proposal Eastern Idaho Meeting

April 22st from 1 – 4 pm
Pocatello, City Hall
911 N. 7th Ave., Pocatello, Idaho
[Location Map](#)

MEETING AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions

Tammy deWeerd
Mayor, City of Meridian

SAUSA Statewide SAUSA Proposal Introduction

Bill Larsen
Treasure Valley Partnership

U.S. Attorney Office Overview

What is a SAUSA and How Does it Work

Potential Priorities for Eastern Idaho SAUSA

Wendy Olson
U.S. Attorney for Idaho

Rafael Gonzalez
First Assistant U.S. Attorney

Break

Success of the Treasure Valley SAUSA

Perspective of Elected Officials

Tammy deWeerd
Mayor, City of Meridian

Brad Holton
Mayor, City of Greenleaf

Garret Nancolas
Mayor, City of Caldwell

Eastern Idaho SAUSA Coalition

Discussion

Memorandum's of Understanding

Bill Larsen
Treasure Valley Partnership

General Discussion

Steps for Moving Forward

SAUSA Project

Proposal for Statewide Implementation

January, 2014

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Statewide SAUSA Proposal

This is a proposal to develop a Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA) presence in northern and eastern Idaho to complement the current SAUSA Project in the Treasure Valley. Like the Treasure Valley SAUSA, the proposed SAUSA's will work closely with local and federal law enforcement partners to prosecute offenders in federal court, rather than state court, thereby sending those convicted to federal prison, instead of an Idaho Correctional facility. The SAUSA's would be available to prosecute a wide range of federal crimes:

- Internet based Crimes Against Children
- Gun and Gang Violence
- Drug Trafficking
- Fraud and other White Collar Crime
- Terrorism
- Identity Theft
- Immigration Offenses

Since 2007, a SAUSA Program has operated out of the United States Attorney's Office in Boise with great success. The project, developed by the Treasure Valley Partnership, employs the use of a SAUSA and focuses on the prosecution of gang, gun and drug trafficking offenses in the Treasure Valley. Typically, the federal sentences are lengthy and the offenders serve their sentences in federal penal institutions, thereby disrupting and dismantling the command and control structure of local gangs.

SAUSA Locations

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Idaho has offices in Boise, Coeur d'Alene and Pocatello. A statewide implementation of the SAUSA Project could easily be facilitated through the U.S. Attorney's branch offices in Coeur d'Alene and Pocatello.

To date, the Kootenai County Prosecutor, the Bonneville County Prosecutor and the Bannock County Prosecutor have been favorably engaged in discussions to expand the SAUSA Project through their offices. They have indicated a preliminary need to prosecute gang, gun and drug crimes as well as crimes against children.

In addition, the United States Attorney, Wendy J. Olson, fully supports the project and the proposed expansion and is ready to support a co-located deputy prosecuting attorney/SAUSA in each of their branch offices.

Coalition of City/County Mayor's/Commissioners

The Treasure Valley Partnership is an active group of Mayors and County Commissioners from Ada, Canyon and Owyhee counties who are dedicated to regional coordination, cooperation and collaboration for the benefit of the Treasure Valley. Under the current model, each city and county in the Treasure Valley Partnership contributes an amount based on population to fulfill the financial obligations toward the SAUSA Project.

It is the aim of this proposal to elicit and gain support from the Governor's Office, the Idaho Legislature, and Cities and Counties in and around the U.S. Attorney's offices in Coeur d'Alene and Pocatello. These local coalitions would:

- Enter into an agreement to fund the local coalition obligation.
- Participate in the hiring process.
- Participate in setting the prosecutorial priorities for the SAUSA.

Expected Results

The U.S. Attorney’s Office estimates the number of prosecutions from a properly designed SAUSA Project in northern and eastern Idaho would be similar to those produced by the Treasure Valley’s SAUSA. The preliminary estimates indicate that 24 to 30 offenders would be prosecuted annually in each location. The Treasure Valley SAUSA averages 32 defendants filed per year.

Savings To:

State

It costs an estimated 20,382 to keep one inmate in an Idaho Correctional institution for one year. The SAUSA prosecutes criminals under federal – rather than state – law and thus they are incarcerated in federal – rather than the state prison system. Doing so has saved Idaho taxpayers an average of \$1.3 million per year in incarceration costs since 2007. As of today, the SAUSA Project is projected to save Idaho taxpayers over \$18.5 million. The annual projected savings as a result of a Statewide SAUSA is as follows.

Region	Sentences/year	Annual Savings
Northern Idaho	24	\$ 975,000
Eastern Idaho	24	\$ 975,000
Treasure Valley	32	\$ 1,300,000
Total	80	\$3,250,000

County

Counties realize savings as a result of the SAUSA Project as well. Costs of incarceration during the trial and the costs associated with prosecution are foregone once an individual is indicted in Federal court. Prosecution costs are extremely hard to calculate due to the differences in complexity involved with each case. Costs of incarceration for a County can be estimated at \$45.00/day while an individual is on trial and awaiting sentencing.

Over the life of the SAUSA Project, individuals who have been indicted spend an average of 289 days in County jail through trial and sentencing. The county is reimbursed for these incarceration costs through the federal government. If you assume the daily cost for incarceration in a county facility to be \$45.00 per day, the average savings to the county for a single individual indicted under the project is \$13,000.

Statewide SAUSA Funding Proposal

1 Full-Time SAUSA Operating out of Three Regions of the State.

	TV <u>SAUSA</u>	Northern ID <u>SAUSA</u>	Eastern ID <u>SAUSA</u>	<u>Total</u>
Local Coalitions	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$ 75,000
State	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$225,000
Total	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$300,000

The U.S. Attorney’s Office provides all overhead expenses including office space, support staff, travel and training related expenses. The estimated annual in-kind match for the TV SAUSA, from the U.S. Attorney’s Office is \$42,720.

Treasure Valley SAUSA Project History

The Treasure Valley Partnership developed the SAUSA Project in cooperation with the Governor's Office, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the Owyhee County Prosecuting Attorney's Office in February, 2007.

The SAUSA Project is tasked with combatting gang related gun and drug crimes in the Treasure Valley. Currently, the Treasure Valley Partnership, the Idaho Department of Corrections, and the U.S. Attorney's Office collaboratively fund a deputy prosecuting attorney position, in Canyon. The attorney is cross-deputized as a Special Assistant United States Attorney, who is housed, trained, and supervised by the United States Attorney and staff, and is solely dedicated to the federal prosecution of gang, gun and drug related offenses.

Major accomplishments and program facts:

- 245 federal indictments with a 94% success rate.
- 211 individuals sentenced in federal court.
- Average individual sentence is 51.7 months.
- Total time sentenced to federal prison is 908.3 years.
- The SAUSA Project reaches beyond the Treasure Valley. It has sent individuals from 13 different Idaho counties to federal prison.
- Of those sentenced, 30% were for Meth. distribution and 60% involved firearms.
- State funding is passed through the Department of Corrections. Currently the Gang SAUSA is funded at a rate of \$100,000 per year. The Treasure Valley Partnership contributes \$65,000 and the State of Idaho contributes \$35,000.
- It was originally estimated the TV SAUSA would have 16 prosecutions per year. The Project has averaged 32 prosecutions per year since 2008.

Supporting Organizations

Association of Idaho Cities
Canyon County Prosecutor's Office
Idaho Association of Counties
Idaho Criminal Justice Commission
Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association
Treasure Valley Partnership

Testimonials

Chris Allgood – Chief of Police, City of Caldwell

"Having the SAUSA Project has allowed us to prosecute entire organized gangs rather than one or two members at a time. As a result we have seen the gang crime in Caldwell diminish significantly and the safety and quality of life for our residents continue to improve." – August 2013

Chris Atwood - Special Assistant United States Attorney

"By focusing our prosecution efforts on the worst of the worst, we are able to remove gang members, drug dealers, and dangerous criminals from the community. These offenders are sent out of Idaho to a federal facility. This results in a cost savings to the state of Idaho and a positive impact within the community." – August 2013

Tom Dale – Mayor of Nampa

"The City of Nampa is a much safer community today than because of the SAUSA Project. In 2006 there were over 200 drive-by shootings in Nampa. Last year we had three." - July, 2013

John Evans – Mayor of Garden City

“When comparing the list of SAUSA indictments to police department records in Garden City, 40% of those indicted were frequent flyers in our community and in the last couple of years we have seen double digit decreases in major crimes.” - June, 2009

Bill Larsen – Director, Treasure Valley Partnership

“This Project has been successful beyond what was envisioned. The members of the TVP understand the value of the project and voted to increase member dues to pay for the project during extremely hard economic times.” – August 2013

Christian Nafzger – Former SAUSA Employee

“I am surprised to the extent of how the Twin Falls area gang issues are tied into our issues in the Treasure Valley. In addition, the gangs in Ontario and Nyssa, Oregon as well as those in the Magic Valley and Twin Falls are all interactive. Guns and drugs are moving back and forth among all the gangs in our geographical area.” - June 2009

Garret Nancolas – Mayor of Caldwell

“The benefits of this project are way beyond anything they will ever be able to quantify.” - October, 2010

“Violent gang crime has been dramatically reduced. Just in Caldwell alone the number of drive-by shootings dropped from 73 in 2006 to 2 in 2009.” -December, 2009

Joshua Olmo – Federal Bureau of Investigation, Coeur d’Alene

“I believe the North Idaho Violent Crime Task Force (NIVCTF) in Coeur d’Alene would benefit tremendously from the presence of a SAUSA in our area. The NIVCTF, consists of members of the FBI, Idaho State Police, Kootenai County Sheriff’s Department, Coeur d’Alene Police Department, Post Falls Police Department, and Bonner County Sheriff’s Department.”

Additional Information

Indictments by County

County	Total Indictments	Total Indictments	
ADA	73	JEROME	1
BLAINE	4	MALHEUR, OR	2
BOISE	2	OWYHEE	7
CANYON	127	PAYETTE	5
ELMORE	1	TWIN FALLS	14
GEM	1	UMATILLA, OR	3
GOODING	1	WASHINGTON	2
IDAHO	2	TOTAL	245

Savings to the State of Idaho by Year

TV SAUSA Project Sentences

State FY	Months Sentenced	No. of Years	Savings to State
2007-8	86	7.2	\$146,071
2008-9	384	32.0	\$652,224
2009-10	773	64.4	\$1,312,941
2010-11	953	79.4	\$1,618,671
2011-12	981	81.7	\$1,665,379
2012-13	1,106	92.2	\$1,878,541
2013-14	1,254	98.3	\$2,129,919
2014-15	1,223	85.9	\$2,077,266
2015-16	1,006	69.4	\$1,708,691
2016-31	3,134	224.8	\$5,323,099
Total All	10,900	908.3	\$18,512,801

The savings were calculated on an annual cost per inmate of \$20,382 as reported by the Idaho Department of Corrections, Annual Report of 2007.

Analysis of Drive-by Shootings in Canyon County

Year	Caldwell	Nampa	Total # of Drive-by's
2006	73	211	284
2007	18	195	213
2008	5	124	129
2009	2	76	78
2010	1	19	20
2011	0	7	7
2012	1	3	4

Data prepared by the Canyon County Prosecutor's Office.

Contact:

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Eastern Idaho SAUSA Program Coalition

Potential Funding Scenario

Jurisdiction	2010 Population	Cost per Person	Program Cost	
			FY 14-15	FY 15-16 +
City of American Falls	4,457	0.107483	\$119.76	\$479.05
City of Aberdeen	1,994	0.107483	\$53.58	\$214.32
Bannock County*	13,114	0.107483	\$352.38	\$1,409.53
Bingham County*	26,882	0.107483	\$722.34	\$2,889.36
City of Blackfoot	11,899	0.107483	\$319.73	\$1,278.94
Bonneville County*	30,271	0.107483	\$813.40	\$3,253.62
City of Burley	10,345	0.107483	\$277.98	\$1,111.91
City of Chubbuck	13,922	0.107483	\$374.09	\$1,496.38
City of Heyburn	3,089	0.107483	\$83.00	\$332.01
City of Idaho Falls	56,813	0.107483	\$1,526.61	\$6,106.43
City of Pocatello	54,255	0.107483	\$1,457.87	\$5,831.49
City of Rupert	5,554	0.107483	\$149.24	\$596.96
Total	232,595		\$6,250.00	\$25,000.00
Eastern Idaho SAUSA Cost	\$25,000			
Cost per person	0.107483			

* County Population is the unincorporated population

Other Jurisdictions	2010 Population
City of Ammon	13,816
Cassia County	11,041
Minidoka County	10,021
City of Rexburg	25,484
City of Rigby	3,945
City of Shelley	4,409
City of St. Anthony	3,542