

DRAFT - MINUTES	
Committee	UTAH INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION
Date, Time	Thursday, June 4, 2026, 2 PM – 4 PM
Location	370 E South Temple, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT 84111. Also, virtually via Zoom.
Commissioners Present	Lorene Kamalu, Tom Ross, Walter Bugden, Aaron McKnight, Richard Mauro, Michael Drechsel, Pam Vickrey, Michael Zimmerman, Margaret Lindsay, Paul Dodd, Todd Weiler.
Commissioners Excused	Chair John Kwarm, Kendall Thomas, Stephanie Gricius.
Staff	Matthew Barraza, executive director; Joshua Buhay, financial analyst; Katriina Adair, Grant program manager; Zoraya Gappmaier, Managing and Training Attorney.
Guests	
Agenda Item	Welcome & Introductions
	Chair pro tempore Lorene Kamalu welcomed the attendees and asked them to introduce themselves.
Agenda Item	Approval of Minutes
	Commissioner Zimmerman put forward a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, which was seconded by Commissioner Bugden. The motion was passed unanimously.
Agenda Item	Aggravated Murder Fund Application
	Matthew Barraza announced that the IDC had received an application from Summit County to join the Aggravated Murder Fund after the Summit County Commission adopted the resolution on May 6, 2026. Commissioner Mauro asked if it was permissible to allow a county with an active case to join the Aggravated Murder fund. Matthew Barraza responded that in previous discussions with the Commissioners that no decision had been made previously as the IDC Staff's communication with Utah County never received a reply. Commissioner Bugden and Commissioner Zimmerman both voiced agreement with Commissioner Mauro's view that counties should not be able to join after a case is

	pending. Commissioner Corporon stated that if Legislators run on a platform of charging every count of intentional killing as Aggravated Murder but not requesting sufficient funding for their counties to cover those expenses than they should not be able to then rely on the Aggravated Murder Fund after the fact when they realize that county budgets would not cover those expenses. Commissioners Ross and Weiler both agreed with the views of the previous Commissioners. Commissioner McKnight agreed that was bad policy for counties to benefit from the fund without paying into the fund beforehand but that there might be a compromise where an agreement could be drafted that required the county to remain as a participant for a certain number of years to pay back the amount required for the case. Commissioner Zimmerman stated that Summit County was a wealthy county and similarly to Utah County they could either self-fund their Aggravated Murder expenses or request funding from the Legislature instead of getting retroactive support from the Aggravated Murder Fund for an active case. Commissioner Mauro stated that the Commission could allow Summit County to buy in to the fund for future Aggravated Murder cases but not allow usage of the fund for the active Aggravated Murder case. Commissioner Budgen put forward a motion to approve Summit County's application to join the Aggravated Murder Fund but to not approve usage of the fund for the currently active Richins Aggravated Murder Appeal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman; Mary Corporon abstained from voting due to previously being involved in the Richins case. All other Commissioners present approved the motion.
Agenda Item	FY27 Grant Application Review and Approval
	Matthew Barraza briefly reviewed the funding landscape for the IDC's grant program with \$700,000 in one-time funding renewed for Fiscal Year 2027 and the priority tiers for allocation of funding. He reviewed the Fiscal Year 2027 requests by Tier, with \$6.9M in Tier 1 requests. Matthew Barraza reviewed the Tier 1 Reallocation requests from the 6th District Regionalization Project, which was already approved by the Commission, as well as the request from Beaver County. Commissioner Drechsel asked if the Beaver County grant fund reallocation, to which Matthew Barraza stated yes and that the Juvenile Court caseload in the county was low enough that the \$25,000 would cover those expenses.

	Commissioner Ross asked if it would make sense for the Commission to work to put forward a piece of legislation using the past unfunded non-Tier 1 requests to show need as the Legislature assumes that static funding is sufficient to cover current needs. The Commissioners discussed the reality of County funding needs unfulfilled after additions to the Courts include fiscal notes for State budgets but none for the necessity of increased staffing costs for those new Courts in County budgets. Matthew Barraza resumed the summary of the funding reallocation requests from Cache, Summit, Washington, and Salt Lake Counties. Commissioner Zimmerman put forward a motion to approve all the reallocations besides Cache County. Commissioner Drechsel requested that the motion be modified to also exclude the Salt Lake County reallocation request. Commissioner Zimmerman amended the motion to approve all the reallocations besides Cache County and Salt Lake County, which was seconded by Commissioner Ross. The motion was approved unanimously. Matthew Barraza moved on to review the requests for new grant funding for the Commissioners, most of which were due to the addition of new Courts.
Agenda Item	Other Business
	None
Agenda Item	Public Comment
	None
Next Meeting	Thursday, July 16, 2026.
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned.