
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2022

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2021



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Office to Combat Human Trafficking

Purpose and History

Human trafficking is defined under the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as the recruitment; harboring; transporting; or obtaining of a person by means of force, fraud, or coercion for purposes of servitude, debt bondage, slavery, or participation in the sex trade. It may include, but does not require, physical movement of the victims. Human trafficking may also dovetail into other crimes such as drug trafficking, larceny, and money laundering, as traffickers are frequently involved in other illegal activities. Efforts to identify and combat human trafficking in Iowa include:

- The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy has integrated training on human trafficking into basic academy courses for new recruits and hires.
- The Crime Victim Assistance Division of the Attorney General's Office provides services to human trafficking victims and trains local and State justice system professionals to recognize and report incidents of human trafficking.
- The Department of Public Safety (DPS) has established the Office to Combat Human Trafficking.

Iowa Code section [80.45](#) establishes the Office to Combat Human Trafficking and designates it the following duties:

- Serve as the point of contact for anti-human trafficking activity within the State of Iowa.
- Consult and work with other agencies and organizations having expertise in dealing with the crime of human trafficking.
- Develop a strategy to collect and maintain criminal history data on incidents related to human trafficking.
- Develop a strategy for sharing victim and offender data among governmental agencies.
- Apply for and assist other governmental agencies to apply for grants to combat human trafficking.
- Research and recommend training to identify and respond to human trafficking victims.
- Report by November 1, 2017, and annually thereafter, to the General Assembly regarding the Office's activities related to combatting human trafficking and the identified occurrences of human trafficking within the State.

Iowa Code section [80.45A](#), created by [HF 2259](#) in July 2020, authorizes the Office to offer voluntary human trafficking prevention training to lodging providers beginning January 1, 2022. The training may be developed and delivered to lodging providers by the Office, a governmental agency, or nongovernmental or community organization that has expertise in the area of human trafficking. The

More Information

Iowa Office to Combat Human Trafficking: dps.iowa.gov/divisions/intelligence/human-trafficking
Crime Victim Assistance Division of the Attorney General's Office: www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-crime-victims/victim-services-support-program
Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000: www.congress.gov/bill/106th-congress/house-bill/3244
LSA Staff Contact: Evan Johnson (515.281.6301) evan.johnson@legis.iowa.gov

human trafficking prevention training must be approved by the commissioner. Certified lodging providers will receive a certification issued by the commissioner that is valid for three years.

Funding

The DPS received 2.0 full-time equivalent positions and \$200,000 from a General Fund appropriation during the 2016 Legislative Session to establish the Office to Combat Human Trafficking. During the 2017 Legislative Session, the General Fund appropriation decreased to \$150,000. The General Fund appropriation increased to approximately \$197,000 during the 2021 Legislative Session.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code sections [80.45](#) and [80.45A](#)
Iowa Administrative Code [661](#)

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