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## BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

## Office to Combat Human Trafficking

### Background

Pursuant to Iowa Code section [710A.1](#)(4), human trafficking includes the following:

- Participating in a venture to recruit, harbor, transport, supply provisions, or obtain a person for the purpose of forced labor or service that results in involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
- Participating in a venture to recruit, harbor, transport, supply provisions, or obtain a person for the purpose of commercial sexual activity through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. If the trafficked person is under 18 years of age, the commercial sexual activity need not involve force, fraud, or coercion.
- Knowingly purchasing or attempting to purchase services involving commercial sexual activity from a victim or another person engaged in human trafficking.

Human trafficking 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 integrates 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 State and local justice system professionals to recognize and report incidents of human trafficking.
- The Department of Public Safety (DPS) established the Office to Combat Human Trafficking.

### Purpose and History

The Office to Combat Human Trafficking was established during the 2016 Legislative Session and is part of the DPS. Iowa Code section [80.45](#) assigns the Office 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.

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### More Information

Iowa Office to Combat Human Trafficking: [dps.iowa.gov/divisions/intelligence/human-trafficking](https://dps.iowa.gov/divisions/intelligence/human-trafficking)  
Crime Victim Assistance Division of the Attorney General's Office: [iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-crime-victims/victim-services-support-program](https://iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-crime-victims/victim-services-support-program)

Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000: [congress.gov/bill/106th-congress/house-bill/3244](https://congress.gov/bill/106th-congress/house-bill/3244)

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- 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 annually 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](#) during the 2020 Legislative Session, 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 a nongovernmental or community organization that has expertise in the area of human trafficking. The human trafficking prevention training must be approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety. Certified lodging providers will receive a certification issued by the Commissioner that is valid for three years.

### **Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapter [710A](#)  
Iowa Code sections [80.45](#) and [80.45A](#)  
Iowa Administrative Code [661—29](#)

### **Budget Unit Number**

5950R660001

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