Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: 661—Chapter 3
"Sheriff's Uniforms"

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 331.657
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code section 331.657

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

October 21, 2025 1:30 to 2 p.m.	Public Conference Room 125 Oran Pape State Office Building Des Moines, Iowa

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Department of Public Safety no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Josie Wagler
215 East 7th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Email: wagler@dps.state.ia.us

Purpose and Summary

Pursuant to Executive Order 10, the Department proposes to rescind Chapter 3 and adopt a new chapter in lieu thereof. The proposed chapter details the color and design of the standard uniform and accessories for sheriffs and deputies in Iowa.

Analysis of Impact

1. **Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:**

- **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 331.322(9), the county's board of supervisors is responsible for providing the sheriff and the sheriff's full-time deputies with necessary uniforms and accessories in accordance with Iowa Code section 331.657 and this chapter.

- **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

The public is able to clearly distinguish sheriffs and deputies from other law enforcement agencies and officers of the State.

2. **Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:**

- **Quantitative description of impact:**

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 331.322(9), the county's board of supervisors is responsible for providing the sheriff and the sheriff's full-time deputies with necessary uniforms and accessories in accordance with Iowa Code section 331.657 and this chapter.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

This rulemaking provides for consistency among uniforms at the county level.

3. **Costs to the State:**

- **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

There are none.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

There is no anticipated effect on State revenues.

4. **Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:**

Inaction could lead to inconsistencies in uniforms among counties, creating confusion among the public and other law enforcement agencies when interacting with sheriffs and deputies.

5. **Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:**

The Department has determined that this is the least costly and least intrusive method for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking.

6. **Alternative methods considered by the agency:**

- **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

None were identified.

- **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

Not applicable.

Small Business Impact

If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:

- Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.
- Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.
- Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

There is no substantial impact on small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Rescind 661—Chapter 3 and adopt the following **new** chapter in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 3
SHERIFF'S UNIFORMS

661—3.1(17A,331) General provisions. These rules are adopted to designate the color and design of the standard uniform and accessories for Iowa sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.

3.1(1) The specifications of the uniforms and accessories, such as fabric and style, are made available to the department of administrative services.

3.1(2) Persons wanting to enter bids on the sheriffs' uniforms and accessories should contact the department of administrative services.

661—3.2(17A,331) Uniform. The uniform generally consists of:

1. Sage green trousers with a one-inch strip of material the same color as the shirt down the outside seam of each pant leg.

2. Long sleeved or short sleeved shirts with two breast pockets, pleated, with three-pointed flags and shoulder ornaments made of the same material and color as the trousers.

3. The winter and summer hats are sage green with a swivel strap and three-inch brims. The winter hat has a gold metallic acorn cord. The summer hat has a metal eyelet for a badge. The winter fur hat is sage green with sage green fur trim. A baseball style cap can be sage green or match the shirt.

4. Sage green ties that are three and one-half inches at the widest point.

5. Black, round-toed shoes or boots.

6. A sage green light duty jacket or a forest green/reversible to international orange or safety yellow raincoat.

7. Accessories consisting of shoulder and blazer emblems, badges, name bar, tie accessories, and rank insignia.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 331.657.