



Division of Criminal Investigation

FY 2022

Report regarding

Activities of the Division

Iowa Code 99D.14(2)e and 99F.10(4)f

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Report filed with the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on the Justice System:

- **Secretary of the Senate W. Charles Smithson**
 - **Senator Julian B. Garrett, Chair**
 - **Senator Todd E. Taylor, Ranking Member**

- **Chief Clerk of the House Meghan Nelson**
 - **Representative Gary Worthan, Chair**
 - **Representative Brian Meyer, Ranking Member**

As required in Iowa Code sections 99D.14(2)e and 99F.10(4)f, the Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) is filing this report with the co-chair persons and ranking members of the joint appropriations subcommittee on the justice system and concurrently with the Legislative Services Agency. The report is intended to outline the activities of the Division during the previous fiscal year for each racetrack enclosure, excursion gambling boat and gambling structure.

During the three-year Gaming Reorganization that began in FY2014, the DCI staffing levels were adjusted by eliminating all but two Special Agent 1 positions. Prior to the reorganization process, each of the Riverboat Gaming facilities were authorized two Special Agent 2 positions and either four or five Special Agent 1 positions, depending upon the patron capacity of the facility. In addition, each of the track facilities were authorized three Special Agent 2 positions and no Special Agent 1 positions. At the conclusion of reorganization in FY2017, all licensed facilities were authorized three Special Agent 2 positions with a total of two remaining Special Agent 1's, who are authorized to remain until they retire or otherwise leave the position they occupied at the end of the reorganization process. During FY2019, one of the remaining Special Agent 1 positions was eliminated through retirement.

As a result of the changes in authorized staff, the DCI made significant changes to the priorities of the Agents. The remaining three Special Agents at each facility work primarily day hours and spend less time on front-line law enforcement responsibilities, such as responding to minor incidents and offenses. Instead, the Special Agents are focusing their time on the background work related to the companies and individuals licensed to operate in the casino industry in Iowa, violations of chapters 99D and 99F and financial crimes with a nexus to a gaming facility such as theft, fraud, and money laundering.

During the 88th General Assembly, SF 617 was passed and signed into law by Governor Reynolds on May 13, 2019. SF 617 expanded the scope of regulated gambling activities in Iowa by allowing sports wagering connected to Iowa casinos and fantasy sports contests by licensed entities. The addition of sports wagering to the Iowa market has proven popular for the Iowa gambling industry as evidenced by the increased number of sports wagering operators connected to Iowa licensed casinos. Throughout FY2021, DCI Special Agents continued work on numerous background investigations related to sports wagering companies seeking licensure in Iowa.

The introduction and rapid growth of the Sports Wagering Industry has created challenges for the DCI to identify and investigate violations of Iowa law related to the industry. In October 2021, the DCI created a dedicated Sports Wagering Team consisting of five Special Agents and one Special Agent in Charge to address these challenges.

All sports wagering companies licensed to operate in Iowa are required to report suspicious wagering activity occurring on their betting platforms. During FY2022, the DCI received and investigated suspicious activity reports from 11 of the 18 licensed operators totaling 34 incidents associated with 137 unique customer accounts.

During the 89th General Assembly, HF861 was passed and signed into law by Governor Reynolds on June 8, 2021. HF861 implemented a change in the funding utilized to support the gambling enforcement mission of the DCI through the use of State General Fund dollars for seven Special Agent positions with a correlating reduction in the regulatory fees collected from Iowa casinos. This change provides financial relief each fiscal year to the seven casinos with the lowest revenue in the previous fiscal year.

In compiling the statistics for this report, the DCI analyzed logged activities of the Special Agents assigned to each of the nineteen licensed facilities operating in Iowa. Those results were condensed into eleven categories with the following statewide total numbers for the fiscal year 2022:

- **540 Fraud/Theft Investigations**
 - Includes forgery, theft, falsifying an IRGC license application, unlawful use of a driver license, counterfeit currency or chips and other fraudulent acts.
- **6 Money Laundering Investigations**
- **263 Narcotics Investigations**
 - Includes both felony and misdemeanor narcotics-related investigations
- **29 Cheating Investigations**
 - Includes both felony and misdemeanor cheating investigations
- **30 Entering a Casino Under the Age of 21 Investigations**
 - Charges filed for entering a casino under the age of 21
- **2,503 Background Investigations**
 - Includes Class A (key personnel), Class D (corporate), Class C, Class O, Lottery backgrounds and personnel backgrounds for the DCI.
- **8,063 Surveillance Approvals**
 - Includes verification of individual camera coverage and overall system functionality in addition to a full system audit conducted annually at each location
- **6,221 Regulatory Inspections/Reviews**
 - Includes card inspections, dice inspections, roulette inspections, pit stand inspections, table cover inspections, soft drop observations, soft count observations, jockey run inspections, starting gate and box inspections and barn/kennel inspections.
- **5,597 Other Incidents**
 - Includes all other criminal investigations, arrests and calls for service or assistance.
- **404 SAR Reports***
 - Includes a Special Agent review of Casino Suspicious Activity Reports in relation to Title 31 Bank Secrecy Act compliance
- **2,233 CTR Reports***
 - Includes a Special Agent review of Casino Currency Transaction Reports in relation to Title 31 Bank Secrecy Act compliance

*Due to the confidentiality of BSA filings, a facility level statistic is not included

A table detailing a facility level examination of these activities is included on the following page:



**Iowa Department of Public Safety
Division of Criminal Investigation
Special Enforcement Operations Bureau
Activity Report
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022**



CASINO	Fraud/Theft Investigations	Money Laundering	Backgrounds	Surveillance Approvals	Regulatory Inspections/ Reviews	Narcotics Investigations	Cheating	Charge Under 21 in Casino	Other Incidents
HARD ROCK Sioux City	23	2	201	26	130	34	1	12	783
GRAND FALLS Larchwood	31	0	199	990	645	9	15	5	250
WILD ROSE Emmetsburg	3	0	58	188	27	2	0	0	162
WILD ROSE Jefferson	6	0	118	113	447	9	0	1	48
HARRAH'S Co. Bluffs	110	0	31	254	301	48	2	0	186
AMERISTAR Co. Bluffs	58	0	220	899	416	0	0	0	491
HORSESHOE Co. Bluffs	135	2	125	245	310	1	7	0	258
LAKESIDE Osceola	5	0	61	298	81	0	1	0	89
PRAIRIE MEADOWS Altoona	26	0	362	589	366	6	0	0	201
DIAMOND JO WORTH Northwood	12	0	156	371	94	18	0	0	329
Q CASINO Dubuque	9	1	109	144	138	2	0	0	156
CASINO QUEEN Marquette	6	0	46	616	57	0	1	0	216
DIAMOND JO Dubuque	16	0	99	1148	25	8	0	2	449
WILD ROSE Clinton	9	0	64	199	283	13	0	3	278
RHYTHM CITY Davenport	51	0	202	638	1085	74	2	5	782
ISLE OF CAPRI Bettendorf	12	0	27	101	837	13	0	0	54
RIVERSIDE Riverside	15	1	163	433	474	10	0	2	334
CATFISH BEND Burlington	4	0	96	312	435	5	0	0	234
ISLE OF CAPRI Waterloo	9	0	166	499	70	11	0	0	297
TOTALS	540	6	2,503	8,063	6,221	263	29	30	5,597

At the conclusion of FY2020, the DCI filed a comprehensive report detailing a review of the number of special agents permitted for each facility and the activities of such agents as required in Iowa Code sections 99D.14(2)f and 99F.10(4)g. This report is available on the State of Iowa legislative website at the following link:

[DCI 2020 Report](#)