



Division of Criminal Investigation

FY2025

Report regarding

Activities of the Division

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

Prepared by

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Special Enforcement Operations Bureau

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

- **Secretary of the Senate W. Charles Smithson**
 - **Senator Julian B. Garrett, Chair**
 - **Senator Izaah Knox, Ranking Member**

- **Chief Clerk of the House Meghan Nelson**
 - **Representative Brian K. Lohse, Chair**
 - **Representative Eric J. Gjerde, 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-chairpersons 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 reorganization, 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 1s who were authorized to remain until they retire or otherwise leave their current job class. During FY2019, one of the remaining Special Agent 1 positions was eliminated through retirement.

As a result of reorganization, 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 now focus 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, or money laundering.

In 2019, the legislature enacted Senate File 617, which expanded regulated gambling activities to include sports wagering 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 licensed in Iowa. Throughout FY2021 and FY2022, DCI Special Agents worked on numerous background investigations related to sports wagering companies seeking licensure in Iowa.

The introduction and rapid growth of the sports wagering industry created challenges in identifying and investigating violations of Iowa law. In October 2021, the DCI created a dedicated Sports Wagering Team consisting of five Special Agents and one Special Agent in Charge in an effort to address these challenges.

In 2021, the legislature enacted House File 861, which implemented a change in the funding utilized to support the gambling enforcement mission of the DCI using 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 from the previous fiscal year.

All sports wagering companies licensed to operate in Iowa are required to report suspicious wagering activity occurring on their betting platforms. During FY2025, the DCI investigated 103 cases related to sports wagering or other forms of internet gambling activity.

In compiling the statistics for this report, the DCI analyzed logged activities of the Special Agents assigned to each of the 19 licensed facilities operating in Iowa. Those results were condensed into 11 categories with the following statewide total numbers for the fiscal year 2025:

- **235 Fraud/Theft Investigations**
 - Includes forgery, theft, money laundering, cheating investigations, falsifying an IRGC license application, unlawful use of a driver's license, counterfeit currency or chips and other fraudulent acts.
- **35 Drug Investigations**
 - Includes both felony and misdemeanor drug-related investigations.
- **8 Underage Entry into a Casino**
 - Includes investigations and charges for entering or attempting to enter a casino under the age of 21.
- **2,588 Background Investigations**
 - Includes Class A (key personnel), Class D (corporate), Class C, Class O, Lottery backgrounds and personnel backgrounds for the DCI.
- **6,263 Surveillance Approvals**
 - Includes verification of individual camera coverage and overall system functionality in addition to a full system audit conducted annually at each location.
- **1,844 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.
- **667 Other Incidents**
 - Includes all other criminal investigations, arrests and calls for service or assistance.
- **130 SAR Reports***
 - Includes a Special Agent review of Casino Suspicious Activity Reports in relation to Title 31 Bank Secrecy Act compliance.
- **4,499 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



**Iowa Department of Public Safety Division of Criminal Investigation Special
Enforcement Operations Bureau
Activity Report
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025**



CASINO	Fraud/Theft Investigations	Backgrounds	Surveillance Approvals	Regulatory Inspections/ Reviews	Narcotics Investigations	Under 21 in Casino	Other Incidents
HARD ROCK Sioux City	18	132	90	192	15	0	51
GRAND FALLS Larchwood	35	167	30	605	1	1	46
WILD ROSE Emmetsburg	2	47	173	131	0	0	3
WILD ROSE Jefferson	9	45	159	25	0	1	36
HARRAH'S Co. Bluffs	19	183	314	79	2	0	20
AMERISTAR Co. Bluffs	35	104	879	1	2	0	29
HORSESHOE Co. Bluffs	19	183	314	79	2	0	20
LAKESIDE Osceola	11	91	671	26	0	0	66
PRAIRIE MEADOWS Altoona	1	418	648	132	0	0	54
DIAMOND JO WORTH Northwood	17	128	52	9	2	1	39
Q CASINO Dubuque	5	52	221	27	0	0	6
CASINO QUEEN Marquette	0	47	117	55	0	0	9
DIAMOND JO Dubuque	11	70	344	2	1	0	49
WILD ROSE Clinton	5	67	512	44	0	0	49
RHYTHM CITY Davenport	32	94	182	196	6	3	73
ISLE OF CAPRI Bettendorf	4	93	191	34	1	0	10
RIVERSIDE Riverside	12	171	280	144	4	0	39
CATFISH BEND Burlington	9	107	324	45	1	0	19
ISLE OF CAPRI Waterloo	3	141	821	1	0	1	34
DPS HQ Des Moines	0	284	0	0	0	0	21
TOTALS	235	2,588	6,263	1,844	35	8	667

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](#)