

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



Administrative Hearings Division, Department of Inspection and Appeals

Overview

The Administrative Hearings Division is one of four divisions within the Department of Inspections and Appeals. The Division holds contested case hearings involving individuals objecting to an adverse action taken by a state department or agency. During a contested case hearing, individuals may present evidence and testimony to refute the department's action. An Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) is assigned to conduct the case and hears the facts for the issue in question. At the conclusion of the hearing, the ALJ issues a proposed decision based on the evidence provided. The proposed decision may sustain, reject, or modify the initial action taken by the department or agency. Any party can appeal the proposed decision to the state agency that initiated the action, and the agency can also review a proposed decision on its own motion. The agency has the authority to sustain, reject, or modify the proposed decision. Iowa law and the Department's administrative rules specify how contested case hearings are conducted.

The Division holds contested case hearings that involve suspensions or revocations of driver's licenses by the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), as well as for individuals contesting suspension or termination of entitlements by the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS). In addition to the DOT and the DHS cases, the Division conducts administrative hearings for nearly all state departments and licensing boards. The Department also handles appeals by Iowans that have been denied a permit to acquire firearms or carry weapons or cases where a permit has been suspended or revoked by the sheriff or the Commissioner of Public Safety.

Staffing and Funding

For FY 2017, the Administrative Hearings Division received a General Fund appropriation of \$675,000 and a staff of 23.0 appropriated FTE positions.

Related Statutes

Iowa Code chapter [10A](#)
[481](#) Iowa Administrative Code

More Information

Administrative Hearings Division, Department of Inspections and Appeals: <http://www.dia.iowa.gov/page10.html>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

LSA Staff Contact: Christin Mechler (515-281-6561) christin.mechler@legis.iowa.gov