

These DHS audits also ensure compliance with applicable state and federal funding requirements. When conducting health care audits at residential care facilities, nursing facilities, and residential and intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded, DIA auditors protect residents by assuring them that their personal funds are being properly maintained. Audit findings, too, are used to determine whether Medicaid reimbursement procedures meet all participation requirements.

Health Facilities Division - J.B. Bennett, administrator; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/281-4115

Health and habilitation professionals in the Health Facilities Division inspect, license, and certify under the Medicare and Medicaid programs more than 4,000 health care providers in Iowa. Among those providers inspected by the Division's staff are hospitals, nursing and skilled nursing facilities, end-stage renal disease units, hospices, rural health clinics, and child-placing agencies.

Multi-member survey teams from the Division conduct unannounced on-site inspections at health care facilities to assess the quality of care and services provided to residents and clients. If problems are detected during a survey, the Division can initiate corrective and/or disciplinary action to assure a facility's compliance with state and federal rules.

Inspections Division - Sherry Hopkins, administrator; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/281-5686

The Inspections Division regulates, inspects and licenses food-related establishments, hotels and motels, and games of skill and chance. Inspectors also check barber and beauty shops, beds, egg handlers, and food processing plants. Inspections conducted by the Division ensure Iowans that they receive safe and wholesome food and clean services from retailers throughout the state. In all, more than 7,400 inspections are conducted by the Division on an annual basis.

The Division's Social and Charitable Gambling Unit has administrative control for amusement games, contests, casino nights, and commercial promotions operated in the state. In addition, the Unit regulates and licenses all games of skill and chance, bingo operations, raffles, and social gambling activities.

Investigations Division - Nickolas S. Brown, administrator; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/281-5714

The Investigations Division investigates alleged fraud in the state's public assistance programs including the theft of warrants, investigates Medicaid fraud by health care providers, and conducts professional practice investigations on behalf of state licensing boards. Through a review of applications for public assistance, the Division can prevent the issuance of funds to ineligible individuals. In addition, when individuals fraudulently receive public assistance, the Division initiates recovery actions to recoup the overpayments.

Staff in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit conduct investigations of alleged abuse and neglect of residents in long-term care facilities that receive Medicaid reimbursements from the federal government. Investigators also look into allegations that residents have been defrauded of personal funds or possessions.

When abuse or fraud is substantiated, the Division works with local law enforcement officials to bring the offenders to trial. When Medicaid fraud is suspected, the DIA often works side-by-side with investigators from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Postal Service, as well as other state and federal law enforcement agencies.

Employment Appeal Board - Richard Ramsey, administrative officer; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/281-3638

EARL SEYMOUR, chair, Norwalk; term expires 2004; NORMA LOCK, vice-chair, Des Moines; term expires 2000; HARRISON WEBER, Des Moines; term expires 2002

The three-member Employment Appeal Board is appointed by the Governor and serves as the final administrative law forum for state and federal unemployment benefit appeals. The Board also hears appeals of rulings of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), rulings of the Iowa Department of Personnel (IDOP) on state employee job classifications, and rulings of the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS). The

Board members are appointed to represent employers, employees and the general public.

In addition to unemployment cases, the Board hears appeals involving peace officer issues, elevation rule violations, and contractor registration requirements. The Board receives 96 percent of its funding from the federal government based on the number of appeals heard and the time taken to render a decision.

Hospital Licensing Board

MARLYS A SCHERLIN, Creston; term expires 2001; TOM F. TIBBITS, Fort Dodge; term expires 2001

The Governor appoints the Hospital Licensing Board. Its members consult with and advise the Health Facilities Division in matters of policy affecting hospital administration. In addition, the Board reviews and approves rules and standards authorized by the State Board of Health and adoption by the Department.

Iowa Citizens Foster Care Review Board - *DeAnn Jones, administrator; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/242-6392*

JERRY FOXHOVEN, Des Moines, chair, term expires 2001; RICK DICKINSON, Dubuque; term expires 2003; KATHRYN YOUBERG, Sac City; term expires 2001; LIL PERRY, Washington; term expires 2001; DON T. ROSS, Iowa City; term expires 2002; ALBERT G. SORENSEN, Boone; term expires 2003

The Iowa Citizen Foster Care Review Board, appointed by the Governor, works to ensure that Iowa's foster children are well cared for and that the system designed to meet their needs is doing so in the most effective manner possible. The Board oversees all agency programs including local review boards and the Foster Care Registry. The Registry is a computerized listing of Iowa children in foster care.

The Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Governor, Legislature, Supreme Court, chief judge of each judicial district, Department of Human Services (DHS), and child-placing agencies on ways to improve the delivery of foster care services. Members also submit recommendations on how to remove barriers that prevent the delivery of top-quality foster care.

Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission - *Jack P. Ketterer, administrator; 717 East Court Avenue, Suite B, Des Moines 50309; 515/281-7352*

WILLARD "BILL" HANSEN, Des Moines, chair; term expires 2002; RITA SEALOCK, Council Bluffs, vice-chair; term expires 2002; DIANE HAMILTON, Storm Lake; term expires 2000; JAMES HASSENFRITZ, Sperry; term expires 2000; MICHAEL MAHAFFEY, Montezuma; term expires 2002

The Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission regulates the pari-mutuel dog and horse racing and riverboat gambling industries in Iowa. The Commission, whose members are appointed by the Governor, seeks to preserve the integrity of these industries and to maintain confidence in the industries by protecting the public. In performing its duties, the Commission investigates the eligibility of applicants for a license and selects from among those the one who can best service the citizens of Iowa.

The Commission adopts standards for the licensing of racing industry occupations, as well as standards for the operating of all race meetings and facilities. Standards also are adopted by the Commission for the operation and licensing of excursion gambling boats.

State Public Defender - *Mark C. Smith, acting state public defender; Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319-0083; 515/242-6158*

The mission of the State Public Defender is to provide high-quality legal representation to indigent clients who are accused of committing crimes or involved in juvenile court matters. By specializing in criminal defense work and juvenile matters, the lawyers and support staff of the State Public Defender Office represent clients at economical costs to the taxpayers.

The State Public Defender Office includes an Appellant Defender Office located in Des Moines that handles indigent defense cases on appeal for the entire state. In addition, the State Public Defender has a contractual agreement with the Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) to provide legal advice to inmates at the Iowa State Penitentiary in civil cases.