

When conducting health care audits at residential care facilities, nursing facilities, and residential and intermediate care facilities for the intellectually disabled, DIA auditors protect residents by assuring that their personal funds are being properly maintained. Audit findings are also used to determine whether Medicaid reimbursement procedures meet all participation requirements.

Members of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) investigate allegations of resident abuse in long-term care facilities and other entities that receive Medicaid reimbursements from Iowa and the U.S. government. In addition to addressing allegations of resident abuse, the MFCU also investigates Medicaid provider fraud throughout Iowa. MFCU staff also work with other federal and state law enforcement agencies in conducting joint investigations. When criminal charges are warranted, the MFCU refers such cases to local and federal prosecutorial authorities for criminal prosecution or appropriate civil litigation. The MFCU also has the ability and authority, when requested, to prosecute such cases.

OFFICE OF THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

§13B.2

Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319; (515) 242-6158; <https://spd.iowa.gov>

Adam Gregg..... Serves at Pleasure of Governor
Kurt Swaim, First Assistant State Public Defender

The Office of the State Public Defender is responsible for coordinating Iowa’s indigent defense system. Its mission is to provide high-quality legal representation to indigent persons in criminal, juvenile, and other eligible proceedings in the most efficient and economical manner.

More than 200 employees in 18 local public defender offices and the Appellate Defender Office provide representation for indigent persons primarily in criminal and juvenile cases at the trial and appellate levels in all of Iowa’s counties. The State Public Defender also contracts with more than 1,000 private attorneys and several nonprofit organizations throughout Iowa to provide court-appointed representation in cases that public defender offices are unable to handle. The contract attorneys, as well as other indigent defense providers, such as investigators, court reporters, interpreters, and expert witnesses, are paid from the Indigent Defense Fund, which is administered by the State Public Defender.

CHILD ADVOCACY BOARD

§237.16

Department of Inspections and Appeals, Lucas State Office Building, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-7621

Jim Hennessey, Administrator

<i>Name</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Term Ending</i>
Gerald W. Magee, Chair	Charles City	April 30, 2018
Mark Hargrafen.....	Grimes.....	April 30, 2018
Bruce Johnson.....	Cedar Rapids.....	April 30, 2019
Beth Myers.....	Garner.....	April 30, 2018
Elaine Sanders.....	Sioux City.....	April 30, 2017
Wayne Schellhammer	Urbandale.....	April 30, 2017
Jeanne Sorensen.....	Lake View.....	April 30, 2017
Michael Steele.....	Mount Pleasant	April 30, 2018
Shannon Unternahrer	Washington	April 30, 2017

The Child Advocacy 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 foster care review boards and the state’s Court Appointed Special Advocate Program.

The board is responsible for making recommendations to the Governor, General Assembly, Supreme Court, and Chief Judge of each judicial district, Department of Human Services, and child-placing agencies on ways to improve the delivery of foster care services.