

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

## COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

The Commissioner's Office is comprised of five bureaus as well as a legislative liaison, administrative rules and strategic planning coordinator, and an executive assistant.

***Professional Standards Bureau*** – responsible for ensuring the integrity of the department by conducting fair, impartial, and complete investigations into allegations of employee misconduct.

***Intelligence Bureau*** – supports law enforcement operations by collecting, analyzing and disseminating information to law enforcement agencies about active criminals, current criminal activities, and crime trends. The bureau fosters intra-and interstate information exchange and networking between law enforcement agencies and coordinates LEIN (Law Enforcement Intelligence Network). Support is also provided to local law enforcement for special investigations (e.g. technical equipment loans, overtime funding.)

***Public Information Bureau***- responsible for public affairs, all external/internal media, all external/internal websites and citizen and employee recognition functions

***Plans' Training and Research Bureau*** – responsible for the applicant processing program, including recruitment and operation of the Department's Basic Academy. Plans and oversees department-wide training. Oversees the department's grant process.

***Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau*** – Administers the state's Highway Safety Program whose purpose is to reduce traffic accidents, deaths, injuries and property damage. Eight national priority program areas are identified: Alcohol and other drug countermeasures, police traffic services, occupant protection, traffic records, emergency medical services, motorcycle safety, pedestrian/bicycle safety and roadway safety.

## ADMINISTRATION

***Technology Services Bureau*** – provides technology services and infrastructure to the department and to the criminal justice community. Administers the Iowa On-line Warrants and Articles (IOWA) system, the state's Criminal Justice Information system which interfaces with the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) in Washington, D.C., the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) in Phoenix, Arizona, the Iowa Departments of Transportation, Natural Resources, Information

Technology Department, the Iowa Courts Information System and the National Weather Service in Des Moines. The system provides continuous data links to approximately 2,099 terminals serving 318 law enforcement and criminal justice agencies throughout Iowa via the ICN. This allows police departments, sheriff's offices, state patrol, federal agencies, county attorneys, Department of Corrections, Iowa courts and public safety communications center terminals to send and receive information intra and interstate. The bureau responsibilities include overseeing the security for the users of the systems, including the computerized criminal history and NCIC files data base.

***Program Services Bureau*** - administers the Private Investigative/Security/Bail Enforcement regulation by licensing 307 agencies and more than 6,000 employee ID cards for the State of Iowa as well as administers the Weapons Permitting program with the sheriffs' offices, the ATF and FBI.

***Finance Bureau*** – supports the financial structure regarding budget preparation, accounting, payroll, personnel, federal grant reporting, custodianship of all negotiable instruments seized under asset forfeiture law and the Iowa Peace Office Retirement System.

***Uniform Crime Reports*** – collects incident based crime information from the law enforcement agencies in Iowa and processes data into reports, including the annual Iowa Uniform Crime Report. Provides data upon request for law enforcement, the media, researchers and the general public. The Iowa UCR is forwarded to the US Department of Justice for inclusion in nation-wide crime statistics.

## **DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

***General Criminal Investigation*** – provides investigative support/services to county attorneys, sheriffs' offices, police departments and state government agencies across Iowa. Special agents are assigned to each of thirteen Zone Offices, which are located across the state to provide timely response to requests for investigative assistance. Types of investigations include homicide and other death investigations, other violent crime, fraud, theft, organized crime, corruption, embezzlement, abductions, sexual assault, missing persons and polygraph examinations.

***Sex Offender Registry*** – designed to maintain an accurate database of convicted sex offenders that provides information to assist the citizens of Iowa in ensuring the safety of children and families. Duties include maintenance of the data base, verification of addresses, identification and investigation of offenders not complying with the law, performing risk assessments, public notification.

***Records and Identification*** – DCI is the central repository for state criminal history records within Iowa, as required by federal law. The records are received from local criminal justice agencies and are created primarily for criminal justice purposes. Since the

open records law of 1996, extensive inquiries of the data base by non criminal justice agencies have increased significantly. There are currently over 450,000 records maintained.

***Gaming Enforcement*** – DCI gaming enforcement officers and special agents are assigned to Iowa's 10 riverboats and 3 tracks and slots facilities. They are responsible for the daily oversight of regulations as well as for investigating and enforcing Iowa's laws. Special agents conduct investigations arising from activities at the facilities as well as conduct background investigations of personnel involved in the gambling operations.

***Missing Persons Clearinghouse*** – operates the state's missing persons clearinghouse to enhance the public's awareness of individuals who have been reported missing and provides assistance to law enforcement and the citizens of Iowa. The Clearinghouse maintains the Amber Alert website for the state.

***Crime Laboratory*** - Provides forensic services to approved local, state and federal agencies throughout Iowa. Forensic services include latent prints, blood alcohol, clan lab analysis, DNA, questioned documents, drugs, firearms, arson, toxicology, trace evidence, and urine alcohol.

#### **DIVISION OF NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT**

Established to provide a professional service to the state in investigating and assisting in the prosecution of crimes involving the supply of illicit controlled substances. The DNE works with federal, state and local government agencies and task forces throughout Iowa in identifying and developing strong prosecutable cases against major drug traffickers and organizations.

***Clandestine Laboratory Emergency Response Team*** - agents investigate and assist other law enforcement agencies with methamphetamine lab investigations such as processing the scene, collecting evidence and insuring the proper disposal of hazardous waste material. The lab team members also provide clan lab certification and familiarization training to full and part-time sworn officers and full and part-time fire/medical personnel.

## **STATE PATROL DIVISION**

Established for the protection of motorists on Iowa's roads and highways through a combination of prevention, education and enforcement. The patrol is organized into Field Operations and Administrative Operations. A number of special enforcement teams also exist to focus on key areas:

***Safety Education Officers*** – presents educational programs for the public in safety related fields such as Defensive Driving, Substance Abuse Prevention, Bicycle Safety, Seat Belt and Child Restraint Effectiveness Seminars.

***Drug Interdiction*** – troopers filed 23,203 narcotic related charges during 2002 and took narcotics off the street that were worth approximately 24.2 million dollars.

***Canine Unit*** – the Patrol utilizes its seven K-9s to assist troopers and other agencies that request assistance. These dogs have proven effective in assisting officers determine the presence of illegal drugs during routine traffic stops where officers suspect drug violations.

***Tactical Team*** – provides first line support during raids on known and suspected illegal clandestine methamphetamine laboratories in rural, residential and business environments. The teams also deal with barricaded suspects, hostage situation responses and high-risk felony traffic stops that stem from meth lab warrants.

***Air Wing*** – assist local law enforcement agencies and road troopers in searching for lost persons and fugitives, criminal surveillance, emergency blood and eye bank/tissue relays.

***Fleet and Supply*** – responsible for receiving vehicles into the Department and equipping these vehicles for the different Divisions within Public Safety, other state and federal agencies and task forces.

***Vehicle Theft*** – investigate and assist in the examination and identification of stolen vehicles.

***Motor Carrier Assistance Program*** – specially trained troopers have patrolled Iowa's roadways identifying and removing fatigued and impaired commercial motor vehicle operators, providing a safer environment for the motoring public.

***Technical Accident Investigation*** – responds to a myriad of request dealing with collision investigations. The TI Unit is comprised of troopers highly trained in the field of highway collision investigation and reconstruction.

**Post 16** – formerly the Capitol Police Division, is the office responsible for the security of the capitol and the complex as well as security at Terrace Hill and is part of the state patrol.

## **STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

**Fire Service Training Bureau** – responsible for the training of fire and emergency response personnel on a statewide basis. As a result of legislation passed during the 78<sup>th</sup> general assembly, the Fire Service Institute at Iowa State University was transferred to the state fire marshal division.

**Fire Prevention and Inspection Bureau** – conducts fire prevention inspections to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations in health care facilities, schools and colleges, child care facilities, state institutions, and other buildings where the public congregates. Inspectors also perform plan reviews and conduct on-site inspections of aboveground flammable liquid and propane gas installations.

**Arson and Explosive Bureau** – The agents of this bureau conduct fire investigations to determine fire cause and in the event a fire is found to have been set intentionally, conduct criminal investigations. The agents are also certified explosive technicians and are responsible for bombing and explosive-related investigations and the inspection of commercial explosive facilities.

**Building Code Bureau** – responsible for the review and approval of construction plans for new buildings; the addition, alteration, or remodeling of existing buildings, accessibility reviews, including state-owned buildings, health care facilities, schools and colleges, and other public facilities. The bureau is also the state administrative agency for a HUD contract for manufactured housing.

**Volunteer Firefighter Training Fund** – established to supplement the training budgets of volunteer fire departments in the state. The fund is administered by the state fire marshal division and is used to provide training and some equipment to volunteer fire fighters throughout the state.