


# OFFICE OF THE STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER



## FY 2019 Budget Presentation

January 24, 2017

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**To ensure... indigent Iowans *high-quality* legal representation in the *most efficient* manner...**

<p><b>Office of State Public Defender</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 223 Employees                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 149 Attorneys</li> <li>– 25 Investigators</li> <li>– 45 Secretaries</li> <li>– 4 Administrative Staff</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 18 Field Offices in 13 cities</li> <li>• FY 17 \$ 25.53 million</li> </ul>	<p><b>Indigent Defense Fund</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 819 contract attorneys</li> <li>• FY 17: \$ 35.33 million                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– \$ 17.37 million Adult</li> <li>– \$ 12.51 million Juvenile</li> <li>– \$3.56 million Miscellaneous</li> <li>– \$ 1.09 million Appellate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### Total Indigent Defense Spending

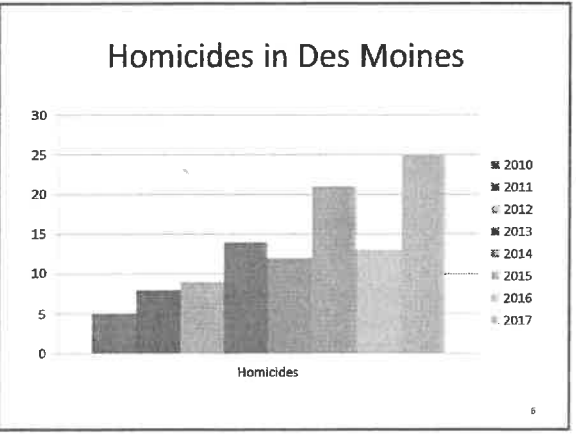
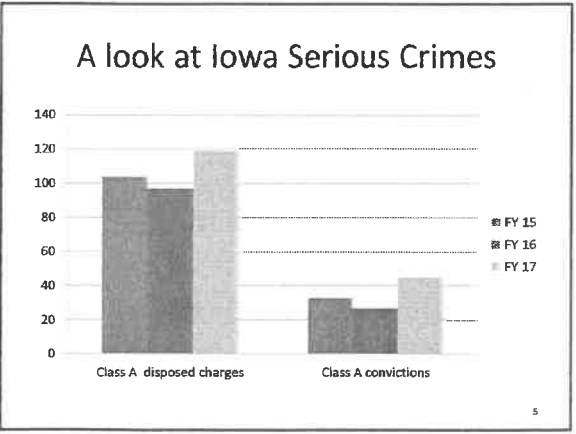
	FY 17 (Final GF appropri.)	FY 18 (App)	FY 19 (Req)
Office of SPD	\$25,724,762	\$26,182,243 [236,041]	\$26,946,202
Indigent Defense Fund	\$33,901,929	\$33,444,448 \$2,000,000	\$37,444,448
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,626,691</b>	<b>\$61,390,650</b>	<b>\$64,390,650</b>

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### Caseload of SPD/Indigent Defense

- State Public Defender System
  - 2017: 83,398 charges
  - 2016: 81,916 charges
  - 2015: 84,062 charges
  - 2014: 83,398 charges
- Indigent Defense Fund
  - 2017: 76,734 cases
  - 2016: 76,043 cases (*Young* decision)
  - 2015: 66,079 cases
  - 2014 68,272 cases

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### Government Efficiencies: **Collaboration and Flexibility**

- 18 Field Offices
- SPD Crimmigration resource: 4 months < 130 cases (approx. up to \$500 per case: \$65,000).
- Deposition Unit Polk County: \$ 59,000 savings
- Health Insurance: < \$19,000/month (< \$133,000/yr)
- Merit Increases: 0 – 2% based on performance v. mandatory 4.5%. Savings < \$190,254.21

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### Government Efficiencies: Technology

- SPD completely partnered with OCIO Oct. 2017
- Mandatory online submission for attorney claims: Jan. 2017
- Estimate rollout of online submission for miscellaneous claims (experts, court reporters, interpreters): Feb. 1, 2018
- Next steps:
  - **Data Development of SPD system:** Development of Requesting Technology Reinvestment Fund support in the amount of \$88,000 for FY19
  - Develop plan to make attorney contracts (800+) completely electronic

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### Challenges and Opportunities

- **Free trainings for attorneys**
  - 2014: 56.75 (53.75 in-person/ 3 webinar)
  - 2015: 65 (55 in-person/ 10 webinar)
  - 2016: 63 (53 in-person/ 10 webinar)
  - 2017: 75.25 (61.25 in-person/ 14 webinar)
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Chair program**
- **Crimmigration:** In June 2017, Ia. S. Ct. ruled: Competent counsel must advise noncitizen defenders of all “specific statutory [immigration] consequences” associated with plea/conviction.
  - **Four trainings in 4 months:** Since August 2017:
    - 2 webinars and 2 in-person half-day trainings (DSM and Iowa City)

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### Challenges and opportunities cont.

- Customer service:
  - Responsive agency: Respond to attorney questions within 24 hours
  - Quick processing of claims:
    - 2014: 35.3 days
    - 2015: 28 days
    - 2016: 19.9 days
    - 2017: **16.8 days**

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### Goals:

- Continue **developing attorney skills:** training and CLE at no cost (expand statewide in-person trainings).
- Customer service:
  - Rolling out a more **user-friendly website.**
  - **Respond** to questions within 24 hours.
  - **Reduce claims processing time** for both attorney and miscellaneous.
- Government savings efficiencies:
  - Continue to **utilize technology** to advance mission of SPD.
  - Continued development of **specialty negotiated contracts.**
  - Review of high billing attorneys to **reduce/eliminate** government **waste, mistakes, fraud and/or abuse.**

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