



FY2026 Operational Plan

The mission of the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS) is *“To serve the people of Iowa by providing public safety services with leadership, integrity, and professionalism.”* To support a vision of ensuring Iowa remains a safe and prosperous place to live and visit, the Department provides several services and programs. This Operational Plan will outline those programs, goals, and the means of measuring success.

FY2026 Operational Goals

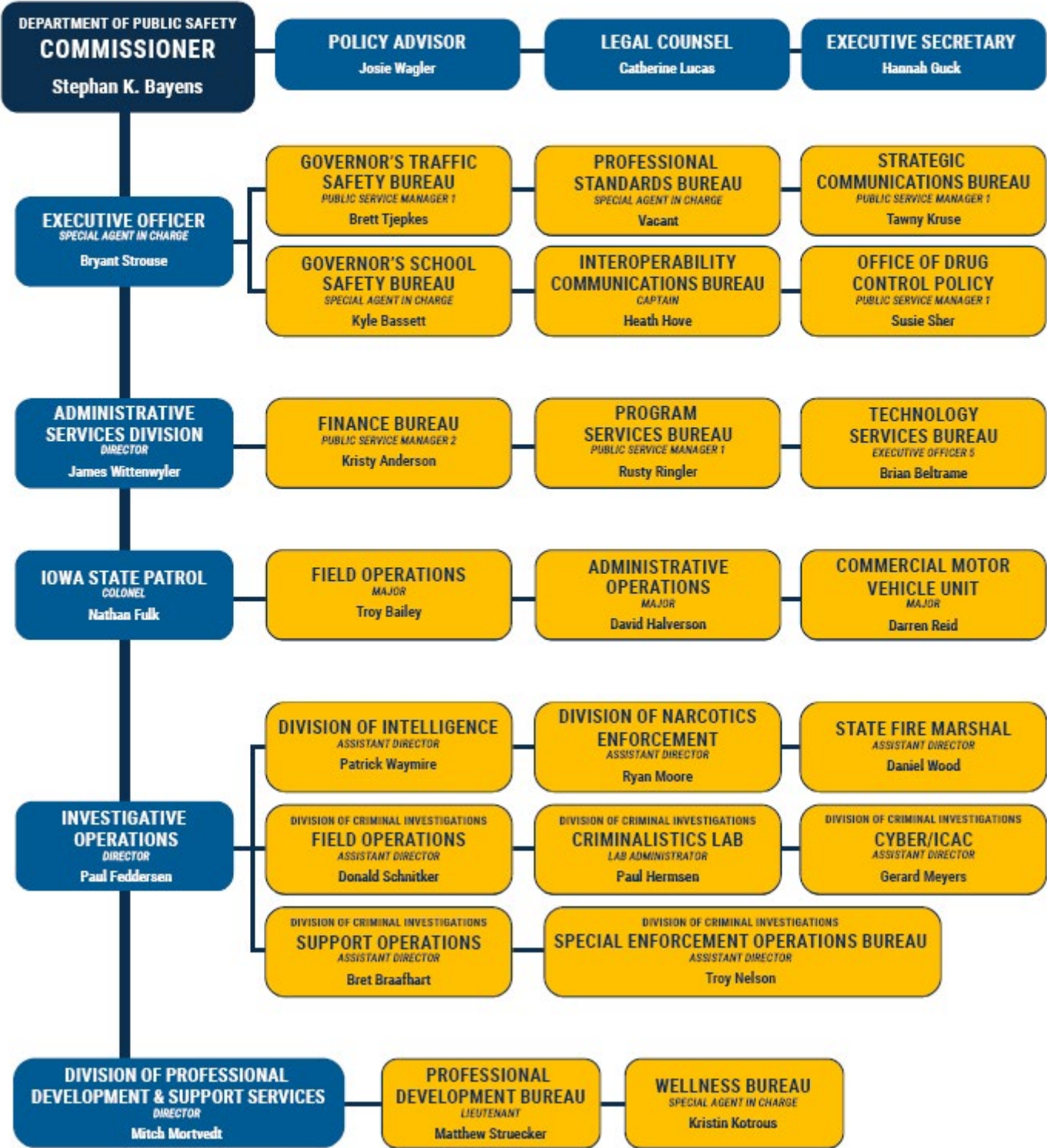
The goals listed below support three of the Governor’s priorities: *Education, Families First, and Government Efficiency*. Each measure detailed throughout this plan will be annotated with the number of the associated goal(s) it supports.

1. Reduce the number of preventable injuries and deaths on Iowa roadways.
2. Promote commercial motor vehicle safety and ensure carrier compliance with state and federal laws.
3. Reduce the number of fire-related deaths, injuries, and property loss through investigation, education, and firefighter training.
4. Provide crucial forensic sciences services to our criminal justice partners.
5. Provide timely criminal history background information and background investigations to public service, private industry, and criminal justice partners.
6. Supply investigative support and expertise to law enforcement and public safety agencies in Iowa.
7. Process and maintain up-to-date registration records and information for all active sex offenders in Iowa.
8. Foster collaborative training and awareness through educational programs, campaigns, and alerts for the public, private sector, law enforcement, and first responders.
9. Promote integrity and excellence in the Department through continuous education and maintenance of organizational and facility accreditation.
10. Provide funding opportunities and materials for law enforcement and fire safety programs throughout Iowa.
11. Facilitate the sharing of information between local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.
12. Responsibly and efficiently manage the Department’s financial and physical assets.



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S

ORGANIZATION CHART



Iowa State Patrol

Iowa State Patrol

The Iowa State Patrol (ISP)'s primary mission is saving lives and preventing serious injury through traffic enforcement. The ISP is also uniquely positioned to respond and provide sustained assistance to local agencies during large scale events or natural disasters. These events have included prison disturbances, civil unrest, the Iowa State Fair, high-risk warrant services, sporting events, VIP/dignitary visits, and specialty unit support. The ISP's Public Resource Officers (PROs) provide educational presentations for the public on motor vehicle safety. Over time, covered topics have expanded to include safety programs related to the internet, bicycles, pedestrians, abduction awareness, and campus awareness.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Targeted roadway enforcement programs
- Special cooperative enforcement programs
- Establishing traffic safety and public safety training programs for law enforcement personnel and the public.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of motorists assisted annually ¹	15,000
Number of enforcement contacts ^{1,6}	275,000
Number of ISP narcotics arrests ⁶	1,200
Number of educational programs provided related to public safety ⁸	1,300

Commercial Motor Vehicle Unit

The Iowa State Patrol's Commercial Motor Vehicle Unit (CMVU) promotes highway safety through education and enforcement of all Iowa laws and federal motor carrier safety and regulations related to commercial motor vehicles and their drivers. This is done by: (1) Enforcing traffic and criminal law to promote the safety of the public and reduce crashes to expedite traffic flow and freight movement; (2) Inspecting commercial vehicles and drivers to determine compliance with state and federal laws related to driver qualification, hours of service, driver licensing, vehicle size and weight, and vehicle safety; (3) Protecting Iowa highway system and infrastructure through the enforcement of size, weight, and cargo laws; (4) Providing training to the motor carrier industry, social groups, law enforcement, and other government entities; and (5) Performing other duties commonly associated with law enforcement.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Targeted roadway enforcement programs
- Establishing and conducting training programs for the commercial vehicle industry and the public to improve understanding of carrier safety and hazardous waste transport.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of commercial motor vehicles inspected ²	42,380
Number of commercial motor vehicles weighed ²	800,000
Number of educational programs provided related to carrier safety ^{2,8}	70
Number of Multi-Agency Strike Force Operation (MASFO) enforcement stops ²	5,000

Specialty Units & Programs

The Iowa State Patrol has several units that provide specialized services, including:

- 1. The Air Wing helps enforce Iowa’s traffic laws from the air and assists city, county, state, and federal agencies when requested.
- 2. The Crisis Negotiation Team responds to calls for assistance including armed and unarmed suicidal and barricaded subjects, armed subjects with hostages, high-risk warrants, and suicidal and mentally ill subjects.
- 3. The Police Service Dog Unit responds to calls for assistance in narcotics-related missions and tracking, apprehension, and recovery missions.
- 4. The Tactical Unit offers support to city, county, state, and federal agencies when specially trained and equipped personnel are necessary for successful resolution of high-risk situations.
- 5. The Technical Collision Investigation Unit responds to collisions involving serious injury or death. They also provide expert witness testimony concerning crash dynamics.
- 6. The Honor Guard represents the Department of Public Safety at funerals, memorial services, and ceremonial events, and honors other law enforcement agencies when requested.
- 7. The Abandoned Vehicle Program is a process in which a vehicle has been impounded by order of a police authority and has not been reclaimed for a period of 10 days. Owners receive notification within 20 days of the tow date, and if the vehicle remains unclaimed it is evaluated for sale or potential use on the roadways.
- 8. The Vehicle Theft Unit assists local law enforcement with investigations into the theft of motor vehicles.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Maintaining these units in a “Mission Ready” status and prepared to assist when needed.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of callouts where specialized units are “Mission Ready” ⁶	100%
Average turnaround time to complete a full Technical Collision Investigation (days) ⁶	180
Percent of vehicles processed for reimbursement within the required 20-day period ⁶	98%

State Fire Marshal

State Fire Marshal

The Iowa State Fire Marshal (SFM)’s primary mission is to reduce deaths, injuries, and property loss through investigation, education, and firefighter training. This division also provides information on burn bans, reports on burn injury and fatalities, participates in the National Fire Incident Reporting Systems (NFIRS), promotes fire safety initiatives, provides juvenile fire intervention services, and maintains the Iowa Firefighter Memorial. The SFM also works with the Iowa Fire Service and Emergency Response Council (IFSERC) to address matters relating to fire protection services and training across the state.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Collecting and reporting data on fire-related incidents, injuries, and fatalities
- Establishing fire-safety and risk management programs and notifying the public of current fire risks.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of burn ban alerts posted to the website and social media within 12 hours ⁸	100%
Percent of fire departments reporting ³	75%

Fire Service Training Bureau

The Fire Service Training Bureau (FSTB)’s mission is to provide quality training and education for Iowa’s fire and emergency services, including field programs, certification programs, business and industrial programs, conference meetings, and research and development. A variety of financial programs, supported by the legislature, voluntary contributions, and specialty license plate sales, support firefighter training and purchasing of new apparatuses and equipment. These include the Income Tax Checkoff Fund, the Paul Ryan Firefighter Fund, the Volunteer Firefighter Fund, and the Firefighting Equipment Revolving Loan Program.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing the tools and knowledge for firefighters to be well equipped in fire-related and emergency situations.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of hours spent training firefighters ³	150,000
Number of certification exams administered ³	1,000
Number of field training props delivered to local fire departments ^{3,10}	230

Arson and Explosives Bureau

The Arson and Explosives Bureau investigates fire scenes to determine cause and whether that cause has any nexus to criminal activity. The Bureau is also an FBI accredited bomb squad that responds to and investigates explosive related incidents.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Investigating criminal activity based on Departmental priorities.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of arson and explosive cases resolved ³	35%

Division of Criminal Investigation

Criminalistics Laboratory

The DCI Criminalistics Laboratory provides professional forensic scientific services and support to the criminal justice community throughout Iowa. The lab is accredited under the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors Laboratory Accreditation Boards International (ASCLD/LAB) accreditation program. It provides forensic science analysis and testimony in the following disciplines: Arson and Explosives, Crime Scene Response and Processing, Breath Alcohol, Drug Identification, DNA Casework and Offender Profiling, Impression Evidence (latent prints, tire and footwear impressions), Firearms and Tool Marks, Toxicology, and Trace Evidence.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Analyzing forensic evidence, preparing case reports, and providing expert testimony.
- Collaborating with investigators and the court system to reduce the number of examinations needed.
- Maintaining the highest level of accreditation status.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Average lab-wide turnaround time for closed cases (days) ⁴	45
Percent of applicable ASCLD/LAB accreditation criteria met in annual inspections ⁹	100%
Percent of criminalists successfully completing at least one discipline-specific training event annually ^{4,9}	90%
Percent of criminalists successfully completing proficiency testing ^{4,9}	100%
Number of forensic case assignments closed annually ⁴	14,400

Field Operations Bureau

The Field Operations Bureau, also known as the Major Crimes Unit, investigates high-level felonies throughout the state of Iowa. Agents work death investigations, child abductions, kidnapping, sexual assaults, public corruption, officer-involved shootings, major thefts, fraud, and more. Agents also provide expertise during the investigative process, which includes major case coordination, technology support, witness testimony, search warrant execution, witness and suspect interviews, crime scene searches, and evidence collection. This section also maintains the Missing Persons Information Clearinghouse (MPIC) which compiles, coordinates, and disseminates information on missing/unidentified persons in Iowa. The MPIC also provides education to law enforcement and the public on missing person issues.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Investigating criminal activity based on Departmental priorities.
- Coordinating with agencies to collect, share, and act on reports of suspicious activities with a criminal nexus.
- Facilitating information sharing with law enforcement and the public about missing and unidentified persons.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of callouts where agents are “Mission Ready” ⁶	100%
Percent of National Crime Information Center for Missing Persons reports posted to the Missing Persons Information Clearinghouse website within four (4) hours ⁸	100%

Support Operations Bureau

The Support Operations Bureau (SOB) provides administrative support for the DCI. They collect, maintain, and provide information to law enforcement and the public. It is divided into the following sections: ABIS/Fingerprints, Criminal History Dissemination, Records and Identification, Administrative Support and Transcription, and the Iowa Sex Offender Registry (SOR). The Bureau also participates in the Social Security Administration's Cooperative Disability Investigations Task Force, which combats fraud within the disability program.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Facilitating information sharing with law enforcement and the public consistent with state and federal law.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of fingerprints entered within two (2) working days of receipt ⁵	99%
Number of criminal history record checks fulfilled annually ⁵	275,000
Percent of SOR records validated within three (3) months of initial entry ⁷	100%
Percent of existing SOR records revalidated within 12 months of previous validation ⁷	100%
Percent of total Iowa sex offender registrants whose whereabouts are unknown ⁷	2%
Number of SSA investigations/disability cases criminally prosecuted ⁶	1

Special Enforcement Operations Bureau

The Special Enforcement Operations Bureau (SEOB) is responsible for the investigation and enforcement of Iowa's gambling laws. This includes conducting criminal investigations, licensing background investigations, and regulatory activities at all state-licensed casinos and racetracks in Iowa. The Bureau is also responsible for gambling-related investigations, and enforcement of Iowa sports wagering and internet gambling laws.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing thorough and timely background investigations in a highly regulated industry.
- Investigating criminal activity based on Departmental priorities.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of Class C background investigations completed within 75 days ⁵	90%
Percent of Class A background investigations completed within 150 days ⁵	90%

Cyber Crime Bureau

The Cyber Crime Bureau is responsible for criminal investigations involving digital technology. Almost every major investigation conducted by the DCI (e.g. homicides, fraud, child exploitation) has a significant cyber, technological, or digital nexus.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing digital forensic services by certified examiners.
- Coordinating with agencies to collect, share, and act on reports of suspicious activities with a criminal nexus.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of new Cyber Tips vetting for investigation within one (1) business day ⁶	100%
Percent of Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) cases referred for prosecution ⁶	90%

Division of Narcotics Enforcement

Division of Narcotics Enforcement

The Division of Narcotics Enforcement (DNE) serves as the lead state agency in providing public safety through investigative enforcement of laws relating to narcotics and other controlled substances. Additionally, the DNE is actively involved in the investigation of drug-related financial conspiracies, clandestine laboratories, marijuana eradication, diversion of pharmaceuticals, gang-related activities, and drug smuggling. The DNE has the primary responsibility for providing drug-related training to both state and local law enforcement agencies.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Investigating drug-related criminal activity based on Departmental priorities.
- Providing training to law enforcement, fire department, first responder, and other groups.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of drug trafficking organizations disrupted and dismantled ⁶	80
Number of identification, awareness, and education programs provided ⁸	20

Division of Intelligence & Fusion Center

Division of Intelligence & Fusion Center

The Division of Intelligence & Fusion Center (DOI/FC) serves as the central coordinating agency for the Law Enforcement Intelligence Network (LEIN). LEIN coordinates information sharing related to criminal activity and provides support to all enforcement divisions of the DPS, as well as local, state, and federal partners. The DOI/FC also houses the Iowa Office to Combat Human Trafficking, which maintains a training platform, resource information, tip line, and approved lodging provider information website.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Implementing recommendations advanced in the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan.
- Conducting strategic targeting of primary drug trafficking and criminal organizations.
- Providing human-trafficking prevention training and certification to Iowa's lodging providers, law enforcement, and other first responders.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of Requests for Information (RFI) ¹¹	12,000
Number of intelligence briefings for high-level executives ¹¹	10
Percent of lodging providers that pass human-trafficking prevention audits ⁸	100%
Number of officers completing the DPS Criminal Intelligence Course required for LEIN membership ⁹	40
Percent of DOI/FC personnel receiving privacy training annually ⁹	100%

Administrative Services Division

Finance Bureau

The Finance Bureau is responsible for the Department's ability to function economically and responsibly. They are responsible for managing both financial and physical assets, ensuring they are appropriately sourced, maintained, and replaced as needed. They manage the Peace Officers Retirement, Accident, and Disability System (POR), a benefit pension plan that allows employees the opportunity to retire as early as 50-years of age and/or with up to 88% of their final average pay. Requests for POR benefits are reviewed by the POR Board of Trustees. They also manage the Public Safety Survivor Program that helps survivors of those killed in the line of duty.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Managing Department financial and physical assets according to state and federal laws.
- Managing the Peace Officer's Retirement, Accident, and Disability System (POR).
- Managing the Public Safety Survivor Program.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of audit exceptions contained in the annual audit report ¹²	0
Number of days to process Public Safety Survivor Program benefits ¹²	30
Number of non-report and report comments as it relates to capital assets ¹²	0
Average fleet turn-in mileage ¹²	130,000

Program Services Bureau

The Program Services Bureau serves the criminal justice community and the public through four (4) statutory program areas: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program Administration, Weapons Permit Program Administration, Private Investigation, Private Security & Bail Enforcement Agency Licensing, and the IOWA ACT Team. The IOWA ACT Team provides audit/validation, training, and certification for the Iowa Online Warrants and Articles (IOWA) Criminal Justice Information Network. The IOWA System provides information to local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies, and serves as a link to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Facilitating the sharing of information consistent with the law.
- Provide statewide law enforcement computer service, including certification training and technology support services to IOWA System users.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of IOWA System messages transmitted annually ¹¹	69,000,000
Percent of Iowa population in jurisdictions reporting UCR data ¹¹	96%
Number of Private Security, Private Investigator & Bail Enforcement ID cards issued ⁵	3,500
Percent of IOWA System users completing the required IOWA/NCIC certification testing within required timeframes ⁸	100%
Percent of officers receiving police liability training annually ⁹	100%
Percent of agencies audited as required by the FBI ⁹	33%

Division of Professional Development & Support Services

Division of Professional Development & Support Services

The Division of Professional Development & Support Services (PDSS) oversees the hiring, training, continued education, and support services for the DPS. They manage the sworn hiring process and run the DPS Basic and Certified Training Academies. Once employed, personnel receive ongoing training, both online and in-person on a regular basis. The PDSS also ensures the DPS maintains their Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) accreditation status, considered the gold-standard in public safety. The Division also houses the Wellness & Support Services Bureau, which provides training on wellness, programs, resources, and options to employees and their families. They include the Peer Support Team, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team, and Crisis Response Canine Program.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing mandatory training annually through in-service events, training bulletins, and specialty schools that include, but is not limited to ethics, firearms, use of force, defensive tactics, MILO, and legal updates.
- Recruiting and providing a basic training academy for all peace officer candidates that prepares them for work within the Department.
- Ensuring that the Department maintains all policies required for accreditation with thorough documentation and proof of implementation and compliance.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of personnel receiving ethics training annually ⁹	100%
Percent of required CALEA standards met ⁹	100%

Professional Standards Bureau

Professional Standards Bureau

The Professional Standards Bureau (PSB) is the internal investigative unit for the DPS. They have the responsibility to conduct or supervise a thorough internal investigation when a complaint is filed against a department employee.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing thorough and timely internal investigations, should they arise.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of cases closed within 60 days or the Written Exemption Limits ⁹	100%

Office of Drug Control Policy

Office of Drug Control Policy

The Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) is responsible for the coordination of substance abuse prevention, education, treatment, and enforcement efforts in Iowa. In addition, they are responsible for policy development and criminal justice resourcing.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Fostering collaborative training and awareness to build capacity and improve outcomes for drug-endangered children.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of children referred to Iowa HHS from ODCP-funded task forces ⁶	200

Governor’s Traffic Safety Bureau

Governor’s Traffic Safety Bureau

The Governor’s Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) administers the State’s allocation of federal highway safety funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) as authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). They work with local, state, and federal agencies and partners to educate the public about traffic safety and lower the rate of death and injury on Iowa roadways.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing training programs for law enforcement personnel about traffic safety measures, including the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) programs.
- Providing public awareness campaigns and services to improve understanding of traffic safety, including child passenger safety resources, the Child Passenger Safety Technician program, hands-free driving laws, bicycle and motorcycle safety and awareness, drunk or impaired driving prevention, and seatbelt use.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of traffic fatalities ¹	334
Number of serious injuries in traffic crashes ¹	1,358
Number of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles travelled ¹	1.03
Number of unrestrained passenger vehicle occupant fatalities, all seat positions ¹	84
Number of fatalities involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a BAC ≥ 0.08 ¹	100
Number of speeding-related fatalities ¹	68

Governor’s School Safety Bureau

Governor’s School Safety Bureau

The Governor’s School Safety Bureau (GSSB) is responsible for providing assistance and tools to identify, report, and assess school-based threats. The GSSB also facilitates training so teachers, administrators, places of worship, and first responders are equipped and empowered to keep students safe.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing active-shooter awareness and response training to schools and places of worship.
- Providing active-shooter response training to law enforcement and first responders.
- Providing emergency radios to Iowa schools.
- Administering and monitoring the Safe+Sound Iowa threat-reporting app, website, and tip-line.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Number of people trained by GSSB annually ⁸	4,300

Interoperability Communications Bureau

Interoperability Communications Bureau

The Interoperability Communications Bureau is responsible for the administration of the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS), a statewide radio platform that provides radio communication to public safety agencies and others across the state. This includes daily monitoring of radios and overseeing the health of tower sites. The Bureau is also part of the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) - a cooperative organization between the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation. It works through a series of committees, subcommittees, and working groups to manage, train, and foster collaboration between public safety and public service entities throughout the state.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Implementing statewide interoperable communications in line with state and federal regulations.
- Facilitating information sharing between local, state, and federal agencies.
- Developing a system for and broadcasting AMBER Alerts.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of radio network availability statewide ¹¹	100%
Percent of AMBER Alerts broadcast within 60 minutes of receipt of required information ⁸	100%
Percent of non-law enforcement criminal history requests processed within two (2) business days ⁵	100%

Strategic Communications Bureau

Strategic Communications Bureau

The Strategic Communications Bureau oversees communication plans to meet the goals of enhancing the public image of the Department, manages the messages and content process for digital tools such as the website and social media accounts, and handles public records requests.

To fulfill those duties, the strategies utilized include:

- Providing public updates on initiatives and investigations through media, the DPS website, and social media.
- Reviewing requests for records, reports, and policies and providing materials when appropriate according to Department policy, state and federal law.

Outcome Measure	FY26 Outcome Target
Percent of requests for public records processed within 10 business days ^{8,11}	90%