



Iowa State University Department of Public Safety

Directive: 15.2

SUBJECT: CRIME ANALYSIS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/07/20

REVISED DATE:

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15.2.1 CRIME ANALYSIS PROCEDURES

POLICY:

The Iowa State University Police Department shall utilize crime analysis as an analytical resource to aid in the prevention and reduction of crime. The goals of using crime analysis shall include:

- A. Determination of the existence of crime series, patterns, and hotspots.
- B. Efficient deployment of department resources.
- C. Provide timely data to department personnel for the investigation, prevention, and prosecution of criminal activity.
- D. Educate the department and citizens of the Iowa State community with timely information to prevent or reduce crime and the fear of crime within the community.

DEFINITIONS:

“Crime analysis” is the qualitative and quantitative study of crime and law enforcement information in combination with socio-demographic and spatial factors to apprehend criminals, prevent crime, reduce disorder, and evaluate organization procedures. Types of crime analysis include administrative, strategic, and tactical.

“Administrative crime analysis” includes providing information useful for financial and organizational issues for law enforcement management.

“Strategic crime analysis” addresses operational strategies and solutions for long-term operational strategy and solutions for long-term problems and patterns of activity.

“Tactical crime analysis” addresses immediate criminal incidents and potential criminal activity by focusing on the identification of recent crime trends and providing timely data for department personnel to act accordingly.

PROCEDURE:

15.2.1 CRIME ANALYSIS PROCEDURES

The following outlines the crime-analysis function:

- A. Sources for crime analysis will include, but are not limited to:
 1. Police incident and arrest reports.
 2. Criminal history information.
 3. Field interview cards.
 4. Computerized records management system reports.
 5. Crime information and bulletins from other agencies.
 6. Intelligence information disseminated by the Iowa Department of Public Safety Division of Criminal Intelligence Fusion Center.
 7. Citation and infraction information.
 8. Sex offender notifications and registrations.
- B. Interpretation of crime data shall be accomplished by several means, including:
 1. Statistical analysis of time frames.
 2. Computer mapping of geographic distributions.
 3. Analysis of the commonality of incidents, suspects, methods of operation, suspect vehicles, victims, physical evidence, etc.
- C. The Crime Analyst shall produce monthly summaries of current activity. Other reports that may be created include:

1. Crime analysis bulletins
 2. Suspect information bulletins
 3. Analysis of current crime trends
 4. Reports as requested by department personnel
- D. Crime Analysis reports may be shared with other law enforcement agencies when appropriate and shall include a “Confidential-Law Enforcement Use Only” statement.
- E. The unit performing the function of crime analysis shall periodically solicit feedback and input from department personnel users. Feedback may be provided in verbal or written form and may be incorporated depending on necessity and usefulness.
- F. The analyst performing the crime analysis function will ensure that patrol officers, detectives, supervisors, and management staff, including the Chief of Police, are informed of essential crime data. This category of data includes but is not limited to:
1. Identified trends, patterns, or information that may impact department staffing.
 2. Analysis that can generate community support by enabling the public to report pertinent information while taking steps to protect themselves and their property.
 3. Analysis that can assist management staff in meeting the needs of their respective units;
 4. Any requests by the Chief of Police or any member of management staff; and
 5. Information that the individual completing crime analysis determines to be useful.