

Iowa Food Protection Task Force

Department of Inspections, Appeals & Licensing Program Update

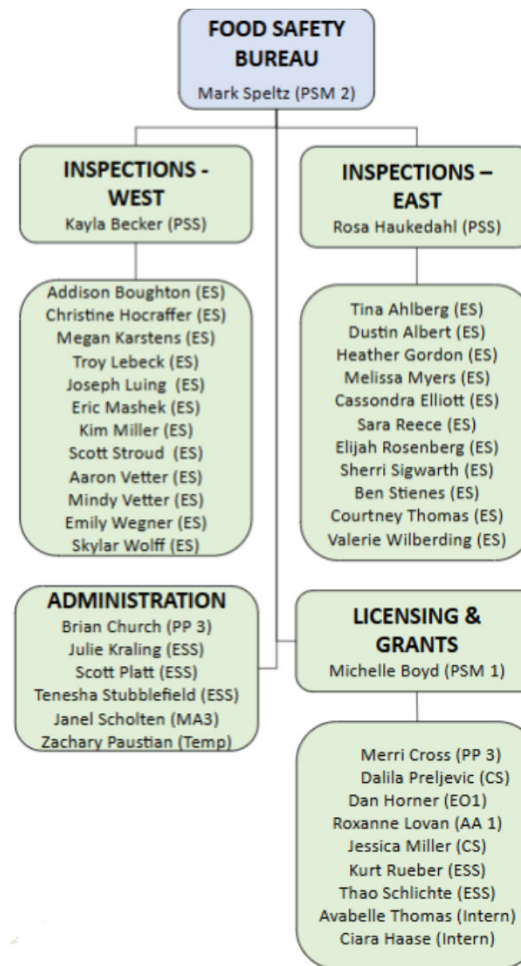
MARK SPELTZ, FOOD SAFETY BUREAU CHIEF

April 30, 2025

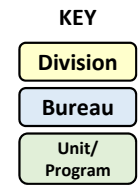
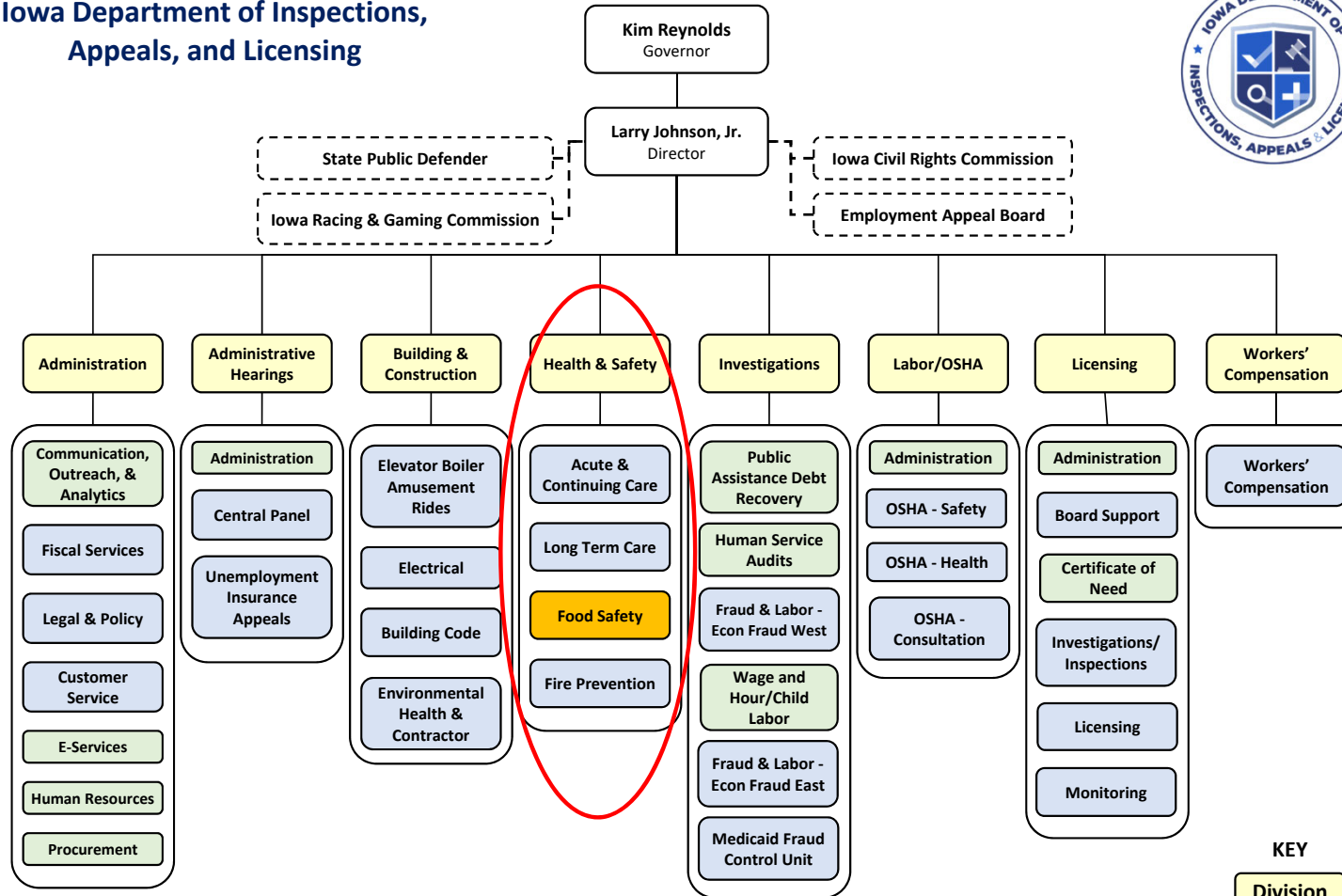


DIAL Food Safety Bureau Staffing

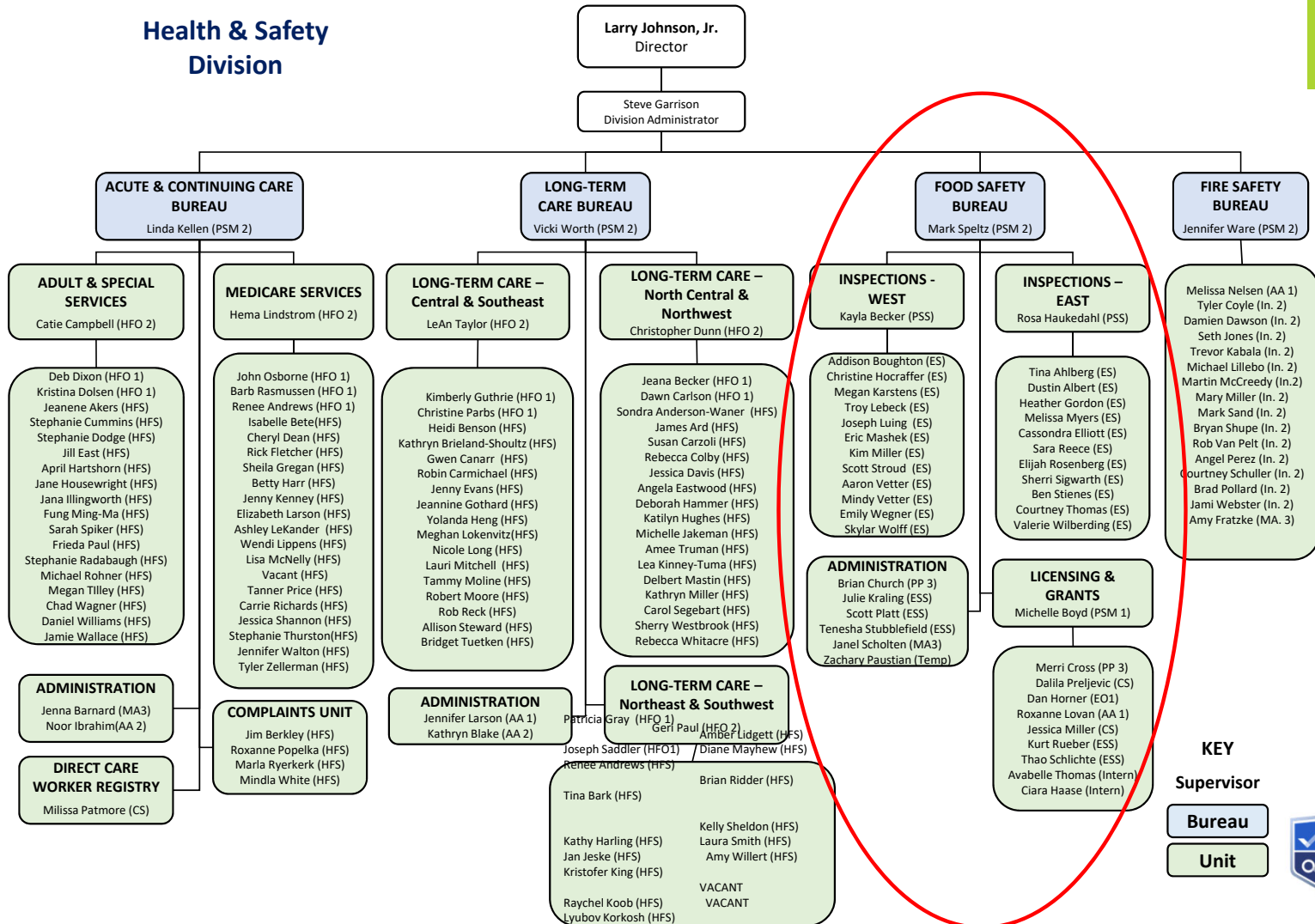
THE FOOD SAFETY BUREAU HAS 39 PERMANENT FULL TIME STAFF, 1 TEMPORARY WORKER AND 2 STUDENT INTERNS. CURRENTLY WE HAVE ZERO VACANCIES. WE HAVE 1 FOOD SAFETY SPECIALIST AND 1 LICENSING CLERK IN TRAINING.



Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing



Health & Safety Division



KEY

Supervisor

Bureau

Unit



2025 Legislation Watch

HF 1006 - PROCESSING PLANT FEES

HF 1032 - GROCER & LOCAL FOOD GRANTS

HF 998 / SF 632– AGRICULTURE MATTERS

HSB 222 – RAW MILK DISTRIBUTION

HF 1006 - Processing Plant Fees

- ▶ Creates a food processing plant classification for farms or private residences storing and selling processed meat or poultry from animals raised by the licensee.
- ▶ Sets license fee at \$75




HF 1032 - Groceries &
Local Food Grants

- ▶ Promotes expanding local foods in underserved communities
- ▶ Promotes increasing food processing capacity for local foods in Iowa
- ▶ Does not directly impact the Food Safety Bureau

HF 998 / SF 632—
Agriculture Matters

- ▶ Contains many provisions
- ▶ Exempts Home Food Processing Establishments from obtaining a license from IDALS Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau for certain activities. Consistent with the exemption for grocery stores and restaurants



HSB 222 – Raw Milk Distribution

- ▶ Expands raw milk distribution beyond the raw milk dairy to farmers markets and grocery stores

Federal Funding

GRANTS

CONTRACTS

DATA SYSTEM

Federal Grants

REDUCTION IN GRANT DELIVERABLES,
ACTIVITIES AND REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS. NO RIF, THE
FOOD SAFETY BUREAU IS ABLE TO
RETAIN ALL CURRENT POSITIONS.

Program	Federal Funding
Food Emergency Rapid Response Team	60%
Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards & Food Safety Task Force	53%

New FDA Retail Program Standards Grant

**HIGHLY COMPETITIVE. ONLY SIX
JURISDICTIONS WERE AWARDED
OUT OF 45 SUBMISSIONS.**

- ▶ Iowa was recently notified we were awarded the FDA Retail Food Program Standard Grant



Federal Contracts

TRAINING OF MANUFACTURED FOOD INSPECTION STAFF IS MORE CHALLENGING DUE TO FEDERAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

Program	Federal Funding
FDA Inspection Contract	No Change Expected
USDA COOL Contract	No Change Expected

SAFHER

SYSTEM FOR **A**GRICULTURE, **F**OOD, **H**EALTH, **E**-
INSPECTIONS AND **R**EGISTRATION

- ▶ Iowa was selected as a pilot state for SAFHER and expected to implement in the spring of 2025
- ▶ In December 2024, FDA eliminated federal funding for SAFHER
- ▶ The project was more than 80% complete when funding was eliminated
- ▶ In January and February, the Association of Food and Drug Officials continued development with existing funds to get the system to 90% complete
- ▶ Iowa is currently pursuing implementation of SAFHER without federal support

Current and Upcoming Activities

BUSINESS AS USUAL...

- ▶ Food and Lodging Inspections
- ▶ RAGBRAI
- ▶ Iowa State Fair
- ▶ Summer events and farmers markets
- ▶ Complaint and outbreak investigations
- ▶ Iowa Administrative Code (Red Tape Review)
- ▶ Quality Assurance/Process Improvement
- ▶ New: DIAL website content updates
- ▶ Implementing a new food safety licensing and inspection system

Thank You!