

Red Tape Review Rule Report (Due: September 1, 2026)

Department Name:	Public Safety	Date:	8/15/2025	Total Rule Count:	6
IAC #:	661	Chapter/ SubChapter/ Rule(s):	150	Iowa Code Section Authorizing Rule:	691.3
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PLEASE NOTE, THE BOXES BELOW WILL EXPAND AS YOU TYPE

What is the intended benefit of the rule?

The intended benefit of this rule is to define the capabilities of the state criminalistics laboratory. These rules also govern the submission of evidence to the laboratory, distribution of reports, and disposition of evidence.

Is the benefit being achieved? Please provide evidence.

Yes, law enforcement agencies submitting evidence for testing and analysis can easily understand the laboratory's capabilities and how to go about sending in their evidence, obtaining the report, as well as how to retrieve it once analysis is complete.

What are the costs incurred by the public to comply with the rule?

There is no cost to submit evidence for analysis, but the submitting agency is responsible for transporting or mailing the evidence to the laboratory.

What are the costs to the agency or any other agency to implement/enforce the rule?

If the evidence is returned to the submitting agency via mail, the Department bears the cost of shipping.

Do the costs justify the benefits achieved? Please explain.

Yes, there is virtually no cost to submit evidence to the lab for analysis. Law enforcement agencies from around the state benefit from having trained laboratory staff performing forensic scientific analysis on evidence they submit, further aiding in investigation and prosecution of crimes.

Are there less restrictive alternatives to accomplish the benefit? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If YES, please list alternative(s) and provide analysis of less restrictive alternatives from other states, if applicable. If NO, please explain.

No, the Department has determined this to be the least restrictive and least costly method to accomplish the intended benefit of the rule.

Does this chapter/rule(s) contain language that is obsolete, outdated, inconsistent, redundant, or unnecessary language, including instances where rule language is duplicative of statutory language? [list chapter/rule number(s) that fall under any of the above categories]

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Yes, this rule contains several subrules that are unnecessary and duplicative of statute.

RULES PROPOSED FOR REPEAL (list rule number[s]):

150.3(1)
150.3(2)
150.3(3)
150.3(4)
150.3(5)
150.3(6)
150.3(7)
150.3(8)
150.3(9)
150.3(10)
150.3(11)
150.3(12)

RULES PROPOSED FOR RE-PROMULGATION (list rule number[s] or include rule text if available):

CHAPTER 150
DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION CRIMINALISTICS LABORATORY

661—150.1(691) Criminalistics laboratory. The state criminalistics laboratory, created in Iowa Code section 691.1, is located, pursuant to that section, within the division of criminal investigation.

150.1(1) Identification. The state criminalistics laboratory will be known as the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory. Unless the context clearly implies otherwise, the term “laboratory,” when used in this chapter, means the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory.

150.1(2) Administration. The laboratory will be headed by an administrator who reports to the director of the division of criminal investigation.

150.1(3) Contact information.

a. The address of the laboratory for receiving mail or shipped materials is:

Iowa DCI Criminalistics Laboratory
2240 South Ankeny Boulevard
Ankeny, Iowa 50023

b. The telephone number of the laboratory is (515)725-1500.

c. Information regarding the laboratory may be obtained from the department Web site.

NOTE: Currently, information about the laboratory may be found at www.dps.state.ia.us/DCI/Crime_Lab/index.shtml.

661—150.2(691) Purpose and scope of work. The laboratory provides forensic science services to law enforcement agencies within the state of Iowa. The laboratory will, within its capabilities, conduct analyses and comparative studies on physical evidence to aid in any criminal investigation, when requested by a prosecuting attorney, a medical examiner, or a law enforcement agency.

150.2(1) Resource or capability limitations.

a. The laboratory administrator may refuse any request to conduct an analysis when, in the judgment of the administrator, the laboratory is unable to adequately conduct the requested analysis, either because of resource limitations or because the analysis is not within the professional capabilities of laboratory personnel.

b. The laboratory administrator may establish a policy excluding evidence of specific types or evidence arising from certain types of cases from being accepted by the laboratory, if the administrator finds that such a policy is necessary either due to resource constraints, safety concerns, or the professional capabilities of laboratory personnel. Any policy adopted pursuant to this paragraph will be made available to all county attorneys, medical examiners, and law enforcement agencies within Iowa.

c. If analysis by the laboratory of specific evidence arising from a criminal investigation in Iowa has been excluded pursuant to either paragraph “a” or “b,” the administrator may, at the administrator’s discretion, assist the agency requesting the analysis in locating the services of another laboratory able to perform the requested analysis.

150.2(2) Exclusion by law. The laboratory will only perform analyses which have arisen from, or will aid in, criminal investigations or which are otherwise provided for by law.

661—150.3(691) Laboratory capabilities. The laboratory is capable of performing any forensic scientific analysis for which a laboratory staff member has received appropriate training and for which the necessary equipment and materials are available to the staff member performing the analysis.

Information regarding the current forensic science capabilities of the laboratory may be obtained in the Iowa Criminalistics Laboratory Quality Assurance Manual, published by the division of criminal investigation criminalistics laboratory.

661—150.4(691) Evidence submission to the laboratory.

150.4(1) Evidence may be submitted to the laboratory by:

a. Any law enforcement agency in Iowa;

b. The Iowa department of corrections;

c. Any other criminal or juvenile justice agency, with the approval of the laboratory administrator; or

d. Any other state agency, with the approval of the laboratory administrator.

150.4(2) Evidence may be submitted to the laboratory via regular, certified, or registered mail or personal service. Any evidence to be submitted to the laboratory will be entered electronically into the laboratory information management system prior to submission. Each entry will include a description of each item to be submitted and an examination request for each item to be submitted.

NOTE: Access to the laboratory information management system is restricted to authorized users representing agencies authorized to submit evidence to the laboratory. Authorized users should contact the laboratory for instructions regarding access to the system.

150.4(3) Evidence submitted to the laboratory which is not personally delivered will be packaged in such a manner that laboratory personnel can determine that the package has not been opened while in transit. If the laboratory receives an unsealed or damaged package, the laboratory may refuse to process such evidence, if the integrity of the evidence has been compromised.

661—150.5(17A,691) Distribution of reports.

150.5(1) A copy of each completed report of analyses performed by the laboratory will be provided to the submitting officer and to the prosecuting attorney. The prosecuting attorney is responsible for providing copies of any laboratory report to the defendant or defendants as required by law.

150.5(2) Results of laboratory analyses will not be made available to any unauthorized person or organization.

661—150.6(17A,691) Disposition of evidence.

150.6(1) Evidence will be returned to the submitting agency, unless one of the following conditions applies:

- a.* Retention of the evidence would be beneficial for future laboratory analysis.
- b.* Returning the evidence presents a hazard to health or safety. Any required notice to the defendant of destruction of evidence pursuant to this paragraph is the responsibility of the prosecuting attorney.

150.6(2) Evidence will not be transferred or submitted to any person or agency other than the submitting agency without an applicable court order, unless authorized by the submitting agency.

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 691.

****For rules being re-promulgated with changes, you may attach a document with suggested changes.***

METRICS

Total number of rules repealed:	12
Proposed word count reduction after repeal and/or re-promulgation	481
Proposed number of restrictive terms eliminated after repeal and/or re-promulgation	14

ARE THERE ANY STATUTORY CHANGES YOU WOULD RECOMMEND INCLUDING CODIFYING ANY RULES?

No.