IOWA UCR PROGRAM UPDATE

ICRIME Development

ICRIME has been available for agency use since late April 2021. Since that time, the state's vendor has addressed several documented programming issues and is working to meet the remaining contract deliverables, including the development of a public-facing website with report functionality.

As ICRIME is a new system, other programming issues will arise. As these occur, the Iowa UCR program will work with the state's vendor to resolve them. If required, the Iowa UCR program will update program documentation, including the technical specification and user manual, and share it with agencies and RMS vendors.

Agency Certification Process

All agencies are required to certify within ICRIME. An agency becomes certified when it achieves an error rate of less than four percent over three consecutive months. The Iowa UCR Program Policy Manual provides additional information on the certification process, which starts with a completed Letter of Interest for UCR Program Participation.

Although the Iowa UCR program has suspended monthly data deadlines, agencies should work to certify as soon as possible. To ensure that the Iowa UCR program may re-certify with the FBI and meet its obligations related to the NCS-X grant, all agencies should certify no later than **September 30, 2021**.

At the request of the state's vendor, agencies that submit via file uploads will continue to process data in the test environment until the FBI re-certifies the Iowa UCR program. More information on the transition to the production environment is forthcoming,

State Charge Codes

As part of the transition to ICRIME, agencies must submit statutes from the state charge code table. Iowa CJIS maintains the complete table, while the table incorporated into ICRIME has been condensed to include only reportable state statutes. ICRIME will accept compliant statutes only - all others will reject.

The Iowa UCR program is working with Iowa CJIS and the state's vendor to add statutes effective July 1, 2021. Once added, the Iowa UCR program will update the state charge code table. This may occur after the effective date but will be before agencies submit July 2021 data.

Traffic Offenses

Traffic offenses, with limited exceptions, should not be reported to the Iowa UCR program. Reportable traffic offenses are listed in the UCR state charge code table and include Driving Under the Influence, Hit and Run (of a person), and Vehicular Manslaughter. If an offense is not in the table, it should not be reported. Driving While License Suspended and Habitual Offender are examples of offenses that should not be reported. Incidents/arrests that include statutes corresponding with these offenses will be rejected. These will contribute to agency error rates and may prolong the certification process.

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Reporting Location Info

The new technical specification requires agencies to report location data for all incidents and Group B arrests. Agencies have flexibility as to how they provide this information. When available, agencies may report the latitude and longitude. If the latitude and longitude are not available, agencies may provide an address. When providing an address, agencies must report, at a minimum, the city, state, and zip code. Regardless of the data elements used to report this information, the locations must be in Iowa. This is because agencies may only report offenses that occur within their jurisdiction.

When submitting Group B arrests, agencies should report the location of the offense; this may not always be the location of the arrest.

The Iowa UCR Program User Manual and Iowa UCR Technical Specification File Layout Appendices provides more information on the data elements and accepted values.

Training Opportunities

The Iowa UCR program has offered several virtual training opportunities within the last few months. These include sessions focused on the Iowa UCR reporting rules as well as ICRIME use. Recorded versions of the training sessions are available. Please refer to email for the most recent links.

The Iowa UCR program plans to offer more regular training opportunities for agencies. Dates will be released as sessions are scheduled. Agencies interested in hosting in-person regional training sessions are encouraged to reach out to the Iowa UCR program.

Program Resources

The Iowa UCR program has developed numerous resources for agencies. These are available under the "Resources" feature in ICRIME, and many are also available on the DPS website. These documents, particularly the Iowa UCR Program User Manual, provide guidance on the current reporting requirements. Please use them as a starting point for questions that arise related to accepted data elements and values.

The Iowa UCR program is experiencing staffing changes. Brenda Burditt, who provided program support, has received a well-deserved promotion in the DPS Program Services Bureau. The support position will be restructured to better meet the needs of the Iowa UCR program and the Program Services Bureau.

Thank you for your patience as the Iowa UCR program continues to evolve. Your contributions to the program are greatly appreciated.

As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at loynacha@dps.state.ia.us or (515) 725-6251.