



<https://dor.sd.gov/> 1-800-829-9188

Investigative Services Bureau

The purpose of this document is to explain the purpose and operation of the Department of Revenue's Investigative Services Bureau. Specific questions can be directed to your nearest Department of Revenue office. The information contained in this fact sheet is current as of the date of publication.

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Investigative Services Bureau (ISB) History

The South Dakota Investigative Services Bureau (ISB) of the Department of Revenue was created in 1984.

- The majority of taxpayers are honest, but it is unfair for even a few to evade paying their fair share of taxes.
- Before ISB was created, the department lacked the resources to identify and prosecute those that fraudulently underreported taxes.

Even minimal suspicion can lead to creating more compliance and fairness for all taxpayers.

If you have a question or complaint, call the South Dakota Department of Revenue at 1-800-829-9188.

Who Caries Out the Duties of ISB?

Department of Revenue Special Agents are certified law enforcement officers. The Special Agents are graduates of the South Dakota Law Enforcement Academy or its equivalency. They attend local, state, and federal training as well as in-service focusing on specialized financial investigative practices. Special Agents work closely with the department's other divisions, and with federal, state, county, and local law enforcement and regulatory agencies while conducting investigations.

- The staff consists of three Special Agents in various locations across the state.

Responsibilities

ISB is the South Dakota Department of Revenue's criminal investigative and law enforcement arm. The ISB is responsible for enforcing the statutes which the Secretary of Revenue is granted the powers to enforce.

- ISB's mission is to provide specialized investigative services to the Department of Revenue to ensure reliable revenue administration.
- In order to help create a level playing field for all businesses operating in South Dakota, the DOR employs the strong deterrent of investigation and prosecution of tax violators to fight against noncompliance.

Responsibilities (cont.)

Special Agents handle a wide range of investigations, primarily concerning tax fraud, tax evasion, and other acts circumventing Revenue laws.

Examples of investigations conducted by ISB include:

- **Sales and Use Tax:** Fraudulent filing, non-filing, or other tax violations committed by persons engaged in retail sales.
- **Contractor's Excise Tax:** Fraudulent filing, non-filing, or other tax violations committed by persons involved in realty improvement construction.
- **Motor Vehicle Dealers:** Violations of motor vehicle dealer laws and regulations.
- **Motor Vehicle Titles:** Violations in title transfers, odometer fraud, etc.
- **Bingo and Lottery:** Violations of distributors' licensing requirements and payment of fees and taxes.
- **Motor Fuel Tax:** Intentional circumvention of state motor fuel tax laws by persons in the trucking industry or by motor fuel distributors.
- **Cigarette Tax:** Illegal sale of unstamped cigarettes, smuggling or hijacking cigarettes, counterfeiting tax stamps, or other attempts to circumvent the state cigarette tax.
- **Amusement Devices:** Violations of various taxes governing the licensing and conduct of games of chance within South Dakota, as well as deliberate attempts to avoid paying the taxes due.
- **Liquor Tax:** Violations by distributors and retailers involving licensing, regulatory restrictions and payment of taxes and fees.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please contact the **South Dakota Department of Revenue.**

Call toll-free: 1-800-829-9188

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