

*Polischuk P. V.*

adjunct of department of philosophy  
of right and legal logic of the National  
academy of internal affairs

## **LEGAL AWARENESS IN THE CONTEXT OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS: SPECIFICITY OF INTERFERENCE.**

*The article presents the philosophical and legal analysis of occupational justice and law enforcement police officers. The essence and specific professional conscience were considered. It was defined its role in the process of enforcement. It was analyzed the features of mutual sense of justice and professional activities of law enforcement staff.*

**Keywords:** law, legal awareness, professional awareness, activity, law application activity.

The peculiarities of interconnection between legal awareness and professional activity of law enforcement representatives

Modern globalization processes in the world fasten and complicate the dynamics of social relations. As a result a system of legal regulation gets a big amount of problems. One of the most important matters is effectiveness assurance and efficiency of law protection activity. Its importance is evident. Internal affairs representatives during their professional activity perform a great number of functions connected with security interest, law enforcement, defense of rights and legal interests of subjects.

Definite attention should be paid towards the influence of professional awareness on process and results of law enforcement activity. This influence is dual. Such specification will help to avoid one-side impressions about possible methods and efficiency in law enforcement activity.

The latest events in Ukrainian society made us understand that insufficient level of professional consciousness and legal culture is a very important problem. The consequences are the following: low or even absent prestige of personnel, negative people's attitude towards police, inadequate coherence between internal affairs bodies and community, etc.

The determined aim of the research leads to solution of the further matters: to hold philosophical and judicial analysis of professional legal awareness; to analyze the interconnection between professional consciousness and enforcement activity.

Law enforcement activity (or administration of law) consists of several stages. They are the following: determination of facts and circumstances for legal evaluation; judicial qualification (legal treatment of actual facts); statute of the law; compliance as to enforcement act; implementation and control of this act.

Legal consciousness is formed during the life-sustaining activity (mainly while studying), influences on this activity and regulates its behavior.

Talking about the influence of different social factors on law enforcement activity of internal affairs bodies, we outline two aspects. Firstly, such influence can be direct and depend on practice. It means that several factors can have an effect on consciousness while performing duty. Secondly, the influence can be mediate and deal only with evaluations, estimations, ideas and concepts in relation to legal bodies.

Thus we are going to estimate professional consciousness of law enforcement representatives in two contexts. The first one touches specification of professional activity, the second context works with the influence of modern society determinants. Scientists consider legal consciousness as a form of social awareness which depicts the attitude of society, group of people or an individual to current law and derivative legal phenomena. Professional awareness is a specialized form of conscience with a system of judgments, knowledge, senses, values and other structural elements.

The main peculiarity of professional knowledge is its specificity and itemization. When law enforcement representatives gain legal knowledge, they enhance social, psychological and behavioral components; design judicial concepts; create definite attitude towards insufficient law system and responsibility prevarication.

Law enforcement bodies must keep to legal regulations, correct judicial deficiency and abide plea for justice.

The peculiarity of emotional-volitional components is that many of them are developed on the unconscious level and influence on people's behavior. Ultimate belief is one of such elements. It plays an important role in legal knowledge. Firstly, ultimate belief is a definite experience and awareness. Secondly, according to operating mode, intuition is an immediate conception of principles which don't need any proofs.

Intuitive cognition has its advantages and disadvantages. The advantages are the following: as opposed to rational knowledge, ultimate belief helps to break traditional methods of problem solutions and touch the level of creativity. It also gives comprehensive and immediate view to the subject. Finally, intuition catches the core of the phenomena without long verification. The biggest disadvantage

of intuitive cognition is its tendency to judgment call and absence of actual verification of knowledge. That's why each intuitive supposition needs assessment either in a logical or experimental way, or with the help of facts.

The important components of professional awareness are legal concepts, skills and willingness for law enforcement activity. Legal concept is a subject orientation on a definite aim in legal framework. It's a kind of social concept which is based on definite internal and external factors. As to psychology, legal concept is a condition for a definite social behavior in the legal field.

Special legal knowledge, skills and positive attitude towards essential legal phenomena are the important elements of judicial willingness. The scientists consider that this willingness is determined by professional legal abilities which depict the difference between the requirements.

Criteria and peculiarities of professional abilities in the internal affairs personnel depend on a definite activity. Judicial concepts and abilities often influence on the effectiveness of investigatory activity.

Professional legal consciousness plays an important role on the final stage of investigation. Law enforcement representatives evaluate all the proofs according to their inner convictions. They are based on clear evidence, statute laws, own experience and commitments. Legal conscience of law enforcement officer shows the reality in the light of essentials, policies and legal rules in society. His awareness is an evaluative phenomenon which estimates not only justice, but also judicial acts.

Values are considered to be a due and desirable, in opposition to real. The basis of axiological level in police studies is made up of dialectics between right and wrong. The aim of law-enforcement bodies is preservation and assertion of right in a form of justice, love, humaneness, responsibilities and withstanding to evil expressed by asocial delinquent behavior.

It is impossible to imagine the value system of internal-affairs officers without such values as truth, freedom, legitimacy and conscience. The officers mustn't overemphasize severity and cruelty, overestimate the role of their profession and forget their social responsibilities. They should admit insufficiency of their knowledge and correct mistakes of their activity. Thus, values are necessary conditions of effective work among law-enforcement representatives.

Using their professional awareness while investigating facts of the case, police officers ascertain verity or falsity of the facts and statements and give them legal assessment. Internal judicial belief is a strong and conscious certainty of facts and an important component of professional legal awareness.

That's why the main components of legal awareness are depicted in the elements of internal conviction and stimulate reasonable law-enforcement activities. Willingness final realization and other components of professional awareness are developed in definite case decisions. Peculiarities and role of professional consciousness are determined by specification of completion phase (acceptance of judicial decision).

By its nature judicial decision is a formation of sequential actions. They help to reach a definite goal on the basis of collected information concerning any specific situation. Creative principle of the decision-making process is determined by a possibility and necessity of conscious choice in order to gain planned socially-oriented result. Legal decision is a final stage of law enforcement. The next step is to realize it. Judicial decisions are main components of law-enforcement activities. They show the features of professional legal consciousness. Its components differ in completion and assure that body of evidence is correct, basic facts are stated completely, decision confirms legal norms and aims.

Thus, effective professional activity of internal affairs bodies is impossible without sufficient level of their legal consciousness. Judicial knowledge, intuition, legal concepts and values are definite elements in legal awareness which play an important role in responsibilities of internal affairs personnel. Correct professional judicial awareness is a stable condition of effectiveness, appropriateness and legitimacy in judicial activity. On the other hand, practical activity influences on consciousness of law-enforcement officer. This influence has a definite negative aspect which needs special corrective actions.