

Police officers in Canada perform some or all of the following duties:

- Patrol assigned areas to maintain public safety and order and to enforce laws and regulations;
- Investigate crimes and accidents, secure evidence, interview witnesses, compile notes and reports and provide testimony in courts of law;
- Arrest criminal aspects;
- Provide emergency assistance to victims of accidents, crimes and natural disasters;
- Participate in crime prevention, public information and safety programs;
- Supervise and co-ordinate the work of other police officers.

To be a police officer in Canada you must have a high school diploma and complete a three- to six-month training program. You may be required to complete a college diploma or university degree in law or security or in social sciences.

You must meet physical strength, agility, fitness, and vision requirements as well as some psychological or language, communications or academic tests.

To be a detective or sergeant, you need experience as a constable and to have completed specialized courses.

With additional training and experience, you may move up the ranks to become a commissioned police officer.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Law enforcement in the United States is one of three major components of the criminal justice system of the United States, along with courts and corrections. Although each component operates semi-independently, the three collectively form a chain leading from investigation of suspected criminal activity to administration of criminal punishment. Also, courts are vested with the power to make legal determinations regarding the conduct of the other two components.

As in most nations of the world, even in the United States the term “law enforcement” specifically refers to those agencies which detect, dissuade and investigate criminal acts, and apprehend the offenders.

Law enforcement operates primarily through governmental police agencies. The law-enforcement purposes of these agencies are the investigation of suspected criminal activity, referral of the results of investigations to the courts, and the temporary detention of suspected criminals pending judicial action. Law enforcement agencies, to varying degrees at different levels of government and in different agencies, are also commonly charged with the responsibilities of deterring

criminal activity and preventing the successful commission of crimes in progress. Other duties may include the service and enforcement of warrants, writs, and other orders of the courts.

Law enforcement agencies are also involved in providing first response to emergencies and other threats to public safety; the protection of certain public facilities and infrastructure; the maintenance of public order; the protection of public officials; and the operation of some correctional facilities (usually at the local level).

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is the principal government investigation agency in the United States of America. It looks into matters concerning violation of Federal Law within the national territory. At the same time, it is also entitled the task of conducting national security investigations.

Other Federal agencies which can be included in the category of law enforcement agencies in the United States of America include the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) - which looks into the matters involving illegal drugs, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives - which investigates the violations of Federal firearms and explosives laws as well as alcohol and tobacco tax regulations. Other law enforcement agencies which come under the purview of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security are the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, etc. These agencies along with courts and prisons form the criminal justice system of the United States.

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PROFESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY IN FRANCE

Policing overview: In France, the State is responsible for protecting persons and property, maintaining public order and enforcing the law. The French police consists of three centralized forces —three of which have the same mission but different jurisdictions at a national scope: National Police (Police Nationale), National Gendarmerie (Gendarmerie Nationale), Municipal Police (Police municipale), Criminal Justice System at a local scope.

The National Police is a civilian force under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior and primarily responsible for urban areas.