

There are many law enforcement bureaucracies on the federal level, and each one plays an important role in maintaining public order. Although they each have a different jurisdiction and goal, every agency enforces federal laws and statutes that are passed by Congress. In doing so, they help to ensure that society is safe and crime is held to a minimum.

Federal law enforcement bureaucracies have evolved over time. Some have been enacted by Congress, such as the U.S. Marshals Service, which was created through the Judiciary Act of 1789, or the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, which was originally created by Congress in the 1860s. Other bureaucracies were created as a result of reorganization efforts or by the consolidation of the responsibilities of agencies previously housed in multiple places, such as when Nixon transferred portions of many agencies into one new agency, called the Drug Enforcement Administration. Similarly, Immigration and Customs Enforcement was created when President Bush reorganized different agencies after the terrorist attacks on the United States in September 2001, consolidating agencies responsible for different aspects of homeland security into one bureaucracy. Both of these agencies were reformulated so they would be more efficient in addressing the problems at hand.

Some federal law enforcement bureaucracies have been assigned new tasks over time as new problems have been identified or become more prevalent. For example, the U.S. Marshals Service, originally created to protect the safety of federal judges and other court personnel, was given the additional task of protecting top governmental officials and hunting down escaped federal prisoners. Likewise, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, or BATF, was given the additional responsibility of overseeing explosives, expanding it to BATFE.

The many federal law enforcement agencies cover a wide breadth of roles and responsibilities. The Marshals oversee the safety of the courts, while the Postal Inspection Service helps ensure that the postal system is free of fraud and abuse. The Drug Enforcement Administration oversees the enforcement of drug laws in the country, while the Park Police watch over the safety of the national parks. Although there may be slight overlap and cooperation during times of emergency, the agencies each have different jurisdictions.

The agencies also differ as to how long they have been in existence. Some of the agencies have existed for many years, whereas others were created relatively recently. The oldest agency, the Postal Inspection Service, dates back to the colonial era and Benjamin Franklin. The FBI, also one of the oldest federal law enforcement agencies, dates back to the early 1900s. But one of the newest

federal law enforcement agencies, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, was created in 2003. Despite the age differences, these agencies are all pertinent and necessary in today's world.

One more difference between the agencies lies with where they are found within the hierarchy of the federal government. As Table I-1 shows, the organizations are spread throughout the administration. Five of the agencies are housed within the Department of Justice. Those include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Marshals, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. Six agencies are found within the Department of Homeland Security. These include the U.S. Secret Service, Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and the Coast Guard Investigative Service. The Federal Air Marshals and Federal Protective Service are found within ICE.

The Department of the Interior is home to four federal law enforcement agencies. They are the U.S. Park Police, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement, the Hoover Dam Police, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Department of State houses only one law enforcement group, the Bureau of Diplomatic Security. One agency is also housed in the U.S. Post Office: the U.S. Postal Inspectors. Many of the law enforcement agencies described in later chapters of this book are found in other locations, as noted in Table I-1.

When needed, federal law enforcement bureaucracies cooperate with state and local law enforcement agencies to provide assistance or guidance. When a major crime occurs, or when local agencies may be unable to investigate a crime because of insufficient manpower or other resources (including technology or equipment), or if they are overwhelmed by a serious crime, they can call on federal agents for advice or support. Federal bureaucracies also interact with agencies in other countries when there is a problem of international scope or interest.

Because the agencies have different responsibilities and jurisdictions, they hire individuals who have a wide variety of backgrounds. They hire people from all social and economic classes, of all ages (with some age restrictions), and with different upbringings. They also seek to hire people with different experiences and educational backgrounds. This means that it is not necessary for students and others who seek to pursue a career to have earned a degree in criminal justice. While many believe that this type of degree is necessary to be hired in a federal agency, it is not the case. Most federal agencies seek to hire a diverse group of individuals with degrees such as accounting, criminal justice, a language (English, Spanish, Chinese, Arabic, etc.), political science, or even business. What may be more important to an agency is a person's background (they must have no criminal record or evidence of drug use) and previous experience in a law enforcement or a related field.

The basic training for all federal agents, regardless of the agency, is very similar. Many federal agencies have their newly hired agents attend the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, Georgia, an interagency training facility for law enforcement personnel. FLETC provides training in basic law

Table I-1: Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

Department of Justice	Department of Homeland Security	Department of Interior	Department of State	U.S. Post Office	Other Agencies
FBI	U.S. Secret Service	U.S. Park Police	Bureau of Diplomatic Security	US Postal Inspectors	U.S. Supreme Court Police U.S. Capitol Police Amtrak Police
FBI Police					
DEA	Customs & Border Protection	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement			NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Pentagon Force Protection Agency Smithsonian National Zoological Park Police U.S. Mint Police
U.S. Marshals	ICE	Police Hoover Dam			Tennessee Valley Authority Police U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations Bureau of Land Management Office of Law Enforcement and Security Federal Reserve Police
BATFE	Federal Air Marshals	Bureau of Indian Affairs			Library of Congress Police National Security Agency Police Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation Division Veterans Affairs Police
U.S. Marshals	Federal Protective Service				CIA Security Protective Service NASA Security Services
	Federal Law Enforcement Training Center				National Institute of Standards and Technology Police Department of Defense Police Defense Logistics Agency Police Defense Intelligence Agency Police
	TSA				National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Police Housing & Urban Development Protective Service Division
	Coast Guard Investigative Service				

enforcement techniques. More detailed training for each agency is then provided by the agency itself.¹

Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC)

Agencies use FLETC primarily because in the years before 1970, the quality of training received by federal law enforcement officers and agents varied greatly from agency to agency. Standardized training did not exist. Moreover, many facilities were inadequate, and training was often duplicated as each agency independently trained its own personnel.

Some studies of law enforcement training during the late 1960s showed a need for high-quality, cost-efficient training in law enforcement techniques for federal agents by professional instructors with modern training facilities and standardized course content. Congress responded by authorizing funds for planning and constructing the Consolidated Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (CFLETC). In 1970, the CFLETC was established as a bureau of the Department of the Treasury (Treasury Order #217) and began training personnel in temporary facilities in Washington, D.C.

The permanent location of the training center was originally planned for a site in the Washington, D.C. area. However, when there was a three-year construction delay, Congress asked if there were any surplus federal facilities that could be used as the permanent training site. In May 1975, after an extensive review of existing facilities, Congress chose the former Glynco Naval Air Station near Brunswick, Georgia as the new site for the training program. In the fall of 1975, the new Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) began training new agents at the Glynco site. Currently, Glynco is the headquarters and main campus for the FLETC. There are also facilities in Artesia, N.M., Charleston, S.C., Cheltenham, M.D., and Gabarone, Boswana.²

On March 1, 2003, FLETC was formally transferred from the Treasury Department to the Department of Homeland Security. This reflected the government's mission of a unified homeland security effort that became essential after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Coverage of Textbook

This book gives an overview of federal law enforcement agencies that currently exist. Each of the following chapters focuses on a particular agency, describing its history, leadership, organization, and responsibilities. The focus of Chapter 1 is on the U.S. Marshals Service, which was given the task of protecting federal judges and other personnel who work in the federal court system as well as visitors to the courts. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, which enforces federal laws related to those items, is the focus of chapter 2. In

chapter 3, the roles and responsibilities of the Postal Inspection Service are discussed, and the jurisdiction of the Park Police is described in Chapter 4.

The organization and tasks of the U.S. Secret Service are detailed in Chapter 5. Another more widely recognized agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is the topic of chapter 6. The agency that oversees enforcement of laws concerning illicit drugs and narcotics is the DEA, and is the topic of Chapter 7. Many federal agents work at Customs and Border Protection, and their roles are the topic of Chapter 8. The newest federal law enforcement agency, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency, is the topic of chapter 9. Chapter 10 provides an examination of the Federal Protective Services (GSA Police), and Chapter 11 describes the Federal Air Marshals Service, which helps to guarantee the safety of air travel in the U.S. and abroad.

The final chapter of the book, Chapter 12, focuses on some of the more well-known, smaller federal agencies: the Supreme Court Police, the U.S. Capitol Police, Amtrak Police, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office for Law Enforcement, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Police, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement, the Pentagon Force Protection Agency, the Smithsonian National Zoological Park Police, and the Bureau of Diplomatic Security.