

## CHAPTER 6

### Policing: Issues and Challenges

#### Teaching Outline

- I. Introduction (p.166)
- II. Police Personality and Culture (p.166)

**Police Subculture:** A particular set of values, beliefs, and acceptable forms of behavior characteristic of American police with which the police profession strives to imbue new recruits. Socialization into the police subculture commences with recruit training and continues thereafter. (p.166)

**Police Working Personality:** All aspects of the traditional values and patterns of behavior evidenced by police officers who have been effectively socialized into the police subculture. Characteristics of the police personality often extend to the personal lives of law enforcement personnel. (p.166)

- III. Corruption and Integrity (p.167)
  - Police corruption has been a problem since the early days of policing and the effects can be far-reaching.

**Police Corruption:** The abuse of police authority for personal or organizational gain. (p.167)

**Knapp Commission:** A committee that investigated police corruption in New York City in the early 1970s. (p.169)

- The Knapp Commission distinguished between two types of corrupt officers.
  - Grass eaters—illegitimate activity that occurs from time to time.
  - Meat eaters—more serious illegitimate activity and active solicitation of illicit moneymaking opportunities.

A. Money—The Root of Police Evil? (p.170)

- Monetary pressures may influence police corruption.
- A moral dilemma is produced by unenforceable laws that provide the basis for criminal profit.

B. Building Police Integrity (p.170)

- Difficulties of controlling corruption linked to several factors.
- High moral standards can raise a department's level of integrity.

**Internal Affairs:** The branch of a police organization tasked with investigating charges of wrongdoing against other members of the department. (p.172)

### C. Drug Testing of Police Employees (p.172)

- A model drug-testing policy has been established by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).
- Many departments require all officers to submit to routine drug testing.
- *Turner v. Fraternal Order of Police* found that drug testing can occur based on reasonable suspicion.
- *Caruso v. Ward* found that random drug testing is not allowed.

## IV. The Dangers of Police Work (p.172)

### A. Violence in the Line of Duty (p.174)

- When officers are shot and killed, it is most often by a lone suspect armed with a single weapon.
- In 2011, 173 American law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty.
- In 2001, the attacks on the World Trade Center resulted in the greatest ever single-incident loss of life of on-duty law enforcement officers when 72 police officers perished.

### B. Risk of Disease and Infected Evidence (p.174)

- Increased concerns about AIDS, hepatitis, tuberculosis, and other diseases.
- Efforts are made to minimize the risk faced by police officers.

**Biological Weapons:** A biological agent used to threaten human life (for example, anthrax, smallpox, or any infectious disease). (p.174)

### C. Stress and Fatigue among Police Officers (p.176)

- Police work is one of the most stressful jobs in the country.
- Stress is caused by external, organizational, personal, and operational stressors.

#### 1. Stress Reduction (p.178)

- Personnel are trained in an effort to reduce stress.
- Some departments have developed programs to allay stress among the family members of police officers.

#### 2. Officer Fatigue (p.178)

- Shift work is a contributor to fatigue, six times higher than shift workers in other occupations.

## V. Terrorism's Impact on Policing (p.179)

- As a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, law enforcement agencies at all levels now devote an increased amount of time and other resources to preparing for possible terrorist attacks and to gathering the intelligence necessary to thwart them.
- A survey of 250 police chiefs by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) found that chiefs strongly believe that their departments can help prevent terrorism by

utilizing community policing networks to exchange information with citizens and to gather intelligence.

A. The FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Forces (p.180)

- FBI-sponsored Joint Terrorism Task Forces have been established or authorized in each of the 56 FBI field offices.
- Six Regional Terrorist Task Forces share information with local enforcement agencies.

B. Intelligence-Led Policing and Administration (p.180)

**Intelligence-Led Policing (ILP):** The collection and analysis of information to produce an intelligence end product designed to inform police decision making at both the tactical and strategic levels. (p.180)

**Criminal Intelligence:** The information compiled, analyzed, and/or disseminated in an effort to anticipate, prevent, or monitor criminal activity. (p.180)

C. Information Sharing and Antiterrorism (p.181)

- Governments at all levels are working toward the creation of a fully integrated criminal justice information system.
- Law Enforcement Online (LEO) is a widely used information sharing system.

D The National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan (p.182)

- Created in 2003 to enhance local intelligence efforts.

**NLETS:** An acronym referring to the International Justice and Public Safety information Sharing Network, an important law enforcement information-sharing resource. (p,172)

VI. Police Civil Liability (p.182)

**Civil Liability:** The potential responsibility for payment of damages or other court-ordered enforcement as a result of a ruling in a lawsuit. Civil liability is not the same as criminal liability, which means "open to punishment for a crime." (p.182)

A. Common Sources of Civil Suits (p.182)

- The most common sources of lawsuits against the police are assault, battery, false imprisonment, and malicious prosecution.
- Departments may protect themselves from lawsuits to a significant degree by providing adequate training to their personnel and creating regulations limiting employee authority.

B. Federal Lawsuits (p.183)

**1983 Lawsuit:** A civil suit brought under Title 42, Section 1983, of the U.S. Code, against anyone who denies others their constitutional rights to life, liberty, or property without due process of law. (p.184)

**Bivens Action:** A civil suit based on the case of *Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Agents*, brought against federal government officials for denying the constitutional rights of others. (p.184)

## VII. Racial Profiling and Biased Policing (p.187)

### A. Racial Profiling (p. 187)

- Recent media, political, and research efforts have brought attention to this issue.

**Racial Profiling:** “Any police-initiated action that relies on the race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than [1] the behavior of an individual or [2] on information that leads the police to a particular individual who has been identified as being, or having been, engaged in criminal activity.” (p.187)

### B. Racially Biased Policing (p.189)

- Most law enforcement officers are dedicated to serving with fairness and dignity.
- Most police officers share an intolerance for racially biased policing.
- This report also describes the qualities of an unbiased police officer.

\*Discuss the findings from the Racially Biased Policing: A Principled Response, a study conducted by the Police Executive Research Forum.\*

## VIII. Police Use of Force (p.190)

**Police Use of Force:** The use of physical restraint by a police officer when dealing with a member of the public. (p.190)

**Excessive Force:** The application of an amount or frequency of force greater than that required to compel compliance from a willing or unwilling subject. (p.190)

**Problem Police Officer:** A law enforcement officer who exhibits problem behavior, as indicated by high rates of citizen complaints and use-of-force incidents and by other evidence. (p.191)

### A. Deadly Force (p.191)

- In *Tennessee v. Garner*, the Court held that deadly force can be used only when the suspect is thought to pose a significant threat of serious injury or death to the public or the officer.

**Deadly Force:** The force likely to cause death or great bodily harm. Also, “the intentional use of a firearm or other instrument resulting in a high probability of death.” (p.191)

B. Less-Lethal Weapons (p.193)

**Less-Lethal Weapon:** A weapon that is designed to disable, capture, or immobilize—but not kill—a suspect. Occasional deaths do result from the use of such weapons, however. (p.194)

IX. Professionalism and Ethics (p.194)

**Police Professionalism:** The increasing formalization of police work and the accompanying rise in public acceptance of the police. (p.194)

**Police Ethics:** The special responsibility to adhere to moral duty and obligation that is inherent in police work. (p.195)

A. Education and Training (p.195)

**Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Program:** The official program of a state or legislative jurisdiction that sets standards for the training of law enforcement officers. All states set such standards, although not all use the term *POST*. (p.184)

B. Recruitment and Selection (p.197)

- Nearly all local police departments use personal interviews, basic skills tests, physical agility measurements, medical exams, drug tests, psychological evaluations and background investigations in the selection process.

X. Ethnic and Gender Diversity in Policing (p.198)

- Many departments have, through dedicated recruitment efforts, dramatically increased their complement of officers from underrepresented groups.

A. Women as Effective Police Officers (p.200)

- Women are no longer considered a unique presence.

**Learning Activities Utilizing the World Wide Web**

The following are presented as instructor led activities, to be used in a classroom with online access.

Prior to class, go to the Prentice Hall Cybrary at <http://mycrimekit.pearsoncmg.com> to find articles about police stress. Prepare for class display the studies you found. Lead a class discussion by asking these questions: What do these websites deal with? What were the findings or results of each of these studies?

Visit a number of police memorial websites. What type of information is included at these websites? Prepare for inclass display the information you have gathered. Discuss.

Other websites for organizations and agencies related to the material in Chapter 6 include:

Abner Louima Torture Case <http://www.thesmokinggun.com/torture/torture.htm>

Rodney King Biography <http://www.biography.com/people/rodney-king-9542141>

American Police Hall of Fame and Museum <http://www.aphf.org>

Heavy Badge <http://www.heavybadge.com>

California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training [www.post.ca.gov](http://www.post.ca.gov)

Women Officers <http://www.policeone.com/women-officers>

Police Use of Force  
<http://www.nij.gov/topics/law-enforcement/officer-safety/use-of-force/welcome.htm>

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund <http://www.nleomf.com/>