



Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School

POLICE SERVICES UNIT

A Joint Unit of the Yarmouth Police & Dennis Police Departments

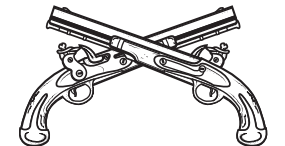
LAW ENFORCEMENT IN AMERICA



FEDERAL

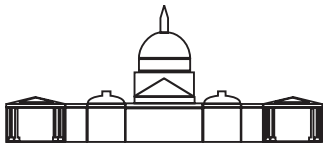


Almost every government agency has its own law enforcement branch. The Department of Justice contains the FBI and DEA. The U.S. Treasury is home to the Secret Service, ATF and the IRS. Homeland Security oversees many law enforcement agencies including The Boarder Patrol, Customs & Immigration and U.S. Coast Guard.



MILITARY

Military law enforcement is handled within each individual branch of service. Each branch has various law enforcement divisions: Military Police Investigators & Criminal Investigation Detachment in the Army; Master at Arms, Marine Corps MPs and Naval Investigative Service in the Navy; the Security Police and Office of Special Investigation in the Air Force. Military offenders are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.



STATE

The Massachusetts State Police is the primary state police agency in the Commonwealth. The state is also served by the Massachusetts Environmental Police who handle fish and wildlife enforcement and regulation of recreational vehicles, hunting, and boating. Prior to 1994 Massachusetts had four state police agencies, The Metropolitan Police servicing the Boston/Cambridge/Charles River area, the Registry of Motor Vehicles Police, and the Capital Police servicing the State House on Beacon Hill. These agencies have been merged into the State Police.



COUNTY

In many parts of our nation, the county sheriff is the local law enforcement agency covering a broad geographic area. Here in Massachusetts the Sheriff, by law, is designated the highest ranking law enforcement official in the county. In reality the sheriff is primarily responsible for the housing of prisoners. In Barnstable County the Sheriff's Department maintains a Bureau of Criminal Investigation. This small unit is responsible for crime scene identification work such as the taking of pictures and collection and analysis of fingerprints. They also maintain a countywide fingerprint depository.



LOCAL

Local law enforcement represents the largest segment of the industry. There are 15 separate and distinct police departments on Cape Cod alone and at least 351 departments across Massachusetts, one for every community. There are some 20,000 local police or sheriff's departments in the United States. Most of these agencies are 50 sworn officers or less in size. Their are 54 sworn Yarmouth police officers.



**REGIONAL,
SPECIAL,
PRIVATE**

Some organizations and agencies, because of the large or special client base that they serve, have special public safety concerns. Many colleges and universities have their own campus police departments to handle the needs of their own, usually large, communities deposited in the middle of another sometimes smaller community. Boston College, MIT and Harvard University are among these institutions. The Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority has its own their own police departments to cover their many facilities across the Commonwealth.

