
PREFACE

The Police in America: An Introduction provides a comprehensive presentation of the foundations of policing in the United States today. Descriptive and analytical, the text is designed to offer undergraduate students a balanced and up-to-date overview of who the police are and what they do, the problems they face, and the many reforms and innovations that have taken place in policing. The book is designed primarily for undergraduate students enrolled in their first police or law enforcement course such as Introduction to Policing, Police and Society, Police Function, or Law Enforcement Systems.

THE FOURTH EDITION

The Police in America, fourth edition, has undergone extensive revision. In response to reviewer feedback, the fourth edition not only includes coverage of the latest research and practices in policing but also contains updated statistical information throughout. Among the most important changes we have made to the fourth edition are the following:

- Chapter 2, “The History of the American Police,” now includes new historical perspectives on community policing and police relations with racial and ethnic minorities.
- In Chapter 4, “Patrol: The Backbone of Policing,” we eliminated discussion of outdated police strategies and technologies and have included data on “hot spots” patrolling, innovations such as 311 nonemergency numbers, new information on patrol supervision, and the latest data on patrol activity under community policing.
- Chapter 5, “Peacekeeping and Order Maintenance,” has been expanded to include state-of-the-art strategies that the police are using to respond to the homeless, the mentally ill, and people with HIV/AIDS. The chapter also has been expanded to include a discussion of curfew laws and the effectiveness of these laws on juvenile disorder and crime.
- Chapter 6, “The Police and Crime,” was substantially expanded to include sections on gun crime and hate crime as well as the police response to gang crime, school crime, terrorism, and computer-related crime.

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- Chapter 7, “Innovations in Policing,” was almost entirely rewritten. We eliminated much of the material related to outdated policing strategies and added coverage of the most up-to-date strategies used in departments across the country—such as community-oriented, problem-oriented, and zero-tolerance policing.
- Chapter 8, “Police Discretion,” has been expanded to include the most recent research on the police use of force and the impact of policies designed to control officer abuse of authority.
- Chapter 9, “Police–Community Relations,” has up-to-date coverage of the racial profiling controversy and programs designed to help officers respond effectively to racial and ethnic minorities who do not speak English.
- Chapter 10, “Police Corruption,” features many of the new developments that have occurred since the last edition, including the Rampart scandal in Los Angeles and a series of police misconduct incidents in New York City.
- Chapter 11, “Accountability of the Police,” has been expanded to include coverage of important new accountability measures such as early warning systems, officer use of force reporting systems, and the latest developments in citizen oversight of the police.
- Chapter 12, “Police Officers I: Entering Police Work,” has been expanded to include new material on Latino/Hispanic officers and the latest data on women in policing.
- Chapter 13, “Police Officers II: On the Job,” has been revised to include new material on the changing police subculture and how backgrounds and attitudes affect officer behavior, along with new material on performance evaluation systems under community policing.
- Chapter 14, “Police Organizations,” has been expanded to include organizational theory and its applicability toward understanding police organizations. The chapter also now includes coverage of how police organizations have changed with the implementation of community policing and problem-oriented policing.

OVERVIEW OF THE CONTENTS

Part One, “Foundations,” provides students with an introduction to policing in America. It explains the role of the police in the United States along with the realities of police work and the many factors that shape policing. It also traces the history of the police from the creation of the first modern police department through the many new developments that can be found in policing today. The section concludes with a discussion of the characteristics of the contemporary law enforcement industry.

Part Two, “Police Work,” includes explanations of what the police do and how they do it. Among the subjects covered are the function of patrol, the delivery of services, and the effectiveness of traditional policing strategies. This section also discusses the various problems that the police face while on the job and the strategies that they use to respond to these problems. The section closes with a discussion of innovations in policing such as community-oriented policing, problem-oriented policing, and zero-tolerance policing.

Part Three, “Police Problems,” covers the various problems that police officers and police organizations encounter. The chapter on police discretion explains the nature of police discretion, sources of discretion, and how police organizations have attempted to control discretion. The section also includes a chapter on police–community relations.

Attention is placed on citizen perception of the police, police perceptions of citizens, and sources of police–community relations problems—with special emphasis on race and ethnicity and its implications for policing in the United States. A chapter on police corruption is also included in this section, which discusses the different types of corruption and the different strategies that are used to control it. The section concludes with a chapter on police accountability.

Part Four, “Officers and Organizations,” includes an explanation of police recruitment, selection, and training practices as well as a discussion of the characteristics of American police officers. The section also includes coverage of the reality shock that officers encounter when beginning their job, the concept of police culture, and the relationship between the attitudes of the police and police behavior. The section ends with an explanation of the characteristics of police organizations, the role and influence of police unions, and a discussion of the theoretical rationales for why police organizations behave the way they do.

LEARNING AIDS

A number of new pedagogical aids have been added to the fourth edition of *The Police in America* to make the text easier to teach and learn from, and to make the material come alive with practical, concrete examples and applications. In response to feedback from adopters of the third edition, we have added the following learning aids to the fourth edition:

- Opening “Chapter Outlines” to guide students through the chapter
- “Key Terms and Concepts” sections at the start of each chapter to help focus the students’ attention on the important issues found within each chapter
- “Sidebars” in every chapter to expound upon important concepts and highlight contemporary issues related to the chapter discussion
- An end-of-chapter “Case Study”—a real-world example highlighting a major concept or idea from the chapter—to enable students to begin applying what they have read
- “For Discussion” questions following the “Case Study” to stimulate classroom discussion of the case
- “Internet Exercises” at the end of each chapter that can be used by students for further Web-based study

SUPPLEMENTS

As a full-service publisher of quality educational products, McGraw-Hill does much more than just sell textbooks. The publisher creates and publishes an extensive array of print, video, and digital supplements for students and instructors. This edition of *The Police in America* is accompanied by a comprehensive supplements package.

For the Student

- Online Learning Center— this free Web-based student supplement includes a self-quizz for each chapter (with feedback, so that students can better prepare for exams),

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interactive chapter summaries, PowerPoint lecture notes, FAQs, links, and PowerWeb, a unique collection of current articles on policing that have been carefully selected by educators. PowerWeb also features daily and weekly updates, online quizzing and assessment, annotated links organized by course topic, interactive glossaries with self-tests, and more.

For the Instructor

- Instructor's Manual/Testbank—chapter outlines, key terms, overviews, lecture notes, discussion questions, a complete testbank, and more.
- Computerized Testbank—easy-to-use computerized testing program for both Windows and Macintosh computers.
- PowerPoint Slides—complete chapter-by-chapter slide shows featuring text, tables, and illustrations.
- Instructor's Online Learning Center—password-protected access to important instructor support materials and additional resources.
- PageOut—easy-to-use tool that allows the instructor to create his or her own course Web page and access all material on *The Police in America* Online Learning Center.

All of the above supplements are provided free of charge to students and instructors. Orders of new (versus used) textbooks help us defray the cost of developing such supplements, which is substantial. Please contact your local McGraw-Hill representative for more information on any of the above supplements.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would both like to thank the reviewers of the third edition of this text for their many contributions in helping us revise the book in its fourth edition:

Donna Sherwood, Macomb Community College
William E. Kelly, Auburn University
Dennis Stevens, University of Massachusetts–Boston
Ellen Cohn Odza, Florida International University
Cliff Roberson, Washburn University

Sam Walker would like to thank his colleagues at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and in particular chairperson Bob Meier, for creating a supportive academic environment. He also wishes to thank several of his graduate students who have not only helped to track down particular bits of information from time to time but also provided a sounding board for how particular issues should be covered in this book. These students include Carol Archbold, Mark Foxall, Leigh Herbst, and Dawn Irlbeck. Sam would especially like to thank former student and current coauthor Chuck Katz for agreeing to share the work on producing this fourth edition. For Sam, it has been as much a pleasure to work with Chuck as a colleague as it was to work with him as a student just a few years ago.

Charles Katz would like to thank the many people who have contributed to the completion of this edition and to acknowledge his colleagues at Arizona State University

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West, who have always been supportive and have been willing to lend a helpful hand when asked. Gratitude is particularly owed to Vincent Webb, the chair of the department, for always being a strong advocate for the department and for fostering an environment that is conducive for creative work. With regard to the production of the book, Charles would like to thank Carolyn Henderson, whose editorial expertise improved the quality of this book and who always provided helpful suggestions on how to present material in an innovative way. Special thanks, too, to three people in particular: To Charles' parents, who have always been loving and supportive; this book, and his other work, is just as much a result of their dedication and efforts as his own. And to his coauthor Sam Walker, who asked Charles to join him on the fourth edition of this book; Sam has always been supportive, whether it be professional or personal, and has been one of the most influential persons in Charles' life.