

with each learning component laid out in easy-to-view blocks. The guide elaborates on the goal, objective and points to be addressed within each of the topics and, if appropriate, provides references to relevant sources. These references are not exhaustive, they focus on key organizations or documents. The guide recognizes that uniformed police personnel's day-to-day decision-making and actions are based on underlying values, sound judgment and a set of learned skills and knowledge.

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## **DUTIES OF PATROL POLICE OFFICERS IN THE USA**

Patrol officers are police officers who work directly for the state or a local law enforcement department, enforcing laws and responding to emergencies in a particular geographic area.

Much of a local police officer's job involves general law enforcement duties on patrol. Local police typically patrol a specific neighborhood or area with a partner. While on duty, patrol officers look for violations of the law. For example, they may conduct traffic stops and issue citations to speeders. Because local policemen wear their area department's uniform, they are visible representatives of law enforcement. Being on patrol, local police officers respond to emergencies and calls for service. They give first aid or other assistance to accident victims or to others with physical injuries.

Detectives are plainclothes officers who investigate local crimes. To determine the cause or perpetrator of a crime, detectives collect evidence at the scene and interview suspects and witnesses. Detectives keep an eye on suspects, watching for suspicious activity. They also make arrests or participate in raids to round up suspects. Once they have wrapped up their investigation, detectives write reports, fill out paperwork and prepare cases for court. They may also need to testify before a jury. Most local detectives specialize in a type of crime, such as fraud or homicide, and they typically stay on their cases until conviction.

Sheriffs and deputy sheriffs enforce county laws. Most sheriffs are elected, and may act as police chiefs or handle patrol duties similar to the responsibilities of police officers in city departments. Other duties include running county jails and providing bailiff and security services in local courts. Sheriffs and deputies also verify charges against criminals and

execute arrest warrants. They also serve subpoenas, court orders and summonses. On accident scenes, sheriffs and deputies maintain traffic flow, help accident victims and investigate causes.

Local police departments have varied training programs and standards. Patrol officers must qualify for and pass a department's police academy training. To qualify for a police academy, candidates typically need at least a high school diploma, though some departments require college coursework or knowledge of a second language. Other entrance criteria include status as a U.S. citizen and good vision, hearing, agility and strength. Local police departments also screen academy candidates for emotional or mental conditions and prior criminal history. Applicants may have to pass a written exam and survive a series of interviews and drug tests. Once they make it into an academy, recruits study constitutional law, civil rights, local ordinances, state law and police ethics, as well as supervised training and experience in traffic control, use of firearms, self-defense, first aid and emergency response. Officers also learn the art of close combat. A period of on-the-job training follows graduation from the police academy.

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## **PATROL POLICE TRAINING ORIENTATION – CREATING PROJECTS**

Research and practice prove that people are more likely to obey the law when they believe in the legitimacy of police authority. For these reasons, restoring trust is at the core of the various recent prescriptions for police reform. It is very important to create public projects as a powerful source of association and solidarity. A progressive step is police training to create public projects, implement community projects with the participation of the members of society and international organizations.

Police Forces in the United Kingdom use project management tools but these tend to be for technical projects (the implementation of a new crime recording system). If more informal project management systems were used, policing could be more effective. When good project management (UK government gun crime initiative) is used, better results follow. It means that police officers need additional training for creating projects. They should get acquainted with the best international practices of