

## **POST Library: Introduction to Law Enforcement Research**

Law Enforcement as a field exists at the intersection of the larger disciplines of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Simply stated, the study of law enforcement encompasses the causes of crime, investigation and scientific techniques for analyzing criminal activity, and the legal parameters of crime and the pursuit of criminals.

This means that law enforcement information can be found in the areas of sociology, psychology, science, and the law. You may have to browse through sources in all of these areas, in order to develop a research topic.

At the same time, there is an increasing amount of literature emerging from the law enforcement community: trade association publications, government agencies, advocacy groups, news sources, statistical sources, and academic journals.

**Caveat:** Many law enforcement journals and other publications are not indexed in commercial databases. To get started, go to the POST [Law Enforcement Article Database](#) or the [POST Library Journal List](#)

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