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Foreword

As a new federal law enforcement officer, a special agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), I took an oath to “... defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic ...” (Title 5 USC Section 3331). The history of the oath of office dates back to Articles II and VI of the Constitution and the first Act passed by the new Congress of the United States. When I accepted my appointment, all I really knew was that I would enforce the federal narcotics laws. Clearly there was so much more than I was aware of and few informational resources were available that focused on the federal law enforcement community—until now.

Jeff Bumgarner (University of Minnesota, Crookston), Charles Crawford (Western Michigan University), and Ronald Burns (Texas Christian University) have taken that next step; they wrote the book that I would like to have read before I became a special agent. *Federal Law Enforcement: A Primer* examines the history, structure, authority, and jurisdiction of federal law enforcement agencies, and their relationships with state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies. It focuses first on the origins of federal law enforcement, with the Constitution and the three branches of the federal government. The authors explain how federal law enforcement has evolved since colonial times and how the organizations have changed in response to the needs of a nation in the twenty-first century.

Thanks to Hollywood, everyone seems to know about Crime Scene Investigations (CSIs) and the existence of a DEA, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Alcohol Tobacco Firearms & Explosives (ATF), and United States Marshals Service (USMS), but little attention is paid to the fact that, unlike many other countries, the United States does not have a national uniformed “police force.” The book opens with the history of several “main-line” agencies that are part of the traditional and well-known federal law enforcement community. It quickly takes the reader to the next level by explaining what organizations are responsible for the enforcement of the controversial *USA PATRIOT Act*, the *Immigration Reform and Control Act*, various federal drug laws, security compliance regulations, and numerous other statutes and regulations. There are more organizations within the federal law enforcement community than most people imagine and these chapters tell many of their stories.

There are numerous books on police, patrol and the omnipotent CSIs. Every state or local police officer understands that their powers are delegated from the Governor of a state; their jurisdiction, with the authority to protect and serve rests within each state or township, and is guaranteed by the Constitution. While the language and description of the laws and the procedures may vary slightly among each of the states, law enforcement is a very basic and direct concept. But the same cannot be said for federal law enforcement. The United States does not have and will not have a federal police force, but there are numerous federal agents, investigators, inspectors, and uniformed officers with specific yet limited jurisdiction and authority.
Professors Bumgarner, Crawford and Burns have written an outstanding "Primer" on the federal law enforcement community. Few law enforcement officers have a true understanding of the complex and diverse nature of the federal community; the depth of their knowledge is normally based on their professional associations. But the authors paint with a wide brush and introduce the reader to the very diverse federal community, starting with the first federal law enforcement agencies created to collect revenue and provide security to the courts, pursuant to the Tariff Act of 1789 and the Judiciary Act of 1789, respectively. Federal law enforcement has come a long way since the creation of the first federal law enforcement agency, the Marshals Service, to the revitalization of the Federal Air Marshal Service to combat terrorism. I doubt that President George Washington could have imagined the Marshals Service of the twenty-first century when he appointed the first twelve U.S. Marshals.

The expansion of federal law enforcement is based upon changing needs and increasing responsibilities. From tax/tariff collection, to court services, to building security and protecting the postal system, the federal government took full advantage of its powers. The authors have blazed a trail across time and the nation, explaining the origins of the most prominent agencies such as the Secret Service, the FBI, the ATF, and the DEA, as well as lesser known agencies like the Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Park Service, Federal Air Marshal Service, and the ever popular Internal Revenue Service. Although very limited in their jurisdiction, there are several uniformed police services such as the Park Police, Capital Police, Supreme Court Police and the Federal Protective Service. Each organization has a unique history that helps the reader better understand the diverse nature of federal law enforcement.

Each of our military services has police and investigation organizations, one of which has even secured space on prime-time television to tell its stories. While many nations use the military to secure their borders, the U.S. has relies on the Border Patrol and the Coast Guard. Since their inceptions, there have been several changes in these organizations and missions; but after the events of September 11, both are now under the control of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

The growth and development of each federal law enforcement organization is carefully examined. The authors capture the reader's attention as they explain how these agencies have been created, re-organized, and/or merged to meet the latest challenge. Approximately half of the federal officers are involved with investigations and inspections. The remaining officers are spread among police, patrol, security, courts and corrections. Unlike most state and local law enforcement organizations, federal officers are stationed throughout the world fighting crime and protecting American lives.

In addition to discussing the history and structure of these federal agencies, the readers are presented with an overview of the nature of the work performed by these agencies, along with brief summaries of some of their more notable cases. Ensuring that each reader is not left standing alone and wanting more, there are sections in the book regarding where new recruits and senior agents receive training, and how one becomes part of over 100 agencies and sub-agencies that are the federal law enforcement community.

I teach a course in federal law enforcement at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania. After reading the draft of Federal Law Enforcement: A Primer, I knew I found the perfect text for my course. I trust that you will find reading this book as interesting and informative as I have.

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