FBI POLICE OFFICERS: An Inside Look

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) uniformed police force plays a crucial role in fulfilling the FBI mission. FBI Police Officers not only work to ensure the protection of the Bureau, its employees and facilities in the United States, they also identify potential threats and prevent and investigate crimes.

FBI Police Officers serve as first responders to any emergency that may arise. They maintain access points at FBI facilities and patrol the grounds, buildings and surrounding areas. They’re responsible for investigating and reporting suspicious persons and activities, maintaining order, protecting people and their civil rights and promoting good community relations. FBI Police Officers also travel across the United States in support of FBI operations and special events.

Protecting Those Who Protect America

FBI Police Officers serve as the Bureau’s dedicated police force with the same training and capabilities as other federal police agencies. When FBI employees, visitors or the surrounding public need help, they call the dedicated and professional men and women of the FBI Police.

Experienced law enforcement applicants may bring knowledge and skills obtained through working on a police force; serving as military police officers; providing visitor protection and law enforcement in parks, forests or other natural resource or recreational environments; or in performing criminal investigations.

The primary mission of FBI Police Officers is to protect Bureau personnel, facilities and information from criminal acts and unauthorized access.

Training Requirements

Once FBI Police Officer appointees pass the Police Officer Selection System (POSS), they are required to successfully complete an intensive, 12-week Uniformed Police Officer Training Program at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). After graduating from FLETC, they receive four weeks of specialized instruction at the FBI Academy and five weeks of on-the-job training with a Field Training Officer after being assigned to a permanent Duty Location.

Applicants are rated on the following competencies critical to performing duties:

» Initiative and motivation
» Stress tolerance
» Interpersonal ability
» Attention to detail
» Judgment and decision making
» Adaptability and flexibility
» Oral communication
» Professionalism
» Writing

A Day in the Life of an FBI Police Officer

As an FBI Police Officer, you are responsible for addressing some of the following day-to-day activities:

- Serving as first responders to all emergency situations.
- Monitoring, noting, reporting and investigating suspicious persons, vehicles and situations, safety hazards and unusual or illegal activity in patrol areas.
- Identifying, pursuing and arresting all known suspects and perpetrators of criminal acts.
- Providing direction and guidance to employees, visitors and the public regarding law enforcement and security matters.
- Recording facts to prepare reports that document incidents and activities.
- Checking for proper identification of pedestrian and vehicular traffic prior to admittance to secure spaces.
- Screening of visitors, vehicles and packages for the detection of explosive devices and prohibited items.
- Responding to a variety of alarm situations and protecting and safeguarding information and material affecting national security and defense.

FBI Police Officer applicants are required to sign a continued service agreement that notes their willingness to remain in the FBI Police Officer position for a minimum of two years from the date they first report to duty.
Becoming an FBI Police Officer Takes Dedication

The Police Officer Selection System (POSS) is a physically and mentally challenging process designed to find only the most-capable applicants. However, those who make it through the process become part of an elite team that keeps our country safe.

**Minimum Qualifications** You must:
- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Possess a valid driver's license.
- Be able to obtain a Top Secret Clearance.
- Attend and pass the POSS written test and panel interview.
- Possess a high school diploma or GED equivalency certificate.
- Become proficient in the use of a firearm and various other weapon systems.
- Pass a U.S. government physical exam.

**Automatic Disqualifiers**
- Non U.S. citizenship.
- Conviction of a felony.
- Violation of the FBI Employment Drug Policy.
- Default on a student loan insured by the U.S. government.
- Failure of an FBI-administered drug test.
- Failure to register with the Selective Service System (males only).
- Knowingly or willfully engaged in acts or activities designed to overthrow the U.S. government by force.
- Failure to pay court-ordered child support.
- Failure to file income tax returns.

**Applicant Process**

If you’re inspired by our mission, here’s what you need to know about the FBI Police Officer application process:

1. **INFORM & APPLY**
   - Visit FBIJobs.gov to view careers and open positions.

2. **INTERVIEW & POSS SELECTION**
   - The hiring process varies depending on the job. The POSS typically takes a year to complete but can take longer.

3. **CONDITIONAL JOB OFFER & BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**
   - Once accepted you will undergo an intensive background investigation including:
     - Polygraph examination.
     - Drug test.
     - Credit and records checks.
     - Interviews with former and current colleagues, neighbors, friends, etc.

4. **UNIFORMED POLICE TRAINING PROGRAM/FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER**

5. **FINAL JOB OFFER & TRAINING**
   - Once accepted, all Police Officer employees attend the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA, and perform a five-week on-the-job training course.