

Chapter 29

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE

As intelligence relates to police departments, it is principally concerned with collecting, processing, and disseminating information relating to specified crimes and criminal activities. These areas of concern vary widely among law enforcement jurisdictions but typically include organized crime, vice, illegal drug trafficking, terrorism, gangs, and civil disorders. Ordinarily, the intelligence component should not perform enforcement activities but should be a source of information for operational units.

The standards in this chapter address the basic concerns of a police department in carrying out the intelligence function.

29.1 Administration

29.1.1 A written directive specifies the intelligence activities performed by the department.

Comments: Intelligence activities are important in all departments, regardless of size. Certain essential activities should be accomplished, although in small departments there may be a less formal and structured process than in large departments. The intelligence activities should include information gathering, analysis, and dissemination to the proper units. (M M M)

29.1.2 A written directive sets forth procedures for ensuring the legality and integrity of the intelligence effort, to include:

- o methods for ensuring informants are secure in their anonymity;
- o procedures for ensuring information collected is limited to criminal conduct and relates to activities that present a threat to the community;
- o procedures for the utilization of intelligence personnel, equipment, and techniques;
- o descriptions of the types or quality of information that may be included in the system; and
- o methods for purging the records of out-of-date information.

Comments: Activities undertaken in the intelligence effort should avoid indiscriminate collection or distribution of information. (M M M)

29.2 Operations

29.2.1 A written directive stipulates that the department maintain liaison with federal, provincial, and local departments for the exchange of intelligence information.

*Comments: The exchange of information as well as coordination of effort between the department's intelligence component and other governmental departments having similar responsibilities enhances the preparedness of each. A specific position or person should be designated as responsible for this liaison.
(M M M)*

29.2.2 A written directive governs the exchange of information between the intelligence component and other department components.

Comments: Information developed through intelligence activities should be provided to operational units to increase the effectiveness of their enforcement and deterrent efforts. (M M M)

29.3 Facilities and Equipment

29.3.1 The department maintains or has access to specialized equipment to support the intelligence function.

*Comments: The intent of the standard is to require the availability of equipment specifically designed for the intelligence function.
(M M M)*