Insider’s Guide to Careers in Federal Law Enforcement

hosted by
Mike Angley, Colonel & Special Agent, USAF (retired)

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Overview

• Presenter’s Background
• Broad Field of “Federal Law Enforcement”
• Changes Since 9/11
• General Qualifications
• Training
• DCIOs and MCIOs
Presenter’s Background

• Retired USAF Colonel & OSI Special Agent
• 25+ year career in LE, CI/CT ops
• 13 PCS moves/~12 deployments
• Far East Asia Area Specialist
• Commanded 5 units, incl wing
• Senior Military Advisor, Henley-Putnam University
Broad Field of Federal Law Enforcement (by Department)

- Agriculture
- Commerce
- Defense
- Education
- Energy
- Health & Human Services
- Homeland Security
- Housing & Urban Development
- Interior
- Justice
- Labor
- State
- Transportation
- Treasury
- Veterans Affairs
Broad Field of Federal Law Enforcement (Others)

- At least two dozen other miscellaneous federal law enforcement agencies

- Some big....
  - US Postal Inspection Service

- Some small....
  - US Supreme Court Police
Broad Field of Federal Law Enforcement ("Big Guys")

- **Defense**
  - DCIOs/MCIOs

- **Homeland Security**
  - CBP
  - ICE
  - USSS
  - TSA

- **Justice**
  - FBI
  - DEA
  - ATF
  - USMS
Broad Field of Federal Law Enforcement

• 100+ Agencies
• Special Agents (GS-1811) est to be 125,000
• OPM’s “1800” series includes
  GS-1801 General Inspection, Investigation, Enforcement, and Compliance Series
  GS-1805 Investigative Analysis Series
  GS-1810 General Investigation
  GS-1811 Criminal Investigation
  GS-1849 Wage and Hour Investigation Series
  GS-1850 Agricultural Warehouse Inspection Series
  GS-1860 Equal Opportunity Investigation
  GS-1889 Import Compliance Series
  GS-1894 Customs Entry and Liquidating
Changes Since 9/11

• Department of Homeland Security
• Patriot Act
Changes Since 9/11
Department of Homeland Security

- Greatest reorg of gov’t since Nat’l Sec Act ‘47
- Created new fed agencies (like TSA); moved others around (gained USSS, Coast Guard)
- Est Homeland Security Advisory System
- HSA gave 25 OIGs federal LEO authority
- Sister to US Northern Command (Homeland Defense Mission)
Changes Since 9/11
Patriot Act (10/24/01)

• Ten separate Titles...most noteworthy
  – Title I: CT Fund; DoD to support DOJ WRT WMD
  – Title II: Enhanced surveillance procedures (mostly electronic), and loosened FISA rules
  – Title IX: Improved intelligence (largely relationships, “walls,” sharing)

• End result...significant new $$, fueled growth in federal LEO community
General Qualifications

- GS-1811 candidates must be U.S. citizens
- Min 21 years old...most have max entry age (~35)
- Rigorous physical and personal qualifications
- 4-year college degree
- Special skills desirable (foreign language, law degree, computer tech savvy, degree + special certificates?)
Training

- Most agencies (~85/100+) train at FLETC
- Typically 2-phase program
  - Basic course for all (about 8 weeks)
  - Agency-specific training (varies)
- Non-FLETC agencies have own academies
  - FBI at Quantico, for example
DCIOs & MCIOs

The federal LEOs within the DoD, comprised variously of civilian, officer, enlisted SAs

DCIOs

Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS)

MCIOs

- Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI)
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)
- Army Criminal Investigations Command (CID)
DCIOs/MCIOs

• Defense Criminal Investigative Service (DCIS)
  – Investigative arm of the DoD/IG
  – Primary mission focus is procurement fraud
  – Some responsibilities for cyber crime
  – Limited AT/CT duties

• Primarily civilian SAs, some military on loan from other MCIOs
DCIOs/MCIOs

• Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI)
  – Reports to SAF/IG
  – Primary focus on USAF
  – LE, CI, CT duties
  – Mix of civilian (1811) & military SAs

• Organized in alignment with MAJCOMs, but independent of “command”
  – 8 Regions (wings)
    • 221 Separate operating locations worldwide
DCIOs/MCIOs

- **Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS)**
  - Reports to SECNAV
  - Primary focus on Navy & Marine Corps
  - LE, CI, CT duties
  - Exclusively civilian (1811) SAs
- **Organized in a “Field Location” concept**
  - 15 Field Offices + HQs worldwide
DCIOs/MCIOs

• Army Criminal Investigations Command (CID)
  – Reports to Army Secretary and Chief of Staff
  – Primary focus on Army
  – LE only (Army MI has primary CI/CT duties)
  – Mix of civilian (1811) and military SAs

• Organized in a MP Group concept
  – 4 MP groups worldwide
Wrapping It Up

• Touched upon what it means to be a federal LE agency
• Significant changes since 9/11 (huge growth, but still competitive...get that degree done!)
• General qualifications & training
• DCIOs/MCIOs and where they fit in
• Questions?