

to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Chapter 547, Acts of 1968 also provided for the appointment of a Deputy Superintendent, who is designated by the Superintendent, with the approval of the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, to serve in this capacity (Code 1957, 1969 Repl. Vol., Art. 88B, secs. 14 and 16).

The Investigation Division of the State Police maintains detailed files and records and cooperates with other law enforcement agencies in the exchange of information relating to crime and criminals. In 1966, a State Central Crime Records Bureau was established in the State Police, and this Bureau is the repository for criminal data resulting from the submission of fingerprints and related information by law enforcement agencies and penal institutions throughout the State. The Bureau compiles statistics on criminal activity throughout the State. Laboratory services are provided to all allied agencies upon request, and field service technicians are available throughout the State to process crime and disaster scenes using the latest in scientific equipment.

The State Police is also charged with the licensing of private detectives and security guards (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., and 1972 Supp., Art. 56, secs. 75-92), as well as with the registration of firearms and the investigation, with the assistance of other police agencies, of those persons desiring to purchase a handgun from a registered firearms dealer (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 27, secs. 441-448).

The Agency is charged with the responsibility to investigate all applicants desiring to wear, carry or transport a handgun. Investigations are conducted by members of the State Police and other police agencies. The Superintendent, after reviewing the report of investigation, has the authority to approve or disapprove the application and either issue or refuse to issue, an appropriate permit (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., 1972 Supp., Art. 27, sec. 36). The Agency also operates a voluntary firearms registration service for those acquiring or owning firearms which are not controlled by other statutes. The Agency investigates and processes those persons desiring to secure a special police commission from the Governor (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 41, secs. 60-70).

Legislation in 1965 gave the State Police responsibility for licensing qualified garages and other facilities to make inspections and corrections of equipment and mechanisms and to certify that used motor vehicles, for which titles are sought, meet the equipment standards promulgated by the Motor Vehicles Administration (Code 1957, 1970 Repl. Vol., 1972 Supp., Art. 66½, secs. 13-102).

Reports of motor vehicle accidents investigated by any law enforcement officer in the State must be forwarded to the State Police. The Agency is charged with the responsibility of analyzing and preparing its statistical tables and charts based on these reports.

The Truck Weight Enforcement Division of the State Police, by contract and/or agreement with the State Department of Transportation, enforces the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Code pertaining to size, weight and load of vehicles (Code 1957, 1972 Supp., Art. 66½, secs. 14-101 14-112); laws governing registration of aircraft and pilots (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., Art. 1A, sec. 22-23); and laws governing motor fuel tax (Code 1957, 1972 Repl. Vol., Art. 56, secs. 135-157) and fraud resulting from the sale of motor fuels and lubricants (Code 1957, 1971 Repl. Vol., Art. 27, secs. 231-233).

Chapter 452, Acts of 1968 provides for the administration of the State Aid for Police Protection Fund by the Superintendent of the State Police (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., 1972 Supp., Art. 15A, secs. 35-39).