

requested to act by the chief executive officer of the municipality in question or its chief police officer; (4) when ordered by the Governor, to act within the municipality in question; (5) when enforcing the motor vehicle laws of this State; (6) in any building or place when ordered by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or either of them, to guard the safety of the legislative process; (7) to protect the safety of an elected State official (Code 1957, 1969 Repl. Vol., Art. 88B, secs. 3, 20, and 23; 1969 Repl. Vol., 1975 Supp., Art. 88B, sec. 4). The State Police also enforce the provisions of the Code relating to Controlled Dangerous Substances (narcotics) throughout the State without any limitation as to activities within municipal corporations or other subdivisions (Code 1957, 1976 Repl. Vol., Art. 27, sec. 298 (g)).

The State Police is directed by the Superintendent, who is appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate 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 has the responsibility to conduct requested criminal investigations which occur anywhere within the State of Maryland. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the detection and arrest of criminal offenders, the recovery of lost and stolen property, handling extradition proceedings, and performing other investigations as directed by the Superintendent of the State Police.

The Identification Division of the State Police maintains detailed files and records and cooperates with other law enforcement agencies in the exchange of information relating to crimes and criminals. 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.

In 1976 the State Legislature created the State Criminal Justice Information System. This system, which is a central repository for the collection, storage, and dissemination of criminal history record information, functions under the operational control of the State Police. The system compiles statistics on criminal activity throughout the State. This compilation of criminal statistics from all law enforcement jurisdictions is published in the form of quarterly crime reports for the entire State. Analysis of the figures indicating trends and other pertinent statistical data is accomplished by this system (Code 1957, 1976 Suppl., Art. 27, secs. 742-755).

The State Police is also charged with the licensing of private detectives and security guards (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., and 1975 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, 1976 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, 1976 Repl. Vol., 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