

criminal cases through deputization by the county sheriffs. The force was supported by a plainclothes investigative department and was known as the State Police Force.

Maryland State Police. In 1935, the Maryland State Police was established as a separate unit of State government (Chapter 303, Acts of 1935). The new agency was funded out of revenues from the Department of Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. It was granted additional statewide police powers to enforce fish, oyster, game and other conservation laws and maintain a training school. The Maryland State Police was made part of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services in 1970.

Department of State Police. In 1994, the Department of Maryland State Police was formed as a principal executive department (Chapter 165, Acts of 1994). It was renamed the Department of State Police in 1995 (Chapter 3, Acts of 1995). The Department enforces State motor vehicle and criminal laws and safeguards the lives and safety of all persons within the State. The Department protects property and assists all persons to secure the equal protection of law. The Department also preserves the public peace; detects and prevents crime; and enforces the laws and ordinances of the State and its local subdivisions. It apprehends and arrests criminals and lawbreakers, and preserves order in public places. In addition, the Department maintains the safe, orderly flow of traffic on public streets and highways and cooperates with and assists other law enforcement agencies.

The Department of State Police has statewide jurisdiction except in incorporated municipalities. Within municipalities the Department may exercise jurisdiction under certain conditions, as regulated by statute (Code 1957, Art. 88B, secs. 3, 4, 20, and 23). The Department also enforces the laws relating to controlled dangerous substances (narcotics) throughout the State with no jurisdictional limitations (Code 1957, Art. 27, sec. 298(g)).

The Department is organized into three bureaus: Administrative Services; Drug and Criminal Enforcement; and Field Operations.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Col. David B. Mitchell, *Secretary of State Police*

1201 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, MD 21208—3899 (410) 653-4219

Appointed by the Governor with Senate advice and consent, the Secretary of State Police serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The Secretary may name a deputy secretary with the approval of the Governor (Code 1957, Art. 88B, secs. 14, 16). Formerly called Superintendent of State Police, the Secretary received the present title in 1995 (Chapter 3, Acts of 1995).

The Secretary of State Police chairs the Handgun Roster Board and the Police Training Commission and co-chairs the Task Force on Law Enforcement of the Cabinet Council on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. The Secretary also serves on the Governor's Executive Council; the State Information Technology Board; the State Postmortem Examiners Commission; the State Advisory Board for Juvenile Justice; the Board of Trustees of the State Retirement and Pension System; the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council; and the Task Force to Study Anti-Asian Violence.

HANDGUN ROSTER BOARD

Chair: Col. David B. Mitchell, Secretary
of State Police
(410) 653-4219

The Handgun Roster Board was formed in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services in 1988 (Chapter 533, Acts of 1988). In 1995, the Board became part of the Department of State Police (Chapter 3, Acts of 1995).

In Maryland, it is illegal to sell or offer for sale a handgun manufactured after January 1, 1985, that is not on the Handgun Roster. The Board compiles, maintains, and publishes the Handgun Roster, which lists those handguns that after January 1, 1985, may be offered for sale in Maryland. Semiannually, the Handgun Roster is published in the *Maryland Register*.

The Board's nine members are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor with Senate advice and consent. The Secretary of State Police serves as chair (Code 1957, Art. 27, secs. 36F, 36I, 36J).

CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

Steven F. Geppi, *Commander*
(410) 290-0780

The Criminal Intelligence Division began as the Intelligence Division in 1962. Under the Special Operations Bureau, it received its present name in 1990. The Division was placed under the Office of the Secretary in 1995.

The Division gathers information pertaining to organized crime and narcotics trafficking, and other strategic data. Within the Division is the State Clearinghouse for Missing Children.

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE FOR MISSING CHILDREN

Contact: Carla T. Proudfoot (410) 290-0780
toll free: 1-800-637-KIDS

The State Clearinghouse for Missing Children was established within the Investigation Division of the Special Operations Bureau in 1985 (Chapter 496, Acts of 1985). The Clearinghouse in 1989 was placed under the Intelligence Division, now the Criminal Intelligence Division.