

15

PLANNING AND RESEARCH, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, AND CRIME ANALYSIS

Standards in subchapter 15.1 relate to the planning and research activities of the agency. Planning is the development of strategies for bringing about a desirable future condition. Planning for a law enforcement agency involves the development and utilization of limited personnel, equipment, and resources in ways that will favorably affect future public welfare. Depending on their size and mandate, all law enforcement agencies should perform certain planning functions.

Standards in subchapter 15.2 relate to agency goals and objectives.

Crime analysis (subchapter 15.3) is a law enforcement agency function whereby data relating to crime are collected, collated, analyzed, and disseminated. Data are primarily generated from records and reports within the law enforcement agency. Additional data may be obtained from outside sources, such as other law enforcement agencies, other agencies of the criminal justice system, other government agencies, and private organizations.

Crime analysis represents a system utilizing regularly collected information on reported crimes and criminals to prevent and suppress crime and to apprehend criminal offenders. Crime analysis is a scientific process in the sense that it involves the collection of valid and reliable data, employs systematic techniques of analysis, and seeks to determine, for predictive purposes, the frequency with which events occur and the extent to which they are associated with other events. The collection, analysis, and distribution of readily available crime data information to affected personnel will enhance agency effectiveness.

The information obtained by analyzing the data is used to support management and operations. Line function officers are provided with information that can benefit them in the development of daily operational and tactical plans. Staff functions receive information for use in strategic planning as it relates to such topics as crime trends, agency resource allocation, crime prevention, and other associated areas. The standards in this chapter address crime analysis as it relates to both strategic and tactical activities.

15.1 Planning and Research

15.1.1 *A written directive describes the activities of the planning and research function.*

Commentary: None. (N/A O M M)

