

# Singapore Police Force

**Singapore Police Force**  
*Pasukan Polis Singapura*  
新加坡警察部队  
சிங்கப்பூர் காவல் துறை

**Abbreviation**

SPF



Logo of the Singapore Police Force.

## Agency overview

**Legal personality**

Governmental: [Government agency](#)

## Jurisdictional structure

**National agency**

[Singapore](#)

**General nature**

- [Law enforcement](#)
- [Civilian police](#)

## Operational structure

**Sworn members**

37,341

**Agency executive**

[Ng Joo Hee](#), [Commissioner of Police](#)

**Parent agency**

[Ministry of Home Affairs](#)

**Departments**

[16](#)[\[show\]](#)

**Line units**

[12](#)[\[show\]](#)

## Facilities

**NPC/NPPs**

97

**Police boats**

61

## Website

<http://www.police.gov.sg/>

The **Singapore Police Force** (**Abbreviation**: **SPF**; **Chinese**: 新加坡警察部队; **Malay**: **Pasukan Polis Singapura**; **Tamil**: சிங்கப்பூர் காவல் துறை) is the main agency tasked with [maintaining law and](#)

[order](#) in the city-state.<sup>[1]</sup> Formerly known as the *Republic of Singapore Police* (RSP; [Malay](#): *Polis Republik Singapura*), it has grown from an 11-man organisation to a 38,587 strong force. [Singapore](#) has been ranked consistently in the top five positions in the [Global Competitiveness Report](#) in terms of its reliability of police services.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

The organisation structure of the SPF is split between the staff and line functions, roughly modelled after the military. There are currently 14 staff departments, 3 specialist staff departments and 10 specialist and line units. The headquarters is located in a block at New Phoenix Park in [Novena](#), adjacent to a twin block occupied by the [Ministry of Home Affairs](#).<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

## Contents

[\[hide\]](#)

- 1 Colonial History
- 2 Modern Day<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
  - 2.1 Incidents
- 3 Organisation structure
  - 3.1 Police Headquarters
  - 3.2 Staff departments
  - 3.3 Line units
- 4 Finances<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 5 Manpower
  - 5.1 Regulars
  - 5.2 Police national servicemen<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
  - 5.3 Volunteers<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
  - 5.4 Civilian staff<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
  - 5.5 Staff welfare<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 6 Uniforms<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 7 Ranks<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
  - 7.1 Police officers
  - 7.2 Senior police officers
- 8 Weapons<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 9 Equipment<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 10 Vehicles<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 11 Auxiliary Police Forces<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 12 Defunct assets<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
  - 12.1 Units
  - 12.2 Land Divisions
  - 12.3 Police Coast Guard
- 13 Popular media works related to SPF<sup>[citation needed]</sup>
- 14 See also
- 15 References
  - 15.1 Notes
  - 15.2 Bibliography
- 16 External links

## Colonial History<sup>[edit]</sup>

The Singapore Police Force has a heritage almost as old as that of modern Singapore, having been formed in 1819<sup>[2]</sup> with a skeleton force of 11 men under the command of [Francis James Bernard](#), son-in-law of [William Farquhar](#), and kept in operation with a monthly budget of \$300. Manpower

constraints meant that the men had to perform a wide range of roles, and required the help of headmen amongst the various ethnic communities to maintain orderliness on the streets, all the more possible as the communities lived in segregated areas around the city.

This partnership with the community was in line with Sir [Stamford Raffles](#)' vision of a thriving colony largely self-regulated by local social structures, with the British masters administrating it via indirect rule. The large influx of migrants from China, however, began to test this system when the hands-off approach by the British allowed [secret societies in Singapore](#) to thrive. Although originally formed with legal intentions of community bonding and the provision of assistance to fellow migrants, these societies gradually became influential, competitive, and increasingly engaged in illegal activity including monetary extortion from the masses, the operation of [gambling](#) dens, and the [smuggling](#) of illegal goods on top of more legal commercial operations to meet their financial needs.

Competition gradually heated up between large rival factions, such as that between the larger [Ghee Hin Kongsi](#), the [Ghee Hock Kongsi](#) and the [Hai San Kongsi](#). Murders, mass riots, kidnappings, arson and other serious crimes became commonplace in the next four decades since the colony's founding. Faced with violent acts of crime which may involve thousands, such as the [funeral riots](#) of 1846 involving 9,000 members from the Ghee Hin and Ghee Hock secret societies, the police force was woefully incapable of bringing the situation under control, and often had to call in the army for assistance. The escalating number of serious crimes prompted the need for stronger legislation to deter would-be criminals. Singapore's first [executions](#) were thus held in the wake of the first criminal session in June 1828, when a Chinese and Indian were found guilty and convicted for murder.

Headed by Europeans and predominantly staffed by Malay and Indian officers, the force had little Chinese representation as the military and policing professionals were traditionally shunned by the Chinese community, which therefore impaired policing efforts amongst the large Chinese populace. In 1843, the force comprised a sitting [magistrate](#) doubling up as a [superintendent](#), three European [constables](#) and an assistant native constable, 14 officers and 110 policemen. With a total strength of no more than 150 men, the police was compelled to avoid direct intervention in these mass acts of violence, else risking almost total annihilation.

A repeat of this scenario occurred in 1851, when lingering displeasure against [Roman Catholic](#) ethnic Chinese erupted into major rioting leaving over 500 Chinese dead. The army was called in again, although it involved having to induct Indian convicts into military service almost overnight. In 1854, twelve consecutive days of violence sparked by a dispute between the Hokkiens and Teochews disrupted trade. This particular incident led to the formation of the military's [Singapore Rifle Corps](#) on 8 July 1854, the earliest predecessor of the [Singapore Armed Forces' People's Defence Force](#) today.

Criminal violence was not merely in the domain of the ethnic Chinese, however. Rivalries between Malay princes and communities also often result in acts of violence, which prompted the passing of Singapore's first [arms law](#) in March 1823 restricting the right to bear arms to 24 of the Malay Sultan's followers. Nearly two centuries later, these anti-arms laws continue to be strictly enforced, resulting in a society relatively free from firearms-related criminal offences. [\[citation needed\]](#)

**Modern Day** [\[citation needed\]](#) [\[edit\]](#)

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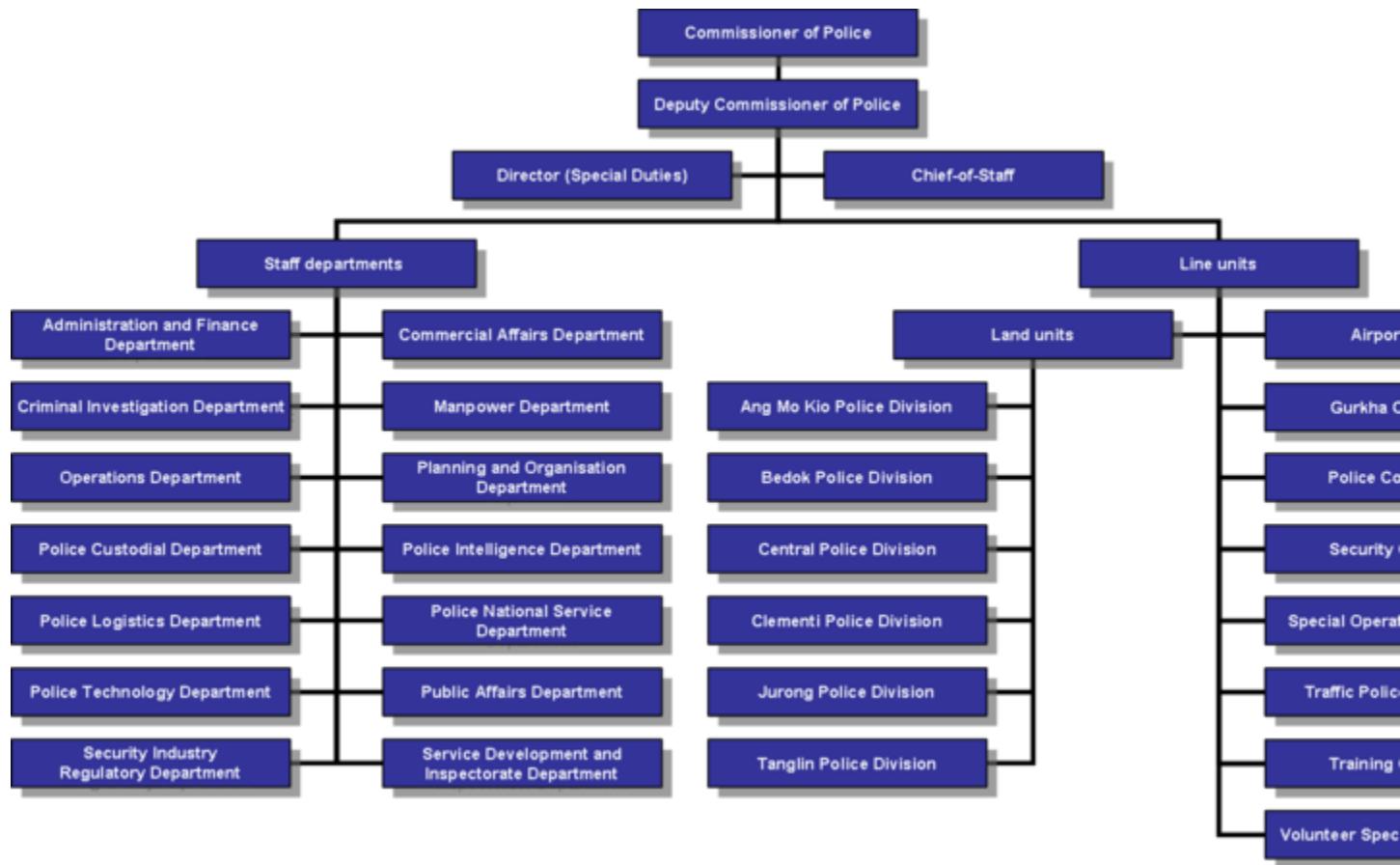
[Jurong Police Division](#) Headquarters at Jurong West Avenue 5, note the Singapore Police Force crest prominently displayed.

### **Incidents**[\[edit\]](#)

*Main article: [List of Singapore police officers killed in the line of duty](#)*

### **Organisation structure**[\[edit\]](#)

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## Police Headquarters

| Appointment   | Rank                                 | Abbreviation       | Name                  | Address   |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <u>Commissioner of Police</u>   | <u>Commissioner of Police</u>        | <u>CP</u>          | <u>Ng Joo Hee</u>     | <u>New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road</u>                    |
| <u>Deputy Commissioner of Police</u>                                    | <u>Deputy Commissioner of Police</u> | <u>DC(P)</u>       | <u>T Raja Kumar</u>   | <u>New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road</u>                    |
| <u>Deputy Commissioner of Police (Investigation &amp; Intelligence)</u> | <u>Deputy Commissioner of Police</u> | <u>DC(I&amp;I)</u> | <u>Hoong Wee Teck</u> | <u>Police Cantonment Complex, 391 New Bridge Road Block C</u> |
| Quality Service Manager   | <u>Deputy Assistant Commissioner</u> | <u>DAC</u>         | <u>Kuldip SINGH</u>   | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                           |

## Staff departments

| Department  | Abbreviation | Director                                | Address  |
|---|--------------|---|--|
| <a href="#">Administration and Finance Department</a> | A&F          | <a href="#">DAC Lee Chwee Huat</a>      | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Commercial Affairs Department</a>         | CAD          | <a href="#">Tan Boon Gin</a>            | <a href="#">Police Cantonment Complex, 391 New Bridge Road</a> Block D |
| <a href="#">Criminal Investigation Department</a>     | CID          | <a href="#">DC Hoong Wee Teck</a>       | <a href="#">Police Cantonment Complex, 391 New Bridge Road</a> Block C |
| <a href="#">Manpower Department</a>                   | MPD          | <a href="#">SAC Tan Hung Hooi</a>       | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Operations Department</a>                 | OPS          | <a href="#">SAC Lim Kok Thai</a>        | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Planning and Organisation Department</a>  | P&O          | <a href="#">AC Teo Chun Ching</a>       | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Police Intelligence Department</a>        | PID          | <a href="#">SAC Tan Chye Hee</a>        | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Police Logistics Department</a>           | PLD          | <a href="#">SAC Koh Yak Leng</a>        | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Police National Service Department</a>    | PNSD         | <a href="#">DAC Manimaran Pushpatan</a> | <a href="#">Old Police Academy, 1 Mount Pleasant Road</a> Block 2A     |
| <a href="#">Police Technology Department</a>          | PTD          | <a href="#">Tay Yeow Khoon</a>          | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |
| <a href="#">Public Affairs Department</a>             | PAD          | <a href="#">AC Ng Guat Ting</a>         | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                                    |

|   |        |   |   |
|---|--------|---|---|
| <u>Police Licensing and Regulatory Department</u> | PLRD   | <u>AC Jessica Kwok</u>                  | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                           |
| <u>Service Delivery Department</u>                | SDI    | <u>DAC Kuldip Singh</u>                 | New Phoenix Park, 28 Irrawaddy Road                           |
| <u>Volunteer Special Constabulary</u>             | VSC    | <u>AC (V) S Lakshmanan</u>              | <u>Police Cantonment Complex, 391 New Bridge Road</u> Block C |
| <u>Traffic Police Department</u>                  | TP     | <u>AC Cheang Keng Keong</u>             | 10 <u>Ubi Avenue 3</u>  |
| <u>Training Command</u>                           | TRACOM | <u>SAC Zuraidah Abdullah</u>            | <u>Home Team Academy, 501 Old Choa Chu Kang Road</u>          |
| <u>National Police Cadet Corps</u>                | NPCC   | <u>SUPT Mohd Redhza bin Abdul Rahim</u> | <u>Home Team Academy, 501 Old Choa Chu Kang Road</u>          |

### **Line units**[edit]

| Line units                        | Abbreviation | Commander                       | Address   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <u>Ang Mo Kio Police Division</u> | 'F' Division | <u>AC Keok Tong San</u>         | 51 <u>Ang Mo Kio Avenue 9</u>                                 |
| <u>Bedok Police Division</u>      | 'G' Division | <u>DAC Alvin Moh Tser Loong</u> | 30 <u>Bedok North Road</u>                                    |
| <u>Central Police Division</u>    | 'A' Division | <u>DAC Daniel Tan Sin Heng</u>  | <u>Police Cantonment Complex, 391 New Bridge Road</u> Block A |
| <u>Clementi Police Division</u>   | 'D' Division | <u>DAC Melvin Yong Yik Chye</u> | 20 <u>Clementi Avenue 5</u>                                   |
| <u>Jurong Police Division</u>     | 'J' Division | <u>DAC Wilson Lim Hock Lee</u>  | 2 <u>Jurong West Avenue 5</u>                                 |

|  |              |   |   |
|--|--------------|---|---|
| <a href="#"><u>Tanglin Police Division</u></a>           | 'E' Division | <a href="#"><u>DAC Lu Yeow Lim</u></a>            | 21 <a href="#"><u>Kampong Java Road</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>Airport Police Division</u></a>           | AP           | <a href="#"><u>DAC Sam Tee Chong Fui</u></a>      | 35 <a href="#"><u>Airport Boulevard</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>Gurkha Contingent</u></a>                 | GC           | <a href="#"><u>AC Ross Forman</u></a>             | <a href="#"><u>Mount Vernon Camp</u></a>  |
| <a href="#"><u>Police Coast Guard</u></a>                | PCG          | <a href="#"><u>SAC Hsu Sin Yun</u></a>            | 11 <a href="#"><u>Brani Way</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>Public Transport Security Command</u></a> | TransCom     | <a href="#"><u>AC Gerald LIM Han Ming, PK</u></a> | 132 Paya Lebar Road ( <a href="#"><u>Old Geylang Police Station</u></a> , Geylang NPC)              |
| <a href="#"><u>Security Command</u></a>                  | SecCom       | <a href="#"><u>AC Lim Chee Pheng</u></a>          | 2 <a href="#"><u>Lorong 4 Toa Payoh</u></a> ( <a href="#"><u>Old Toa Payoh Police Station</u></a> ) |
| <a href="#"><u>Special Operations Command</u></a>        | SOC          | <a href="#"><u>AC Anthony NG Kin Hian</u></a>     | <a href="#"><u>Queensway Base</u></a>   |

## Finances [edit]

The Singapore Police Force receives the highest budget allocation annually compared to the various departments of the [Ministry of Home Affairs](#) (MHA), regularly accounting for about 50% of its annual budget. For the financial year 2006 (for the year beginning 1 April 2006), S\$2.27 billion was budgeted to the MHA, of which 52.8%, or S\$1.28 billion was allocated for the Police Programme. Actual expenses in the 2006 financial year was S\$1.33 billion, of which S\$1.14 billion was spent on operating expenditure (against the budgeted S\$1.10 billion) and S\$188.28 million on development expenditure (budgeted at \$171.52 million). Manpower costs amounting to S\$709.11 million continue to dominate the SPF's expenditure, accounting for 62.2% of its operating expenditure and 53.4% of total expenditure in FY2006.

| Year ended | Operating Expenditure      |                     |                  | Development Expenditure |                  | Total Expenditure |                  |          |
|------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------|
|            | Other Operating (millions) | Manpower (millions) | Total (millions) | Budgeted                | Total (millions) | Budgeted          | Total (millions) | Budgeted |
| 2012       | 1,020                      | 1.0                 | 1,020            | 1,020                   | 1,020            | 1,020             | 2,040            | 2,040    |

|                     |        |        |          |               |        |             |          |               |
|---------------------|--------|--------|----------|---------------|--------|-------------|----------|---------------|
| 31<br>March<br>2004 | 325.61 | 636.47 | 962.08   |               | 142.14 |             | 1,104.22 |               |
| 31<br>March<br>2005 | 325.27 | 655.56 | 980.83   |               | 214.83 |             | 1,195.66 |               |
| 31<br>March<br>2006 | 343.11 | 668.62 | 1011.73  | 948,615,140   | 267.74 | 246,085,700 | 1,279.47 | 1,194,700,840 |
| 31<br>March<br>2007 | 431.13 | 709.11 | 1,140.24 | 1,103,597,000 | 188.28 | 171,522,700 | 1,328.52 | 1,275,119,700 |
| 31<br>March<br>2008 | -      | -      | -        | 1,218,736,370 | -      | 69,353,000  | -        | 1,288,089,370 |
| 31<br>March<br>2009 | -      | -      | -        | 1,246,301,000 | -      | 129,985,000 | -        | 1,376,286,000 |

The latest budget for financial year 2008, S\$1.38 billion was allocated to the Police Programme, or 47.2% of MHA's total budget of S\$2.91 billion (The [Ministry of Defence](#), in comparison, receives a S\$10.08 billion budget allocation). This includes S\$1.25 billion for Operating expenditure and \$129.99 million for Development Expenditure. The main Development Expenditures expected in FY2008 included the installation of an electronic surveillance system, the building of an Integrated Tactical Training Centre and procurement of new Coastal Patrol Crafts for the [Police Coast Guard](#).

## Manpower

[\[edit\]](#)

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Police National Service officers contribute to security coverage requirements at the [National Day Parade](#), 2004.

Shown left is a full-time serviceman, and he is accompanied at right by a Police [National Serviceman](#)(reservist), both in the current SPF uniform.

As at 31 March 2007, the total strength of the force stands at 34,397, of which 12,496 are full-time staff. Manpower trends in recent years are as follows:

| <b>Year ended</b> | <b>Regulars</b> | <b>Civilians</b> | <b>PNSF</b> | <b>PNSmen</b> | <b>VSC</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| 31 March 2003     | 7,791           | 1,210            | 3,664       | 21,843        | 1,020      | 35,528       |
| 31 March 2004     | 8,035           | 1,238            | 4,104       | 22,311        | 1,098      | 36,786       |
| 31 March 2005     | 8,001           | 1,255            | 3,958       | 23,461        | 1,164      | 37,839       |
| 31 March 2006     | 7,949           | 1,246            | 3,861       | 24,349        | 1,182      | 38,587       |
| 31 March 2007     | 7,826           | 1,206            | 3,464       | 20,852        | 1,049      | 34,397       |

The full-time uniformed officers are predominantly male, accounting for about 87% of total full-time strength. This is in part due to the all-male profile of [PNSFs](#), although the ratio of female regular officers has been steadily increasing over the years. The force is also dominated by younger

officers. Besides the presence of PNSFs who usually serve up to two years typically from age 18, there is also a relatively high turnover rate amongst regular officers.<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

## Regulars[edit]

Regulars, or uniformed, full-time officers, constitute about 20% of the police's total workforce and number approximately 8,000 in strength. Basic entry requirements for police officers include normal fitness levels, good eyesight, and at least five passes in the GCE Ordinary level or a NITEC from the [Institute of Technical Education](#), although those with lower qualifications may still be considered.<sup>[3]</sup> Those joining the senior police officers require a basic degree from a recognised university.<sup>[4]</sup> Alternatively, police officers from the junior ranks may also be considered for promotion into the senior ranks.<sup>[5]</sup> Officers serving in the force as national servicemen are also regularly considered for absorption into the regular scheme. Basic training for all officers are conducted at the [Home Team Academy](#), under the purview of the Police Training Command. It takes about six months<sup>[6]</sup> and nine months<sup>[7]</sup> to train a new police officer and senior police officer respectively.

As is the case with many other civil service positions in Singapore, the salaries of police officers are reviewed in accordance to market rates. Salaries are kept competitive as part of anti-corruption measures. Gross starting salaries for police officers may range from S\$1,559.43 to \$2,186.90,<sup>[8]</sup> and that of senior police officers from S\$2,650.00 to S\$3,889.00,<sup>[9]</sup> depending on entry qualifications and National Service.

Police officers commence their careers as Sergeants (Full GCE 'A' level or Diploma holders) or Corporals (other qualifications),<sup>[8]</sup> while senior police officers start as either Assistant Superintendent of Police (2nd Upper Honours Degree and above) or Inspectors (2nd Lower Honours degree and lower). Reviews of an officer's performance for promotion consideration are conducted annually. Interviews conducted for promotion to certain ranks were phased out since 1995. It takes approximately five years for a police officer to be promoted to the next rank, although the system allows for accelerated promotion for outstanding officers.

While joining the force as a career is generally considered a respectable decision in contemporary Singapore, support from the ethnic Malay community has been traditionally stronger due to less social stigma attached to the profession. Traditionally, Chinese culture has eschewed careers in uniformed positions, resulting in a force dominated by non-Chinese officers for most of the force's early history. National servicemen also contribute a higher proportion of ethnic Malays in the force. The current ethnic profile of the force continues to have a significantly higher proportion of ethnic minorities compared to the national ethnic profile, although such an outcome is related to operational demands: police resources are typically deployed with a diverse ethnic mix to decrease communication problems while attending to incidents in ethnically-diverse Singapore.

Competition in the employment market, usually heating up during economic boom times, occasionally depressed the number of police recruits as well as its existing ranks. A series of major incidents in 2008 affecting agencies of the Home Affairs Ministry has led to the ministry conducting a study which concluded that there is a shortage of officers, resulting in officers being "overstretched, strained and overstressed". In the police force, it was admitted that the recruitment and retention of non-graduate police officers has been "adversely affected by the tighter labour market", with resignation rates increasing by 50% between 2004 and 2007. Recruitment figures, while remaining relatively stable, has been unable to "address the higher demands placed on the Force. Various measures were thus taken in response, including an increase in starting salaries, sign-on bonuses for senior police officers, and retention bonuses of up to S\$30,000 for non-graduate police officers in a bid to encourage them to stay for at least eight years, over the five years where many leave at the end of their service bonds.

## Police national servicemen<sup>[citation needed]</sup>[edit]

While [national service](#) was introduced in 1967 in Singapore, it was solely geared towards the building up of the [Singapore Armed Forces](#). There was little urgency in the police force to increase

its manpower strength until the [Laju incident](#) in 1974 demonstrated the need for additional trained reserve officers who can be called up at short notice in the event of an emergency. National service was thus extended to the Singapore Police Force in 1975, with the primary aim of guarding key installations and to act as a reserve unit. Subsequent expansion of the scheme, changing security needs, and the trend in [outsourcing](#) installation protection (such as to the [Auxiliary Police Forces](#)) has expanded their role to more functions, which may range from administration, investigation to front-line policing alongside their regular counterparts.

## **Volunteers**[\[citation needed\]](#) [\[edit\]](#)

*Main article: [Volunteer Special Constabulary](#)*

Formed in 1946, The Volunteer Special Constabulary (VSC) is an important component of the Singapore Police Force, contributing more than fifty years of volunteer service to the nation.

The VSC is composed of volunteers from all walks of life in Singapore, from businessmen to blue-collar executives to even bus captains, bonded with the same aspiration to serve the nation by complementing the Singapore Police Force. They are vested with equal powers of a police officer to enforce law and order in Singapore. VSC Officers don the same police uniform and patrol the streets, participate in anti-drug operations and sometimes even high-speed sea chases.

Previously headquartered at the [Eu Tong Sen Street Police Station](#) and [Toa Payoh Police Station](#), it relocated to the new [Police Cantonment Complex](#) in year 2000.

## **Civilian staff**[\[citation needed\]](#) [\[edit\]](#)

Civilian staff in the Police Force are deployed in areas such as technology, logistics, human resource and administrative and finance services as well as investigation, planning and intelligence. The civilian staff schemes falls under the general civil service schemes managed by the [Public Service Division](#). These schemes include:

- Commercial Affairs Officer Scheme (CAO)
  - Commercial Affairs Officer
- Management Executive Scheme(MX) for degree holders
  - Home Affairs Senior Executive (HASE)
- Corporate Support Scheme (CS) for diploma and below
  - Technical Support Officer
  - Corporate Support Officer

The civilisation of non-core police functions have accelerated over the years in order to free up additional manpower for redeployment into Police Divisions. Other changes include the deployment of contract staff through organisations such as [Ministry of Finance](#)'s VITAL.org for administrative staff and partners such as [Singapore Technologies](#), [CSA Singapore](#) for technical support.

## **Staff welfare**[\[citation needed\]](#) [\[edit\]](#)

- Aquatic Club
- Home United Basketball Club (HUBC)
- Home United Football Club (HUFC)
- JOM - Clubhouse for Police Officers
- Polwel Co-operative Society Limited
- Police Computer Club
- Police Sports Association (PSA)
- Police Welfare Division
- Senior Police Officers' Mess (SPOM)
- Singapore Police Co-operative Society Limited

## Uniforms

[\[citation needed\]](#)

[\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Uniforms of the Singapore Police Force](#)

Dark blue (or more accurately [Dacron blue](#)) is the organisational colour of the Singapore Police Force, and has remained so continuously since 1969, although the first police uniforms introduced in 1856 were also in the same colour.

On 1 July 1969, dacron blue made a comeback to the uniform with a force-wide change away from khaki overnight, in part to coincide with Singapore's 150th anniversary since its founding in 1819. The new uniform comprises a dark blue peak cap, shirt, trousers, black belt, shoes and socks, and coded whistle lanyard in blue and white. 3 large and 4 small metal buttons, metal collar badges, and a metal cap badge are affixed, and a black plastic name tag completes the uniform. Metallic ranks, if any, are fixed to the sleeve or on the shoulders for senior officers. The lanyard was changed to a metal chain in 1972, and in 1985, the material of the uniform was changed from 75% [polyester](#) 25% [cotton](#) to 100% polyester for ease of daily maintenance.

Derivatives of the standard blue uniform (collectively called the no.3 uniform) was adopted for specialised forces and for all officers in various occasions which calls for more formal or casual attire. The [Traffic Police Department](#) was amongst the few to move away from the all-blue attire, adopting a short-sleeved white tunic, dark blue [breeches](#), a black leather [Sam Browne belt](#), and riding boots for its officers performing [mobile squad](#) duties. A white crash helmet is worn when on the move, while a new dark blue [jockey cap](#) with chequered white and dark blue patterns around its circumference is worn when convenient while performing static duty. Members of the [Vigilante Corps](#) are also attired by a white short-sleeved top similar in design to the dark blue version for normal officers, gold-coloured buttons and badges, and a dark blue [beret](#) in place of the [peak cap](#).

Combat uniforms has also been adopted for specialist units such as those from the [Special Operations Command](#) and the [Police Coast Guard](#) (PCG), collectively known as the No.4 uniforms. These involve the replacement of metal buttons with sewn-on plastic ones, the avoidance of all other metallic accoutrements which are deemed potentially hazardous to the officer or to others and the use of long-sleeved shirts. SOC officers wear combat boots while officers in PCG use lace up leather shoes with non-slip soles. These units also tend to adopt the [beret](#) as their headgear, although PCG officers use the [baseball cap](#) while on operational duties.

There was no major change to the uniform since then, except for the adoption of embroidered shoulder ranks and badges for all ranks in the 1990s. Other changes are less distinct, such as the upgrading of shoes used, the change of the belt material and belt buckle to one including the police crest, and changes to the peak cap to a more durable and ventilated version.

In 2008 - 2009, the black engraved plastic nametags was changed to the black epoxy coated nametags with the Home Team badge on the left, velcro backing is optional. The previous black engraved plastic nametags is still in use by the [National Police Cadet Corps](#). All officers under the Home Team are issued with these epoxy nametags.

## Ranks

[\[citation needed\]](#)

[\[edit\]](#)

A standard rank structure is used throughout the police force, although some ranks may be unique to specific organisations. These ranks are denoted where applicable in the following list, which lists them in ascending seniority:

### Police officers

[\[edit\]](#)

The rank of Corporal was abolished in 1972, but reinstated in 1976. In 1997, all ranks were shifted from the sleeves to the epaulettes, except for the Gurkha Contingent. Also in the same year, the Station Inspector rank was changed from collar pips to epaulettes with a new design similar to that of the SAF Warrant Officers, and the rank of [Senior Station Inspector](#) was introduced. In 1998,

the [Senior Station Inspector \(2\)](#) rank was introduced, and changes were made to the SI, SSI, and SSI(2) rank designs. The rank of Lance Corporal was abolished in 2002. The 2006, the Gurkha Contingent adopted embroidered ranks as part of an overhaul of its combat dress, but are worn on the right front pocket.

| Rank   | Abbreviation | Trainee | Regular | NSF     | NSmen       | VSC       | Gurkha |
|--|--------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| <a href="#">Constable</a>                    | PC           | -       | -       | -       | PC          | -         | PC     |
| <a href="#">Special Constable</a>            | SC           | TSC     | -       | SC      | -           | -         | -      |
| <a href="#">Corporal</a>                     | CPL          | TCPL    | CPL     | SC/CPL  | CPL (NS)    | CPL (V)   | CPL    |
| <a href="#">Sergeant</a>                     | SGT          | TSGT    | SGT     | SC/SGT  | SGT (NS)    | SGT (V)   | SGT    |
| <a href="#">Staff Sergeant</a>               | SSGT         | -       | SSGT    | SC/SSGT | SSGT (NS)   | SSGT (V)  | SSGT   |
| <a href="#">Senior Staff Sergeant</a>        | SSSGT        | -       | SSSGT   | -       | SSSGT (NS)  | SSSGT (V) | SSSGT  |
| <a href="#">Station Inspector</a>            | SI           | -       | SI      | -       | SI (NS)     | SI (V)    | SI     |
| <a href="#">Senior Station Inspector</a>     | SSI          | -       | SSI     | -       | SSI (NS)    | SSI (V)   | -      |
| <a href="#">Senior Station Inspector (2)</a> | SSI (2)      | -       | SSI (2) | -       | SSI(2) (NS) | SSI(2)(V) | -      |

### **Senior police officers**[\[edit\]](#)

| Rank                                     | Abbreviation | Trainee            | Regular | NSF         | NSmen     | VSC      | Gurkha |
|--|--------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| <a href="#">Inspector</a>                | INSP         | OCT(NSF)<br>P/INSP | INSP    | NSPI<br>NSI | INSP (NS) | INSP (V) | INSP   |
| <a href="#">Assistant Superintendent</a> | ASP          | P/ASP              | ASP     |             | ASP(NS)   | ASP (V)  | ASP    |

|                                      |        |   |      |   |          |         |      |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---|------|---|----------|---------|------|
| <u>Deputy Superintendent</u>         | DSP    | - | DSP  | - | DSP(NS)  | DSP (V) | DSP  |
| <u>Superintendent</u>                | SUPT   | - | SUPT | - | SUPT(NS) | SUPT(V) | SUPT |
| <u>Deputy Assistant Commissioner</u> | DAC    | - | DAC  | - | DAC(NS)  | DAC (V) | DAC  |
| <u>Assistant Commissioner</u>        | AC     | - | AC   | - | -        | AC(V)   | AC   |
| <u>Senior Assistant Commissioner</u> | SAC    | - | SAC  | - | -        | -       | -    |
| <u>Deputy Commissioner of Police</u> | DCP/DC | - | DCP  | - | -        | -       | -    |
| <u>Commissioner of Police</u>        | CP     | - | CP   | - | -        | -       | -    |

## Weapons [*citation needed*] [[edit](#)]

Police officers in the various divisions are armed when conducting regular uniformed patrols and plainclothes duties. Officers from different units are issued with different weapons.

The 5-shot .38 [Taurus Model 85](#) featuring a laser sight is the standard issued sidearm of the Singapore Police Force with 10 rounds of ammunition. For less-than-lethal option, most policemen are issued a Monadnock PR-21 side handle baton to enhance their defensive capabilities.

Expandable batons are used by some units such as Security Command and the Sabre Red [pepper spray](#) canisters are exclusively equipped to the officers of [Police Coast Guard](#) and [Police Tactical Unit](#). A pair of [handcuffs](#) is issued to the officers as restraints.

The [Taser X26](#) stun gun is part of the officer equipment, which provides another non-lethal means of subduing suspects. Despite some safety concerns due to incidents experienced by foreign police forces, the weapon was deemed suitable for use by trained personnel, and was rolled out across other NPCs.

[Heckler & Koch USP](#) pistols are known to be used by the Special Operations Command, Police Tactical Unit, Criminal Investigation Department and Security Command. Officers of Police Coast Guard's Special Task Squadron are issued with [Glock 19](#) semi-automatic pistol and [Special Tactics and Rescue](#) (STAR) acquired the Swiss-made [Sphinx 3000](#) pistol, replacing the previous used Glock pistols.

Addition to the use of the handguns, Singapore Police Force also uses the [Heckler & Koch MP5](#) submachine gun and the [Remington 870](#) shotgun while specialized weapons are issued to the STAR, such as the [G36C](#), [M4A1](#), [SAR-21](#) rifles and a variegated arsenal of sniper rifles.

## Equipment [*citation needed*] [[edit](#)]

The primary communication tool carried by each officer is through a digital radio set provided by Matra Nortel Communications, the same provider for other Home Team organisations such as the [Singapore Civil Defence Force](#).

Strict enforcement of anti-arm laws which are in existence in Singapore since 1823 has resulted in a relatively disarmed society, where firearms-related crimes are rare. It is therefore not an operational requirement for police officers to wear [bulletproof vests](#) when conducting normal policing duties. However, these vests are carried in police vehicles and stocked in police establishments and can be rapidly utilised should the situation require it. From 2004, new multi-purpose vests were introduced which offer officers protection against most handgun fire, knife thrusts, as well as doubling up as a buoyancy vest should officers fall into deep water.

## Vehicles

[\[citation needed\]](#) [\[edit\]](#)

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Land division officers typically respond to calls in rapid-deployment vehicles known as the [Fast Response Car](#) (FRC). The SPF have been staunch users of Japanese-made [saloon cars](#) since the 1980s for patrol duties, with the mainstay models in use being the various generations of the [Mitsubishi Lancers](#), [Mazda 323s](#) and [Toyota Corollas](#). At the turn of the century they have also included [Nissan Sunnys](#), [Subaru Impreza](#) 1.6 TS sedans (not to be confused with the [Subaru Impreza WRX](#) used by the Traffic Police) in 2012 the traffic police have included the [Volvo S80 T5](#).

All FRCs carry a large array of equipment to allow officers to conduct normal policing duties and basic investigative work which officers are expected to perform with the implementation of the [Neighbourhood Police Centre](#) (NPC) system. A typical FRC vehicle may therefore stock equipment for the force-opening of locked doors, conducting [roadblocks](#), [fingerprint](#) collection, and the provision of [first aid](#). On top of these, chemical agent protection equipment and bulletproof vests are also carried for the officer's protection.

In 2002, the [Enhanced Patrol Vehicle Project](#) was unveiled at the SPF's annual workplan seminar to highlight the need for off-road capability. The [Volvo V70 AWD XC](#), [Mitsubishi Space Wagon](#) and [Mitsubishi Chariot](#) underwent evaluation in various NPCs. Eventually, all NPCs were to have at least three of such vehicles, but the project was met with skepticism by some of the public, stating that the police need not use such "luxurious vehicles" for police patrols. In 2004, the new [Fast Response Vehicle](#) (FRV) was introduced, consisting of cheaper modified [Toyota Hi-Lux sport utility vehicles](#). These vehicles utilise diesel-power which provide greater ability to endure high usage on the roads over extensive periods of time. Their bigger storage space also allows for easier storage and retrieval of equipment.

Other vehicles typically used in NPCs include the [scooters](#) and [vans](#). Bicycles, although currently less seen, are still used by land division officers occasionally, particularly when conducting routine patrols in large, sprawling private housing estates. At [NDP 2007](#), the Singapore Police Force unveiled a [Tenix S600 APC \(Armored Personnel Carrier\)](#) had been purchased for its operations for the Special Operations Command.

*For weaponry, equipment and vehicles of the various specialist forces, please see their respective pages for details.*

- **SPF Police Vehicles**



Fast Response Car parked outside the Serangoon Gardens Neighbourhood Police Post



A Ford Everest used by the SPF

A Toyota Hilux used by the SPF



Land Rover Defender



Volv o V70XC



Subaru Impreza Fast Response Car used by the SPF

## Auxiliary Police Forces<sup>[\[citation needed\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[edit\]](#)</sup>

See also: [Auxiliary police § Singapore](#)



A [Certis CISCO](#) auxiliary police officer stands guard beside an [armoured truck](#) at [Change Alley, Singapore](#).

In [Singapore](#), **auxiliary police officers** are [security police](#) appointed under Section 92(1) or (2) of the Police Force Act 2004 and are vested with all the power, protection and immunities of a Police Officer of corresponding rank and are licensed to carry firearms when carrying out their duties.

These armed auxiliary police officers (APO) are full-time paid employees of their respective companies, and are not directly affiliated to the Singapore Police Force. They are appointed as auxiliary police officers only after attending and passing a residential course, the curriculum of which is set by the [Security Industry Regulatory Dept.](#) of the Singapore Police Force. Each APO is issued with a warrant card signed by the Commissioner Of Police of the Singapore Police Force.

- [Aetos Security Management Private Limited](#) (CIAS / PSA / ST Kinetics)
- [Certis CISCO Security Private Limited](#) - The oldest and largest auxiliary.
- [Singapore Airport Terminal Services \(SATS\)](#) Auxiliary Police Force

There were also other auxiliary police forces in Singapore in the early years such as PSA Police, and Bukom Auxiliary Police. These APF were granted licences and powers under the Police Force Act to operate only in restricted geographical areas e.g. in the ports or airports or Pulau Bukom Island.

The Singapore Police Force (SPF) established the Security Industry Regulatory Department in 2004 to regulate the security industry.

More recently, due to the shortage of officers from the SPF the role of auxiliary police forces have been expanded to enforcement, attending to road related incidents such as collision scenes and conducting patrol duties. Even at times working alongside with the Singapore Police Force themselves.

## Defunct assets<sup>[\[citation needed\]](#)</sup><sup>[\[edit\]](#)</sup>

### Units<sup>[\[edit\]](#)</sup>

- [Old Police Academy](#) (01°19'47"N 103°50'11"E) - vacated in 2006, relocated to Old Choa Chu Kang Road as part of the [Home Team Academy](#), leaving behind the Police National Service provost unit and Traffic Police driving test school. The accommodation barracks and training facilities of the Old Police academy currently houses the training departments for all auxiliary police forces in Singapore.
- [Geylang Police Division](#) (01°19'35"N 103°53'26"E) defunct 'C' Division HQ - closed and vacated in 2000, areas of responsibility

was divided between 'A', 'F' & 'G' Divisions. Station's status - Currently in use by Geylang NPC under 'G' Bedok Police Division and by [Public Transport Security Command](#).

- [Toa Payoh Police Division](#) (01°20'23"N 103°51'0"E) defunct 'B' Division HQ - closed and vacated in 1988, areas of responsibility was divided between 'E' & 'F' Divisions. Station was refurbished and is currently in use by [Security Command](#).

## Land Divisions[edit]

- [Beach Road Police Station](#) (01°17'50"N 103°51'26"E) - former site of 'A' Division HQ, vacated in 2000 and was transferred to the charge of [Singapore Land Authority](#) (SLA), which in turn released the premises for use by private developers.
- [Eu Tong Sen Street Police Station](#) (01°16'59"N 103°50'29"E) - former HQ site of [CAD](#), [CID](#) & [VSC](#) since 1994, vacated in 2001 and was transferred to the charge of SLA. Station status pending.
- [Joo Chiat Police Station](#) (01°18'19"N 103°54'15"E) - former site of 'G' Division HQ, vacated in 1987 and was transferred to the charge of SLA, which in turn released the premises for use by private developers.
- [Old Hill Street Police Station](#) (01°17'26.61"N 103°50'53.31"E) - vacated in 1980, this old police station and barracks was refurbished and rebuilt in 2001, it currently houses the [Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts of Singapore](#).
- [Paya Lebar Police Station](#) (01°21'06"N 103°52'34"E) - former site of 'F' Division HQ, vacated in 1987, released for use by [2nd Division HQ SCDF](#).
- [Queenstown Police Station](#) (01°17'49"N 103°47'58"E) - former site of 'D' Division HQ, vacated in 1988, released for use by [1st Division HQ SCDF](#).
- [Old Tanglin Police Station](#) (01°18'21"N 103°49'20"E) - former site of 'E' Division HQ, vacated in 2001, currently being redeveloped as the [Interpol Global Complex](#).
- [Taman Jurong Police Station](#) (01°19'38"N 103°43'14"E) - vacated in 1980 and demolished in 1988, the surrounding land at the site has been redeveloped as a HDB housing precinct.
- [Ama Keng Police Sub-station](#) (01°24'12"N 103°42'5"E) sited directly across the road from [Ama Keng Chinese Temple](#) in [Lim Chu Kang](#), the station was closed and vacated in 1980, duties taken over by [Jurong Police Division](#).
- [Bukit Panjang Police Sub-station](#)
- [Pasir Panjang Police Sub-station](#) (01°17'30"N 103°46'6"E) - closed and vacated in 1986 following the inauguration of [Pasir Panjang NPP](#) & [West Coast NPP](#). Demolished in 1991, the surrounding land at site was redeveloped as a private condominium - *The Spectrum*.
- [Woodlands Police Sub-station](#) (01°26'38"N 103°46'13"E) - closed in 1999 (located within the old [Woodlands Checkpoint](#) building since

1980), [Woodlands Neighbourhood Police Centre](#) has since taken over its duty.

- [Kranji Police Post](#) (01°26'10"N 103°45'3"E) - closed and vacated in 1997 following the inauguration of [Yew Tee NPP](#), building was demolished for land clearing to build factory.

## Police Coast Guard

[\[edit\]](#)

- [Kallang Regional Base](#) (01°18'15"N 103°52'16"E) - vacated in 2007, relocated to [Brani Regional Base](#) at [Pulau Brani](#), status pending.
- [Jurong Regional Base](#) (01°18'31"N 103°42'39"E) - vacated in 1999, relocated to [Gul Regional Base](#), base was demolished to make way for the [Jurong Island Highway](#).
- [Pulau Sakeng Police Post](#) (01°12'36"N 103°46'41"E) - closed and vacated in 1987 after the last islander left, the island was subsumed by the land reclamation process of the nearby [Pulau Semakau](#). The [Semakau landfill receiving station](#) was built on top of the island after the reclamation process.

## Popular media works related to SPF

[\[citation needed\]](#) [\[edit\]](#)



[Seletar Robbery](#), Singapore's first television drama programme, was based on crime and the police force.

## Books

- [In the service of the nation](#), 1985
- [999: True Cases from the CID](#), 1987
- [Service to the Nation: 50 years of the Volunteer Special Constabulary](#), 1998
- [Policing Singapore in the 19th & 20th centuries](#), 2002
- [Justice is Done](#), 2005
- [The Adventures of Constable Acai](#), 1987: A series of crime stories, based on actual crimes from police files were compiled into story books from the popular children's magazine [Young Generation](#), about the adventures of a fictional policeman named Constable Acai. They were written by officers from the [Crime Prevention Department](#) to instill crime awareness in children during the 80's through to the mid 90's. The other books in this series are as below:
- [More Adventures of Constable Acai](#), 1989

- Constable Acai Fights Crime, 1996

## Novels

- Operation Firestorm, 1997

## Periodicals

- Singapore Police Magazine
- Police Life, 1971 to present
- Police Life Annual

## Television programs

- **Documentary**
  - Crimewatch, 1986 - Current
  - True Files, 2002–2007
- **Drama Series**
  - Seletar Robbery (实里达大劫案), 1982
  - CID '83, 1983
  - First Step (踏上征途), 1986: On women in the police force
  - Patrol (铁警雄风), 1989: A take on the lives of the men in the Traffic Police Department
  - Crime and Passion (執法先鋒), 1991
  - Triple Nine, 1995-1998: On the adventures of a CID team.
  - Secret Files (机密档案), 1995
  - The Shadow Mission (地下猎人), 1995
  - The Dragons Five (飞龙五将), 1995
  - City Cops (警网双雄), 1996
  - Of Cops And Men (城市双雄), 1996
  - Pursuit of Justice (石破天惊), 1997
  - Act 235 (刑事235), 1998
  - Dare To Strike (扫冰者), 14 November 2000: the phrase "Dare to Strike" is the motto of the Central Narcotics Bureau
  - The Reunion (顶天立地), 26 December 2001
  - Heartlanders, 2002-2005: On two Neighbourhood Police Centre officers
  - True Heroes (真心英雄), 5 May 2003: On a rookie Neighbourhood Police Centre officer
  - The Frontline (家在前线), 2003: This fictional six-part TV show depicts how Singaporeans cope after the German mastermind of a neo-anarchist organisation sets off a bomb at a naval base as an anti-imperialistic statement against Singapore's ties with the United States. It showcases the capabilities of the Singapore Police Force and the Singapore Armed Forces to deal with terrorism. Many technologies introduced in this series has never been before shown to the public. It is also the only local television series to date to accurately depict the Police's elite Special Tactics and Rescue (STAR) team and the

Army's [Special Operations Forces](#) (SOF) although the latter unit was never addressed by name in the show. They were instead referred to as "The Commandos".

- [When the Time Comes](#) (一线之间), 2004
- [The Crime Hunters](#) (心网追凶), 2004
- [Police & Thief](#), 2004–2010
- [Life Line](#), 2005–2007
- [Zero to Hero](#) (阴差阳错), 2005
- [Without Warning](#), 2006
- [C.I.D.](#) (刑警2人组), 12 June 2006
- [Metamorphosis](#) (破茧而出), 18 September 2007
- [Crime Busters x 2](#) (叮当神探), 30 September 2008
- [Unriddle](#) (最火搭档), 2010
- [C.L.I.F.](#) (警徽天职), 2011: First drama to be produced in close collaboration with the Singapore Police Force. The [second](#) and [third seasons](#) were aired in 2013 and 2014 respectively.
- [Unriddle 2](#) (最火搭档2), 2012

## [Movies](#)

- [The Last Blood](#) (驚天十二小時), 1991
- [Ace Cops](#) (妙警点三八), 1996: Telemovie
- [Life On The Line](#) (魂断四面佛), 1996: Telemovie
- [2000 AD](#) (公元2000), 1999<sup>[10]</sup>
- [After School](#) (放学后), 2004: A film released by the [National Crime Prevention Council](#) to harness the power of cinema as a public education tool to reach out to young Singaporeans and their families.

## See also

### [Notes](#)

1. [Jump up<sup>1</sup>](#) [Singapore PUBLIC ORDER AND INTERNAL SECURITY - Flags, Maps, Economy, History, Climate, Natural Resources, Current Issues, International Agreements, Population, Social Statistics, Political System](#)
2. [Jump up<sup>2</sup>](#) "A police force that inspires the world". Retrieved 9 Dec 2013.
3. [Jump up<sup>3</sup>](#) "Singapore Police Force—Police Officer Entry Requirements". Spf.gov.sg. Retrieved 2013-05-30.
4. [Jump up<sup>4</sup>](#) "Singapore Police Force—Senior Police Officer Entry Requirements". Spf.gov.sg. Retrieved 2013-05-30.
5. [Jump up<sup>5</sup>](#) "Retention bonus for police". Asiaone.com. Retrieved 2013-05-30.
6. [Jump up<sup>6</sup>](#) "Singapore Police Force—Police Officer Training and Postings". Spf.gov.sg. Retrieved 2013-05-30.
7. [Jump up<sup>7</sup>](#) "Singapore Police Force—Senior Police Officer Training and Postings". Spf.gov.sg. Retrieved 2013-05-30.

8. ^ Jump up to:<sup>a b</sup> "[Singapore Police Force—Police Officer Salary Structure](#)". Spf.gov.sg. Retrieved 2013-05-30.
9. **Jump up<sup>a</sup>** "[Singapore Police Force—Senior Police Officer Salary Structure](#)". Spf.gov.sg. Retrieved 2013-05-30.
10. **Jump up<sup>a</sup>** "Aaron Kwok stole police car in S'pore?". [Lianhe Zaobao](#). 22 November 1999.

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- "Phoenix: the story of the Home Team ", Felix Soh, Times Editions, 2003 [ISBN 981-232-637-5](#)
- "Policing Singapore in the 19th & 20th centuries", Peer M. Akbur, Singapore Police Force, 2002 [ISBN 981-04-7024-X](#)
- "Singapore Police Force Annual", Singapore Police Force, several editions

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# Law enforcement in South Korea

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



[Hyundai Sonata](#) police car in South Korea.

South Korea has a relatively unified and integrated approach to [law enforcement](#). For example, the [National Police Agency](#) provides all policing services throughout the country. This differs from the situation in many countries such as [France](#), where policing is split between the [National Police](#) and [Gendarmerie](#), or such as the [United States](#) which have a layered system of national, state/regional and/or local law enforcement organizations.

## Contents

[\[hide\]](#)

- [1 References](#)
- [2 Historical secret police organizations](#)
- [3 See also](#)
- [4 External links](#)

## References[\[edit\]](#)

## Historical secret police organizations[\[edit\]](#)

- [Korea Central Intelligence Agency \(KCIA\)](#)
- [Agency for National Security Planning \(ANSP\)](#)

## See also[\[edit\]](#)

- [Government of South Korea](#)
- [List of government agencies of South Korea](#)
- [National Police Agency \(South Korea\) \(NPA\)](#)
- [Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency \(SMPA\)](#)
- [Korea Coast Guard \(KCG\)](#)

## External links[\[edit\]](#)

- [KNPA Official website](#)

- [SMPA Official website](#)
- [http://www.photius.com/countries/korea\\_south/national\\_security/korea\\_south\\_national\\_security\\_korean\\_national\\_poli~253.html](http://www.photius.com/countries/korea_south/national_security/korea_south_national_security_korean_national_poli~253.html)
- [http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/faculty/rwinslow/asia\\_pacific/south\\_korea.html](http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/faculty/rwinslow/asia_pacific/south_korea.html)
- <http://www.ahrchk.net/statements/mainfile.php/2005statements/378/>
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[\[hide\]](#)

V

T

E

## Law enforcement in Asia

- [Afghanistan](#)
- [Armenia](#)
- [Azerbaijan](#)
- [Bahrain](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Bhutan](#)
- [Brunei](#)
- [Burma \(Myanmar\)](#)
- [Cambodia](#)
- [China](#)
- [Cyprus](#)
- [East Timor \(Timor-Leste\)](#)
- [Egypt](#)
- [Georgia](#)
- [India](#)
- [Indonesia](#)
- [Iran](#)
- [Iraq](#)
- [Israel](#)
- [Japan](#)
- [Jordan](#)
- [Kazakhstan](#)
- [North Korea](#)
- [South Korea](#)
- [Kuwait](#)
- [Kyrgyzstan](#)
- [Laos](#)
- [Lebanon](#)
- [Malaysia](#)
- [Maldives](#)
- [Mongolia](#)
- [Nepal](#)
- [Oman](#)
- [Pakistan](#)
- [Philippines](#)
- [Qatar](#)
- [Russia](#)

### Sovereign states

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <a href="#">Saudi Arabia</a><br><a href="#">Singapore</a><br><a href="#">Sri Lanka</a><br><a href="#">Syria</a><br><a href="#">Tajikistan</a><br><a href="#">Thailand</a><br><a href="#">Turkey</a><br><a href="#">Turkmenistan</a><br><a href="#">United Arab Emirates</a><br><a href="#">Uzbekistan</a><br><a href="#">Vietnam</a><br><a href="#">Yemen</a> |
| <b><a href="#">States with limited recognition</a></b> | <a href="#">Abkhazia</a><br><a href="#">Nagorno-Karabakh</a><br><a href="#">Northern Cyprus</a><br><a href="#">Palestine</a><br><a href="#">South Ossetia</a><br><a href="#">Taiwan</a>   |
| <b><a href="#">Other dependent territories</a></b>     | <a href="#">British Indian Ocean Territory</a><br><a href="#">Christmas Island</a><br><a href="#">Cocos (Keeling) Islands</a><br><a href="#">Hong Kong</a><br><a href="#">Macau</a>   |



This [law enforcement](#)-related article is a [stub](#). You can help Wikipedia by [expanding it](#).

#### Categories:

- [Law enforcement in South Korea](#)

## Thailand Police and the Law

### **Police**

The police system in Thailand works a little differently than that at home. The government pays their police force very little and the community becomes responsible for supporting the police financially. Police in Thailand are commonly known as the BiB (boys in brown) due to their uniform.

For most tourists this will have no consequences for them but you should be aware of how things work should something happen. This could save you some time and frustration.

If you find yourself being talked to by a police officer in Thailand you should be aware that trying to convince him that you have done nothing wrong is pointless. It is better to be humble, smile a lot and cop what is coming. With a bit of luck what you have been caught for is minor (eg not wearing a helmet on a motorbike) and the problem can get sorted quickly.

In most cases small problems can be sorted quickly and you will have two choices. You can get a fine from the officer and you will have to go directly to the station and pay up. The easy way is to leave the fine in the care of the officer who you are talking to. This can save you a lot of time and hassles at the station.

If you have done something more serious it will take longer and may result in you spending time in the monkey house (ie jail.)

### **Law**

There are three things that will almost definitely cause you a lot of problems and will highly likely result in jail time: under-aged ladies, drugs and visa overstays.

As far as a foreign man is concerned the age of consent in Thailand is 18. For a Thai couple it is less but that is irrelevant.. Also remember that a lot of countries can prosecute their residents for crimes committed overseas. Don't come to Thailand if you are not prepared to abide by this law.

Being in possession of drugs is not smart in any country and even more so in Thailand due to the stiff penalties and the jail system. Also be careful with who you have in your room. If you find a lady has drugs get her out as soon as possible as you may be held responsible purely because you have more money.

Many people overstay their visa and have no problems. However, stories of people getting caught by the BiB on overstays is not uncommon. If caught you will spend time in jail (maybe a week) before you are deported at your expense. You may also get a nasty stamp in your passport. There is no need to overstay in Thailand.

It is a legal requirement for a visitor to be able to produce a passport on demand. Technically this means that you should carry your passport at all times. For obvious reasons not many people like to carry their passport while they are out drinking having fun. You can carry copies of your passport details page and

the page containing your visa/entry stamp. It is not guaranteed to prevent the BiB causing you some inconvenience but it is better than doing nothing.

A first time visitor with very little knowledge may well be shocked by this but prostitution is illegal in Thailand. Yes it is everywhere on open display but that is one of the great things about Thailand; there are many conflicting situations. Likewise pornography, sex toys and abortions are illegal in Thailand.

Even though gambling is common in Thailand it is illegal. Again stories of people getting caught gambling are not uncommon.

The supply of medication requiring a prescription without a prescription is illegal in Thailand. However many drugs, but not all, are available in pharmacies in Pattaya. Erectile deficiency drugs come under this category. Many pharmacies will sell you both the original product and their generic alternatives. Most people find the generic brands as good as (and much cheaper than) the originals product. For generic Viagra ask for Kamagra and Cialis is Apcalis. Don't use these drugs if you have any sort of cardiovascular problem.

**Warning:** *I am not a lawyer or doctor and this should not be taken as any sort of legal or medical advice. You may like to seek profession advice.*

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