

Allocation of Personnel: Methodology for Required Staffing of Detectives

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The purpose of this research is to investigate personnel needs for the investigative unit of law enforcement and show supportive means for allocation of additional detectives. Traditionally, personnel allocation formulas for law enforcement were designed for the uniformed patrol divisions using formulas that record required staffing needs by the tasks performed and the demographics of the community. Investigative positions have been filled based on the old adage of ten percent of the agency's total sworn personnel. Investigative assignments today require case clearance criteria such as: named suspects, physical evidence, and additional information leading to case clearance.

Many reported crimes today are lacking solvability factors and many are not being assigned for investigation due to the over-burdened caseload of staff detectives; Thus, the need exists for additional detectives. An article in the July 1985 issue of Florida Police Chief magazine, written by the Pompano Beach Police Departments Planning and Research Unit, illustrated just such a methodology. In addition a statewide research project was completed which involved the comparison of a two-part formula regarding time available versus time consumed.