



The Police in America

An Introduction

Third Edition

Samuel Walker

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Samuel Walker

 University of Nebraska at Omaha

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THE POLICE IN AMERICA: AN INTRODUCTION

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SAMUEL WALKER is a professor of criminal justice at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He teaches an undergraduate course, Police and Society, for which this book is designed, a graduate course on the administration of justice, and other courses. He is the author of nine books on the police, the history of criminal justice, criminal justice policy, and civil liberties. His primary research interests involve citizen complaints against the police and citizen complaint review procedures. In 1998 he was awarded the Bruce Smith Award by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS).

PREFACE

The Police in America: An Introduction provides a comprehensive introduction to policing in America. Primarily descriptive, it is designed to offer undergraduate students a balanced and up-to-date overview of who the police are and what they do, the problems related to policing, and the many reforms and innovations that have been attempted.

The third edition has been completely rewritten. It incorporates extensive new material on community policing, problem-oriented policing, citizen oversight of the police, and other current developments. A special effort has been made to include the most recent research on each topic.

This book is designed primarily for undergraduate students enrolled in their first course on the police or law enforcement. It is not a police management text, or a book on criminal procedure.

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Many people have contributed directly and indirectly to the completion of this book. I want to thank my colleagues in the University of Nebraska at Omaha Department of Criminal Justice who have helped maintain an extraordinarily pleasant and supportive working environment. Dean David Hinton also deserves credit for aggressively defending the department at every turn and supporting new initiatives. With respect to the actual writing and production of the book, my editor at McGraw-Hill, Nancy Blaine, has been very supportive and understanding about deadlines and my other commitments. My graduate assistant, Paula Kautt, was always available to track down missing data or a complete citation.

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