Outline

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Vermont

- Population: 625,741
- Territory: 9,246.56 Square Miles
- Capitol: Montpelier
- Counties: 14
- Towns/Cities: 251
The length of the US/Canadian border has large zones of virtually non-existent border demarcation. This makes it unlikely that any amount of resources can entirely secure the border. The porosity of the border and the proximity of most of the Canadian population (80% lives within two hours of the border) make it an ideal for criminals to enter illegally.

Vermont’s northern border is approximately 117 miles long. It is comprised of land as well as three bodies of water. They include Lake Champlain, Lake Memphremagog, and Wallace Pond. The terrain along the border varies from gently rolling hills, farm and pasture land, rivers and swamps to densely wooded forests and steep mountains. During the winter when lakes freeze they provide highways for foot and snowmobile traffic.
The Vermont border lies 30 minutes from the city of Montreal. According to Canadian Authorities (CSIS) and numerous reports from these authorities in their media, Canada has identified over 50 terrorist factions to include Al Qaeda, residing in their country. In a recent report made available by IBET Stanstead, illegal smuggling into Canada increased in 2007 by 125% in that sector.
Criminal Activity Concerns

Terrorism

Smuggling (Drugs, Aliens, Guns, Currency)
- Illegal Drugs – Marijuana & Ecstasy flowing south with cocaine flowing north (Opiates still the largest drug problem in Vermont)
- U.S. Currency – Approximately $250M annually
- Illegal Aliens – Flowing both north and south
- Firearms – Organized Crime, Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs as well as single actors exploit Vermont guns laws vs. the strict Canadian firearm Laws... Supply vs. Demand
- The Terrorist Threat is still Vermont’s greatest concern
Impacts Upon LE Resources

- Limited police resources being tasked with greater demands for services

- Data Driven Policing Efforts

- Operation Stonegarden, HIDTA, Task Forces
Interagency Cooperation
Enhance Cooperation & Collaboration Efforts

Quebec – Vermont Cross Border Workshops

Interagency agreement allowing for information/intelligence sharing

Border Ops Guide for LE

Policy Review & Recommendations

Getting to know your counterparts

EMAC
Policing in Vermont

- Vermont law enforcement authority comes from Title 20 of the Vermont State Statutes.
- Vermont police officers have statewide authority regardless of jurisdiction.
- Criminal cases are prosecuted by either the Vermont Attorney General or one of the elected fourteen county state’s attorneys.
Policing in Vermont

- Municipal Police Departments = 55
- County Sheriff’s Departments = 14
- State Law Enforcement = 6 (VSP, VF&W, DMV, DLC, Vermont Capitol Police and VTAG)
- There are no Tribal entities in Vermont
Vermont Law Enforcement Training – Vermont Criminal Justice Services

Part-time certified officers – One Week Training

Full-time certified officers – Sixteen Weeks

Pre/Post Basic & In-Service Training
Vermont Department of Public Safety

- State Police
- Emergency Management
- Fire Safety
- Criminal Justice Services
Vermont State Police

Change of Command Ceremony – State Capitol
Department Overview

- Formed in 1947
- Authorized Strength: 328 (Currently 307)
- Civilian: 220
- Headquarters: Waterbury
- Number of Troops: 4
- Number of Barracks: 12
- Substations: 2
- Detachments on the Vermont–Quebec Border: 2
  (Troop A – St. Albans Barracks & Troop B – Derby Barracks)
Vermont State Police
Rank Structure

Colonel
Captaine
Sergeant
Trooper first class

Lieutenant Colonel
Lieutenant
Corporal
Trooper second class

Major

No rank Insigna
Vision Statement

Colonel Thomas J. L’Esperance

- The Vermont State Police is a progressive law enforcement agency providing professional, accountable and compassionate law enforcement services to all Vermont citizens and visitors to the state of Vermont.
- We will consider it our moral and practical responsibility to strive to be an advanced model of excellence, providing leadership or support wherever necessary.
- We will utilize the task force model whenever feasible and work collectively with other policing agencies to impact crime on our highways and within our communities.
- We will work diligently to reduce motor vehicle crashes and impaired driving while devoting necessary resources to enhance major criminal investigations.
- We shall hold each other accountable for our actions and create a workplace environment that supports the women and men of our agency.
Field Force - Mission Statement

Major Walter Goodell

➢ To accomplish this mission we will interact with the public with professionalism, integrity and respect. We will work collaboratively with other agencies towards effective problem resolution. We will support education efforts directed toward enhancing public safety and crime prevention.

➢ The Vermont State Police are a solution oriented law enforcement agency whose mission is to fairly and aggressively enforce laws, reinforce public trust, and inspire public confidence. Troopers will perform their duties following the values of Honesty, Loyalty, Professionalism, Integrity, Courage and Respect.

➢ The Vermont State Police have developed a variety of specialized resources, staffed by highly trained members, to provide a specific response to major incidents that go beyond patrol and investigation. We stand ready to assist federal, state, county, and local agencies in times of crisis. To that end, the Vermont State Police will fulfill our responsibility to protect the inherent rights of the citizens of the great state of Vermont to live in Freedom and Unity.

➢ "Your Safety Is Our Business"
Bureau of Criminal Investigation - Mission Statement

Major Edward Ledo

- Our primary responsibility is to efficiently and effectively investigate all major criminal offenses. In order to achieve this goal, criminal division members will work jointly with the uniform division, other law enforcement agencies, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, prosecutorial staff, and fire department personnel.

- Death investigations, drug related crimes, abuse cases involving children and other vulnerable citizens, to include missing persons and arson investigations will be at the forefront of the division’s mission. We shall utilize all available resources and state of the art investigative methods and techniques in all cases that come to our attention. We will endeavor to meet the emerging crime trends that negatively impact the lives of all Vermonter.

- We will strive to mentor and enhance the skills of all members to ensure the best possible result; the Detective Trooper Program is the foundation of this effort.

- The Special Investigations Section of the Division offers specialized support functions to enhance our investigative abilities. The Narcotics Investigation Unit, Special Investigation Unit and Governor’s Security Unit bring together various specialized areas of law enforcement to our state. The Narcotics Investigation Unit brings the expertise of the Vermont Drug Task Force in our efforts to combat the trafficking of illegal drugs. The Special Investigation Unit is committed to providing victim sensitive, thorough and innovative investigations of reports of sexual crimes. This unit is also responsible for investigating crimes of abuse against children while supporting and working in concert with other components of a victim centered sexual abuse response team. The Governor’s Security Unit is responsible for the day to day protection and safety of the Governor during his/her travels in and out of the state.

Vermont State Police
Support Services Division – Mission Statement

Major William Sheets – Executive Officer

- It is the mission of the Support Services Division to provide the Vermont State Police and all support personnel with the resources required to perform their assigned duties. The Division will serve to augment the efforts of the Criminal and Field Force Divisions by the most efficient means available while providing the best services possible to the people of the state of Vermont.
The Vermont State Police provides primary law enforcement services to all local communities without municipal police departments. We will support all local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies as requested.

These services include crime prevention, criminal investigations, traffic enforcement, crash investigation, outreach programs, information and intelligence sharing and analysis through the Vermont Information and Analysis Center and the Vermont Homeland Security Unit.

- Special Teams - SCUBA Team, Tactical Services Unit, Crowd Control, Search and Rescue, Bomb Squad, Canine, Hostage Negotiations Unit, Crime Scene Search Team, Honor Guard, Crash Reconstruction Team, Traffic Ops and Peer Support.

- Special Service - Detectives, Special Investigations Unit, Executive Protection, Narcotics Investigation Unit/Vermont Drug Task Force, Internal Affairs, Arson Investigation.
We look forward to enhancing cooperation, coordination, capabilities and relationships with all partners and stakeholders.