

Crimes committed by law enforcement officers

Abstract

This Master Thesis comprehensively focuses on crimes committed by law enforcement officers, aiming especially on officers of the Police of the Czech Republic, of the Prison Service of the Czech Republic and of the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic. This Thesis aims to bring the readers closer to the overall view of crimes committed the law enforcement officers, to provide a comprehensive overview of the current knowledge on this issue and to draw attention to seriousness of this specific crime activity.

Structure of this Thesis is divided into three parts – the general part, the analytical part and the special part. The general part defines the individual law enforcement agencies of the Czech Republic and familiarises readers with their activities.

The analytical part describes and assesses the crimes committed by the law enforcement officers, compares the criminality of law enforcement officers between the individual law enforcement agencies of the Czech Republic and with the criminality of general population of the Czech Republic and also with the criminality of law enforcement in the United States of America. It also specifies the most risky groups of offenders among the officers of the Police of the Czech Republic according to several factors which are age, length of service, rank and place of service.

The special part deals with monitored issues of crimes committed by law enforcement officers, particularly delinquency in the field of corrupt behaviour, narcotics and psychotropic substances, domestic violence, information leaks and delinquency with suspicion of disproportionate violence, brutality, inhuman treatment, and torture in the exercise of powers by law enforcement officers. It also deals with the most common crimes committed by the officers of the individual Czech law enforcement agencies, particularly abuse of competence of public official, crimes against health and fraud. Special attention is paid to military crimes.

At the end of this Thesis are outlined some causes, that can lead law enforcement officers to commit crimes, and also some considerations how to eliminate this unlawful behavior of law enforcement officers.