

**PATROL FIELD PROBLEMS
AND SOLUTIONS**

Second Edition

**PATROL FIELD PROBLEMS
AND SOLUTIONS**

847 Field Situations

By

HARRY W. MORE, PH.D.

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This edition of this text is dedicated to John P. Kenney for his professional ideals and philosophy that guided the creation of the prior editions. As a former student of Dr. Kenney, he inspired me to enter the field of higher education. It has been a privilege to work with him on several writing projects over the years and contribute to the professionalization of law enforcement.

PREFACE

PATROL FIELD PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS is a field guide that has been developed to serve as an operational manual for the officer working in the field. Over the years it has been used by officers assigned to patrol, investigations, vice, traffic, and juvenile units. Its value is in assisting officers in dealing with day-to-day problems. It brings reality to the training process with the presentation of situations and discusses how they have been handled. It also serves as a basis for discussing operational procedures, policies, and regulations.

As police agencies have evolved policy and procedures have become increasingly abundant as police managers have attempted to circumscribe the behavior of field officers. But there is still a wide margin between what police managers believe is occurring in the field and what actually occurs in terms of street reality. Rules and regulations cannot cover every situation that occurs in a dynamic community. Discretion dominates the operational aspect of law enforcement and there is little reason to believe that discretion will not be a perennial aspect of a police officer's job. Even with the advances in communications today there is still a general lack of information that will allow officers to arrive at a practical solution to many of the problems they confront in the field. Legal decisions constantly alter situations and timely and accurate information about such decisions is needed to ensure that an officer can work within a legal framework.

This field guide is especially useful in basic training classes because of its practicality and down-to-earth consideration of myriad actual problems and the presentation of solutions. Above all, it allows police instructors to bridge the ever-present gap between theory and actual practice. Where appropriate, reference is made to other sources where officers can obtain additional information and legal citations are included to serve as a basis for discussion. Field training officers (FTOs) can use this field guide as part of the evaluation process when interacting with probationary officers. First-line supervisors can use the field guide as part of an evaluation process to assess how officers resolve problems in terms of application of the law.

Harry W. More, Ph.D.

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