To the two greatest joys in my life, my loving wife, Gwynne, and my son, Michael, Jr.

—Michael L. Birzer

To Elena Azaola

—Cliff Roberson
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Preface

The third edition of *Police Field Operations: Theory Meets Practice* is designed as a comprehensive, yet readable text on police field operations. The material in the text describes police field operations and is designed to be used in a one semester course on police operations or patrol procedures. The text may also be appropriate for use in introduction to law enforcement courses. While the chapters are designed to be independent units, they also build upon each other to provide a complete picture of police operations, including patrol.

The authors have worked on this text for many months and in the process of developing this text are reminded of the comments of Sir Winston Churchill: “If you have an important point to make, don’t try to be subtle or clever. Use a pile driver. Hit the point once. Then come back and hit it again. Then hit it a third time—a tremendous whack.” In developing a manuscript, the preface is the last item developed. In that regard, Churchill stated: “Writing a book is an adventure. To begin with, it is a toy and an amusement; then it becomes a mistress, and then it becomes a master, and then a tyrant. The last phase is that just as you are about to be reconciled to your servitude, you kill the monster, and fling him out to the public.” Accordingly, we hereby present this third edition of the text to you.

To bridge the gap between theory and practice, present and former police officers were interviewed regarding their experiences on the police force. Excerpts of their interviews are included in the text under “Voices of Experience.”

In the past, readers have been of invaluable assistance to help us improve on future editions of the text. Accordingly, your input regarding any problems or suggestions for improvement is welcomed. Please send comments to the authors via Michael Birzer’s email at Michael.birzer@wichita.edu, or Cliff Roberson’s email at cliff.roberson@washburn.edu.

Acknowledgments

While the text lists the two of us as authors, this text would not have been possible except for the contributions of many others, including our editor Gary Bauer and his assistant Lynda Cramer. We are grateful to the reviewers: Timothy Davis, Madisonville Community College; Christopher Frayre, Mid-Michigan Community College; Jason Waller, Tyler Junior College; and Suzanne Youngblood, Harrisburg Area Community College. We would also like to thank the previous edition’s reviewers: Richard Dewey, Indiana River Community College; Margaret G. Austin, Central Piedmont Community College; Scott Rudeen, Brown College and Kaplan University; Michael Pittaro, Lehigh Valley College; Jack D. Howell, Excelsior College; Denny C. Powers, Columbia Campus South University; and Thomas J. Mason, Remington College, who pointed out our errors and provided us with directions on how to improve the text.

Finally, a word of thanks to our “Voices of Experience” contributors who have provided us with valuable information regarding the “real life” in the police force: John Boal, Robert Boyer, Michael R. Bresett, Gregg Etter, Sr., John Hill, Richard Hough, Tom-Mahoney, Jack Maxwell, Mark McCoy, John Padgett, Scott W. Phillips, and Jeff Tymony.

A special thanks to our production supervisor Jessy Sykes.
New to the Third Edition

- Updated material on each chapter
- Discussion on the general principles of organization for law enforcement agencies.
  - New chapter on becoming a police officer and police careers
  - New chapter on traffic functions of policing
  - New discussion on the President’s Task Force Report on 21st century policing
  - New discussion on evolving issues in police operations
  - Expanded coverage of police officer stress
  - New coverage on police response to mass shootings

Police Officer Code of Conduct

The IACP adopted the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics at the 64th Annual IACP Conference and Exposition in October 1957. The Code of Ethics stands as a preface to the mission and commitment law enforcement agencies make to the public they serve.

Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession—law enforcement.
Instructor Supplements

Instructor's Manual with Test Bank. Includes content outlines for classroom discussion, teaching suggestions, and answers to selected end-of-chapter questions from the text. This also contains a Word document version of the test bank.

TestGen. This computerized test generation system gives you maximum flexibility in creating and administering tests on paper, electronically, or online. It provides state-of-the-art features for viewing and editing test bank questions, dragging a selected question into a test you are creating, and printing sleek, formatted tests in a variety of layouts. Select test items from test banks included with TestGen for quick test creation, or write your own questions from scratch. TestGen’s random generator provides the option to display different text or calculated number values each time questions are used.

PowerPoint Presentations. Our presentations are clear and straightforward. Photos, illustrations, charts, and tables from the book are included in the presentations when applicable.

To access supplementary materials online, instructors need to request an instructor access code. Go to www.pearsonhighered.com/irc, where you can register for an instructor access code. Within 48 hours after registering, you will receive a confirming e-mail, including an instructor access code. Once you have received your code, go to the site and log on for full instructions on downloading the materials you wish to use.

Alternate Versions

eBooks. This text is also available in multiple eBook formats. These are an exciting new choice for students looking to save money. As an alternative to purchasing the printed textbook students can purchase an electronic version of the same content. With an eTextbook, students can search the text, make notes online, print out reading assignments that incorporate lecture notes, and bookmark important passages for later review. For more information, visit your favorite online eBook reseller or visit www.mypearsonstore.com.