

*Третяк С.,*

здобувач ступеня вищої освіти бакалавра  
Донецького державного університету  
внутрішніх справ

*Консультант з мови: Снісаренко І.*

## **THE EXPERIENCE OF FIGHTING CRIME IN THE USA**

Today, the analysis of foreign experience in combating crime shows that, under modern conditions, criminal manifestations pose a real threat to democratic development and national security of most countries of the world. Criminal elements, having close interregional and international ties, increasingly direct their efforts to establish control over the most profitable spheres of economic relations [1, p. 699].

The United States has seventy years of experience in fighting organized crime. This activity gained particular strength after the Second World War, when almost 10 laws were adopted. The first was the Hobbs Anti-Racketeering Act of 1946, followed by the Landrem-Griffin Anti-Racketeering Act of 1959. In 1968, the comprehensive Crime Control and Street Safety Act was approved. However, the most important, effective and valid to currently there is the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970. A prominent place in this law belongs to the 9th chapter, known as RICO [2, p. 96].

In the complex multi-subject system of US law enforcement agencies, several main ministries can be identified that play an important role in the fight against organized crime in the country:

- 1) Federal Bureau of Investigation (in the activities of the modern FBI, the priority is the fight against organized crime);
- 2) State attorney's office (prosecutor's office);
- 3) Grand Jury. The Grand Jury consists of 23 jurors and is a pre-trial investigation and sentencing body, it does not consider criminal cases and does not issue guilty verdicts [1, p. 699].

According to the legislation in force in the USA, responsibility for the fight against organized crime is assigned to law enforcement agencies at all levels: federal, state and local. But the main department for combating organized crime should be considered the FBI, whose organizational structure includes the Headquarters (Washington) and 59 regional agencies and branches. Regional offices include several local offices. Local offices consist of several agents or groups of special agents, depending on the size of the population and the number of investigations conducted. [1, p. 699].

Investigative and forensic agencies of the USA have extensive experience in combating crime. For example :

- One of the measures to combat organized crime; there is a confiscation. There are two main types of forfeiture in the US: civil and criminal. Property used in criminal activity is subject to confiscation in civil proceedings. It can be a vehicle on which contraband was transported,

equipment used for the production of drugs, money received from illegal transactions, property acquired as a result of the commission of a crime. No court verdict on a person's guilt is required in civil proceedings. Criminal forfeiture applies to those accused of racketeering or drug dealing. The object of confiscation in the criminal procedure is property. [3, p. 100]

- The American police and other law enforcement agencies use "proactive investigation" tactics to achieve their goal, that is, to solve a crime. The essence of this approach is that the American law enforcement system does not have such a deterrent element as "pre-trial investigation" and all the additional elements of information verification provided by it. All proper and lawfully collected data shall be deemed sufficient to be presented in court [3, p. 203]

- A characteristic feature of the fight against crime in the United States in recent decades is the desire for centralized planning and coordination of this field of activity, the creation of special bodies for this purpose and the endowment of them with fairly broad powers [4, p. 6].

It is important to note that the legislation on the fight against organized crime provides for increased punishment, special means of investigation, various standards, and evidence aimed specifically at such an investigation. These measures are mainly procedural and concern the confiscation of property, funds and profits, supervision of the movement of persons and other measures of personal control, rules for gathering witness statements, methods of investigation and administration of justice.

Necessary means of investigating the criminal activities of organized groups and associations are the use of informants or secret agents in groups; prompting member of the group to provide information or information about the group or its members; wiretapping and recording of telephone conversations; use of listening devices; gaining access to bank accounts or documents of corporations and exchanges information between law enforcement agencies. [2, p. 101].

Studying the activities of investigative review groups of the American police, you can learn that the main principles for collecting evidence and, as a result, successfully solving a crime are:

- the thoroughness of the search and its implementation in strict accordance with the law

- quick procedure without compromises
- proper documentation of the scene
- proper methods and technologies of evidence extraction; correct use and knowledge of means and equipment
- removal of all evidence relevant to the case
- proper handling of evidence and its packaging
- availability of own capabilities for researching evidence
- observance of appropriate safety measures [5, p. 234].

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In accordance with the norms of law and legal customs, the right to investigate crimes in the USA is vested in the police, the attorney's office (on such as the Ukrainian Prosecutor's Office), investigators and government commissions (in Ukraine, such functions are performed by investigative-operational groups and investigative teams), juries, judicial officials and coroners. In this system, the police occupy an important place because they investigate most crimes. It is recognized that the American police system is one of the least centralized in the world, and its organization is characterized by a high degree of complexity (in the USA there are about 40,000 police units that do not have strict subordination) [5, p. 235].

So, we can conclude that investigative and forensic agencies of the USA have considerable experience and resources to fight crime and ensure the safety of citizens. They play an important role in the country's law enforcement system and promote justice and bringing criminals to justice.

#### ***Список використаних джерел***

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