U.S. ARMY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

SEEK DILIGENTLY TO DISCOVER THE TRUTH, DETERRED NEITHER BY FEAR NOR PREJUDICE
The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division, commonly referred to as “CID,” is responsible for investigating felony-level crime of Army interest.

The first Criminal Investigation Division was formed in 1918 by General John J. Pershing during World War I. Many years later on September 17, 1971, CID was established as a major Army command. On October 1, 2004, the colors were cased and CID was re-designated as a Direct Reporting Unit - reporting directly to the Chief of Staff of the Army and the Secretary of the Army to ensure that all of its investigations are thoroughly and impartially investigated. On September 17, 2021, Gregory Ford was selected as the first civilian director of CID.

CID has supported Army and DoD missions to include Vietnam, Operation Joint Endeavor in Bosnia and Kosovo, Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and more recently in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom.

The CID Headquarters is in Quantico, Virginia, with more than 2,500 Soldiers and civilians stationed worldwide. The division is organized into five subordinate organizations:

- 3rd Military Police Group (CID)
- 6th Military Police Group (CID)
- 701st Military Police Group (CID)
- U.S. Army Crime Records Center
- Defense Forensic Science Center/U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory
CID SPECIAL AGENTS

CID Special Agents are responsible for conducting investigations and for enforcing military and federal statutes. CID Special Agents investigate various felony-level crimes including homicide, sexual assault, cyber crime, white-collar crime, and drug-trafficking, etc.

Many military CID Special Agents have a military police background, but Soldiers from all Military Occupational Specialties within the Army can become CID Special Agents.

Civilian CID Special Agents also come from diverse backgrounds and predominantly work on contracting fraud or computer crimes; but all CID Special Agents are sworn federal law enforcement officers committed to combating crime within the U.S. Army.

Being a CID Special Agent is like no other career in the U.S. Army. Being a Soldier and serving your country while helping to protect your fellow servicemembers, their families, and Department of Defense civilians, is a responsibility not just given, it has to be earned.

Most CID Special Agents will agree that the only guarantee in this job is that every day will be different. From gathering evidence at a crime scene, to testifying in federal court, or executing a search warrant and making an arrest, each day brings a new challenge.

On a daily basis, CID Special Agents collaborate with their international law enforcement counterparts, as well as federal, state, and local authorities. Being a CID Special Agent means being on the leading edge of the U.S. Army’s law enforcement career specialty.

“Having what it takes to be become a CID Special Agent is more than just learning how to investigate crime, it’s having the physical, emotional, and mental stamina to reach the truth.”

Within an average CID Special Agent’s career there are many directions one can take - from becoming a forensic science officer, digital forensic examiner, or polygraph examiner, to becoming the Special Agent-in-Charge of a CID office and leading a diverse team of investigators in solving crime - the opportunities for advancement and professional development within the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division are vast.
“Many people don’t realize the impact we have on a person’s life and the impact we have on the Army. In a sense, we are defending the honor of the Army. These are people who have had a crime committed against them, often not just to their property, but to them. So what we do, day in and day out, is extremely important. Unlike some other Army units, who have a specific mission deployed and then a training mission at home; our mission never stops. It’s an unfortunate truth, but we often meet people on possibly the worst day of their life.”

- Special Agent Eric Wood, 701st Military Police Group (CID)

“When something bad happens, when a commander needs to discover the truth or when a Soldier or family member has been wronged, we are the folks they go to for help. We exist to keep our Army safe and protect our fellow Soldiers, civilians, and family members – period. Serving as a CID Special Agent is more than just a career. The circumstances surrounding what agents do day in and day out has lasting consequences, not just for the division or the person who committed the crime, but for the victim as well.”

- Special Agent Alfred Diaz, Special Agent-in-Charge, Fort Belvoir

“Being a special agent is an opportunity to be a part of something significantly larger than oneself. You are often placed in a position of great responsibility, whether it’s protecting a dignitary at a foreign summit, working a murder case, or recovering millions of stolen procurement dollars, you have to be on your ‘A’ game every day. We need agents who are willing to be unbiased fact finders who’ll take ownership of their investigations, but the most important thing we’re looking for is unquestionable integrity.”

- Special Agent Lashawan Bogues, Major Procurement Fraud Unit
The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division’s vision is to adapt to the needs of the 21st century. CID Special Agents of the future will continue to provide quality investigative support to commanders whenever and wherever the need arises. CID Special Agents will continue to receive the resources and quality training necessary to bring criminals to justice and always seek to diligently discover the truth, deterred neither by fear nor prejudice.

These are significant times in the history of CID as evidenced by the many acts of heroism and sacrifice made in support of today’s Army.

To maintain this support in the future, CID has evolved into a streamlined investigative force, structured around teams of well-trained investigators and supported by state-of-the-art investigative and digital technologies.

As a worldwide Division, this planning effort allows CID innovations to synchronize with Army re-engineering to help meet all future challenges. The key to success in meeting the Army's future investigative challenge is the Soldier and civilian Special Agent whose continuing mission is to live the CID motto - “Do what has to be done.”
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These are significant times in the history of CID and the Military Police Corps, as evidenced by the many acts of heroism and sacrifice made in support of today’s Army. To maintain this support in the future, CID has evolved into a streamlined investigative force, structured around teams of well-trained investigators and supported by state-of-the-art information, investigative and digital technologies. As a worldwide Division, this planning effort allows CID innovations to synchronize with Army re-engineering to help meet all future challenges. The key to success in meeting the Army’s future investigative challenge is the Soldier and civilian Special Agent whose continuing mission is to live the CID motto - DO WHAT HAS TO BE DONE.

I do hereby swear (or affirm) that I shall support and uphold the constitution and the laws of the United States; that I shall endeavor to discharge my responsibilities as a United States Army CID Agent in accordance therewith; that I shall at all times seek diligently to discover the truth, deterred neither by fear nor prejudice; and that I shall strive to be worthy of the special trust reposed in me by my country, the United States Army and the Criminal Investigation Division.
The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division is an independent criminal investigative organization that supports all elements of the Army in peacetime and in times of conflict, and is capable of performing complex, felony-level criminal investigations anywhere in the world, to include austere and dangerous environments.

The division’s independence is specifically structured to prevent command influence and allow unencumbered investigations in any environment.

CID Special Agents are highly-trained criminal investigators and sworn federal law enforcement officers. Their investigations are routinely and successfully prosecuted in military and federal judicial forums, as well as in state courts and foreign judicial venues across the globe.

CID Special Agents provide felony level crime investigative support to local commanders around the world. Those investigations include general crimes (against persons or property), computer crimes, economic crime, and counter-drug operations.

The Army community is comprised of more than one million Active duty and Reserve Soldiers, their family members, civilian employees and contractors worldwide. Unfortunately, in a population of this size, crime will occur, but CID Special Agents are dedicated to making the Army community as safe as possible for all to live, work, and play. The dedication and professionalism of CID Special Agents is no more evident than in the organization’s impressive solve rate that continually remains well above the national average.

CID Special Agents must also possess battlefield skills and deploy on short notice to provide direct support to Army divisions and corps. CID contingency operations and battlefield missions include logistics security, criminal intelligence, and criminal investigations. During battlefield missions, criminal investigations are expanded to include war crimes, anti-terrorism, and force protection operations.

CID also conducts protective service operations for the Department of Defense, Joint Chiefs of Staff and Department of the Army; provides forensic laboratory support for all DoD investigative agencies; maintains the repository for the Army’s more than 2.7 million crime records; and conducts other sensitive or special interest investigations as required or directed.
In 1775, Soldiers of the Continental Army were drilled in discipline to produce a fighting unit capable of obeying commanders without question. The emphasis on enforcing discipline within the Army continued until 1863, when the emphasis shifted to enforcement of the new Enrollment Act, or “draft law.”

Secretary of War Edwin Stanton felt that a police force must enforce the new, unpopular draft law. In March 1863, the Army established the Provost Marshal General’s Bureau to administer and enforce the draft law and arrest deserters.

During the Civil War, the Pinkerton Detective Agency conducted investigations of criminal acts such as payroll thefts or murders for the Army. Ultimately, Major General George McClellan commissioned Major Alan Pinkerton to create the first criminal investigation division. The Provost Marshal General’s Bureau remained largely unchanged until the American Expeditionary Forces entered France in 1917.

As the American forces increased, there became a need for additional police services. In October 1917, the Army established the Military Police Corps, which evolved into today’s Army MP Corps. In 1918, General Pershing directed the Provost Marshal General of his American Expeditionary Force to organize a criminal investigation division within the MP Corps. The division’s purpose was detection and prevention of crimes within the territory occupied by the American Expeditionary Forces.

CID’s effectiveness produced favorable results in the recovery of stolen government and personal property. However, the absence of central direction and control and the lack of investigative training and experience among Soldiers, kept CID from achieving its full capability.

The United States’ entry into World War II changed the Army almost overnight from a small peacetime organization of professionals to a force of millions. As the Army expanded, so did the crime rate; and criminal investigations failed to keep abreast of the expanding crime rate. Commanders had neither the Soldiers nor the funds to conduct adequate investigations.

In January 1944, the Army established the Criminal Investigation Division of the Provost Marshal General’s Office.

Following World War II, CID was centralized at the theater Army level. Control of criminal investigation
personnel was decentralized to area commands during the 1950s and ultimately to installation level during the early 1960s. A DoD study in 1964, called “Project Security Shield” made it clear that the Army needed complete centralization of its investigative efforts to produce a more efficient and responsive worldwide capability.

In 1965, the Army took the first step toward centralizing the command and control of CID elements. The Army began organizing CID groups to correspond with the major Army commands in the different regions of the U.S.

In March 1971, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird directed the Secretary of the Army to form a CID command with command and control authority over all Army-wide CID assets.

On September 17, 1971, the Army established the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command as a Major Army Command (MACOM).

During its history, CID has undergone considerable change, both in organization and its approach to the problem of detecting and preventing crime. As the Army’s responsibilities have grown or changed, CID has responded to every change to provide timely, professional investigative services that have become its trademark.

On January 30, 2003, the Army announced the re-creation of the Provost Marshal General (PMG) position for the Army as part of its transformation plan. The decision called for the general officer filling the position to be “dual-hatted” serving as the PMG and commanding general of CID, thus giving the Army’s senior leadership a comprehensive, single source for all Army law enforcement operations.

On October 1, 2004, the Major Army Command colors were cased and CID was redesignated as a Direct Reporting Unit.

On September 17, 2021, 50 years after CID was officially recognized as a command, the organization was renamed the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division once again. It also marked the beginning of a new era in CID as SA Gregory Ford was selected as the first civilian director of CID.
The 3rd Military Police Group (CID), is headquartered at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. The Group is responsible for all felony criminal investigation matters with a U.S. Army interest throughout the eastern half of the U.S., the Caribbean, Central America (less Mexico), South America, Africa, and Europe.

Among key supported Army field elements within the Group’s area of responsibility are the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; U.S. Army Europe; U.S. Army Africa; XVIII Airborne Corps and 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; the 101st Air Assault Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia; and the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York.


The group is comprised of five battalions: the 5th Military Police Battalion (CID) at Kaiserslautern, Germany; the 10th Military Police Battalion (CID) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; the 502nd Military Police Battalion (CID) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; the Benning CID Battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia; and the Washington CID Battalion at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia.
The 6th Military Police Group (CID), headquartered at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, is responsible for all U.S. Army related felony criminal investigative matters throughout the western half of the U.S., Hawaii, Alaska, and Pacific rim nations such as the Republic of Korea and Japan. In total, the 6th Military Police Group (CID) supports 22 camps, posts, and stations on three continents across 13 time zones.

The 6th Military Police Group (CID) conducts criminal investigations of serious, sensitive, or special interest matters to support commanders and preserve the Army’s resources during combat, contingency, and peacetime operations throughout the Group’s vast area of operation.

Key supported Army field elements within the Group’s area of operations include Eighth Army and the 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea; I Corps and the 7th Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington; III Corps and the 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas; 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss, Texas; 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas; 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado; 25th Infantry Division, Hawaii; and the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California.

The 6th Military Police Group (CID) is comprised of three subordinate battalions: the 11th Military Police Battalion (CID) located at Fort Hood, Texas; the 19th Military Police Battalion (CID) located at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and the 22nd Military Police Battalion (CID) located at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.
The 701st Military Police Group (CID) exercises worldwide mission command of specialized criminal investigative functions and designated protective service activities across the U.S. Army. The Group is headquartered at Quantico, Virginia, and is comprised of five subordinate units.

The Major Cybercrime Unit (MCU) conducts worldwide cybercrime prevention activities, major cybercrime investigations, and digital forensics in order to preserve Army readiness. The MCU’s investigations have led to arrests and prosecutions of Soldiers, civilians and foreign nationals throughout the world who were engaged in cybercrime directed at the U.S. Army.

The Field Investigative Unit (FIU) conducts investigations involving sensitive or classified activities of interest to U.S. Army leadership requiring exceptional levels of discretion. Due to the sensitive nature of the investigations, CID Special Agents are rigorously screened and individually selected to work within the FIU.

The Major Procurement Fraud Unit (MPFU) centrally directs and coordinates all major fraud investigations worldwide and routinely works closely with other federal investigative agencies. The MPFU investigates allegations of fraud involving procurement of major weapons and support systems within the U.S. Army and provides investigative support for civil and military construction contracts awarded or administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Historically, MPFU’s recoveries to the U.S. Treasury have exceeded CID’s entire annual operating budget.

The U.S. Army Protective Services Battalion (PSB) provides worldwide, executive-level protection for designated senior DoD and Department of the Army officials, along with their foreign counterparts during official visits to the U.S. The PSB also provides executive-level protection for senior military commanders during wartime and contingency operations, as directed.
The Terrorism and Criminal Investigation Unit (TCIU) conducts worldwide criminal investigations of alleged or suspected war crimes and acts of terrorism against U.S. persons, property or interests. The TCIU also provides specialized investigative, legal, and analytical support to the Military Commissions, as well as to U.S. Army counterterrorism and counterinsurgency operations in support of host nation rule of law operations.
The Defense Forensic Science Center (DFSC) located near Atlanta, Georgia, is the DoD’s premier forensic center of excellence, delivering full spectrum forensic services around the globe and across the entire range of military operations. Housed in a 133,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility, the center uses leading edge infrastructure technology and world-class laboratory suites.

Within the DFSC, the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory (USACIL) provides traditional forensic capabilities to support worldwide criminal investigations across all military services. Its forensic disciplines include: DNA/serology, trace evidence, the Combined DNA Index System, latent prints, firearms and toolmarks, digital evidence, drug chemistry, and forensic documents. Other services include specialized forensics training to investigators and trial/defense lawyers. The laboratory also serves as the executive agent for the DoD Convicted Offender DNA Databasing Program.

The Forensic Exploitation Directorate (FXD) provides expeditionary and reach back battlefield forensic capabilities to support joint force commander requirements. Its primary disciplines include latent prints, DNA, firearms/toolmarks and explosive/drug chemistry. The FXD also provides support to emerging/contingency operations, exercises and training.

The Defense Forensic Science Center’s Office of Quality, Initiatives & Training (OQIT) is responsible for scientific/technical leadership across the forensic disciplines, develops and maintains examiner technical training programs, and maintains compliance with recognized national and international scientific standards to ensure continued laboratory accreditation across the DFSC. The OQIT is also responsible for the Office of the Chief Scientist (OCS). The OCS establishes forensic science research, development, testing and evaluation programs for all forensic disciplines; develops educational partnerships with universities; supports interagency and international collaborations; and coordinates and executes the research associate, military cadet (ROTC and military academies), and Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) scholar programs.

The USACIL has been an accredited lab since 1985. In 2016, the DFSC successfully expanded its ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation to include the deployed FXD laboratories.
The U.S. Army Crime Records Center (USACRC) is co-located with the CID Headquarters and is a multi-functional center. The USACRC supports not only CID, the Army and the DoD, but also foreign, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

Established in 1971, the USACRC receives, safeguards, maintains, and disseminates information from Army law enforcement records. Since then, the center has accumulated more than 2.7 million reports.

Currently, more than 20,000 Army law enforcement records are accessioned into the USACRC each year. Every year, information from more than 85,000 Army law enforcement records is provided to customers for law enforcement, intelligence, personnel security and suitability purposes. More than 415,000 criminal history checks are conducted by the USACRC annually.

The USACRC also serves as the Army law enforcement Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act authority and responds to an average of 4,700 requests annually. Additionally, the USACRC is responsible for the amendment of Army law enforcement records when appropriate and requested by individuals, for appeals of information denied or withheld and litigation responses as appropriate.

Another major function of the center is the management of the Army Law Enforcement Polygraph Program. Historically, CID polygraph examiners conduct more than 1,200 criminal specific polygraph examinations annually in support of Army law enforcement, the Trial Defense Service and commander directed investigations. Each of these examinations must be authorized and undergo a 100 percent quality control by the USACRC.

The U.S. Army Crime Records Center's Electronic Imaging Database contains more than 1,951,152 text searchable cases. Every six months, approximately 10,000 cases with 500,000 pages are added to the database. The process involves CID units and USACRC employees manually scanning every page of an investigation into a high-speed scanner, then cataloging the investigation into the database.
CID Special Agents are comprised of enlisted Soldiers, warrant officers, both Active and Reserve, and civilians. All CID Special Agents (military and civilian) are recognized as federal agents (law enforcement officers) under Title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 60.3a(2) (28 CFR 60.3a(2)).

Applicants must meet strict qualification standards, pass a rigorous screening process, and meet other job-specific qualifications to include obtaining and maintaining a Top Secret security clearance. The basic qualifications for a Soldier to become a CID Special Agent are to be a U.S. citizen; be 21-years of age; have at least two years of military service, but not more than 10, with a maximum rank of sergeant; have a Skilled Technical score of at least 107 and General Technical score of 110; have no physical limitations; have normal color vision and be worldwide deployable. Applicants must also have 60 college semester hours from an accredited institution. For a complete list of the requirements or to apply, visit www.cid.army.mil.

After a demanding 15-week training course at the U.S. Army Military Police School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, military agents spend their first year as apprentice agents. CID civilian agents are classified as Criminal Investigators under the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) guidelines and must meet specific criteria as established by the OPM in the General Schedule Qualification Standards for Criminal Investigators, GS-1811.

The maximum entry age for a civilian law enforcement position is 37 (maximum entry age may be waived for preference eligible veterans); be a U.S. citizen; be able to obtain and maintain a Top Secret security clearance; and be able to pass a medical examination and comply with drug testing program requirements. For a complete list of requirements, visit www.usajobs.gov.

CID Special Agents receive advanced training in specialized investigative disciplines throughout their careers. Select agents are eligible to receive advanced training at the FBI National Academy, the Canadian Police College, Scotland Yard, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the Defense Acquisition University. Select agents can also be accepted into the master’s degree program in Forensic Science from George Mason University, which runs concurrent with a fellowship from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System.
CID Special Agents are trained not to form conclusions in advance. They investigate the circumstances and facts surrounding each case to determine what findings the evidence supports. CID Special Agents are committed to investigating all criminal allegations in a thorough and professional manner with sensitivity toward the needs of victims and witnesses.

Investigative procedures, resources, and training are constantly evaluated to ensure high quality and professional casework. Following the fieldwork, a case also receives numerous technical reviews to ensure quality, accuracy, and procedural compliance of the investigative work. CID provides its investigative results to the supported commanders and military or civilian legal authorities for action as appropriate.
The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division has a Reserve Component of “citizen Soldiers” from the Army Reserve and National Guard who stand ready to serve the Army and the nation both at home and abroad.

When deployed, CID Reserve Special Agents perform the same mission as other CID Special Agents - provide felony-level crime investigative support to post, camp, and station commanders around the world. They also conduct logistics security operations to detect and prevent the diversion and destruction of critical supplies, and provide protective services for key DoD and Department of the Army officials.

CID Reserve Special Agents are also trained, prepared, and accessible to effectively perform their duties in a variety of other missions, to include providing command administrative support as well as providing direct investigative support to field commanders during times of war or national emergency when manpower requirements increase.

The CID Army Reserve Component Soldier plays a vital role in the overall accomplishment of the CID mission and the Army.
Scan the QR code to report a crime.

To speak with a CID Special Agent, contact your local CID Office.