

QUICK FACTS

- More than 9,000 federal facilities protected nationwide
- 1.4 million federal employees and visitors safeguarded daily
- 1,299 FPS employees
- 15,000 contract Protective Security Officers
- 218,060 prohibited items prevented from entering federal facilities in 2020
- 2,000 facility security assessments conducted each year
- 534,000 calls for service each year
- 71 explosive detection canine teams
- 3 MegaCenters monitoring security nationwide 24/7

For more information:
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Work for FPS: Careers@fps.dhs.gov

An Overview of FPS

Mission

The Federal Protective Service is a federal law enforcement agency responsible for safeguarding the millions of federal employees, contractors, and visitors who pass through federal facilities every day.

FPS is a component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which is the primary federal agency responsible for the protection of all federal property owned, occupied, or secured by the federal government. The authority to carry out this mission has been delegated to FPS.

Vision

A federal workforce and workplace that is safe, secure, and resilient across the homeland against acts of violence and other hazards.

Protective Services to Federal Agencies

FPS provides integrated security and law enforcement services in support of federally owned and leased facilities and the people who occupy or visit them. FPS law enforcement personnel are trained physical security experts. From screening visitors to responding to suspicious packages, FPS has broad law enforcement authorities and jurisdiction to prevent, investigate, mitigate, and defeat threats to federal employees and the facilities in which they work. FPS provides the following services:

- Conducts security assessments of federal facilities to identify risks
- Designs security countermeasures for federal agencies to mitigate risks
- Provides a visible law enforcement presence
- Oversees contract security guards who conduct screenings and ID checks
- Performs background suitability checks for contract employees
- Conducts criminal investigations, including threats to federal employees
- Monitors security alarms via centralized communication centers
- Shares intelligence with federal, state, and local law enforcement partners
- Provides security during special events and critical incidents
- Leads special operations, including explosive detection K-9 operations
- Trains federal tenants in active shooter response, crime prevention, and occupant emergency planning

Although these protective services remain constant, FPS always looks ahead and adapts to emerging threats, such as cyber-attacks or unmanned aerial vehicles. Additionally, the agency always seeks to improve security services for its federal customers.

Partnerships

The key to successfully accomplishing the FPS mission lies in the strong partnerships FPS has with other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. In addition to ongoing information-sharing, FPS works with its partners to provide security during critical incidents and National Special Security Events such as presidential inaugurations. FPS works closely with the General Services Administration to ensure building improvement projects incorporate information from the latest physical and cyber security assessments.

Funding

FPS is a fee-for-service organization, and its services are fully paid for by each federal agency it protects. FPS does not receive congressional appropriations.

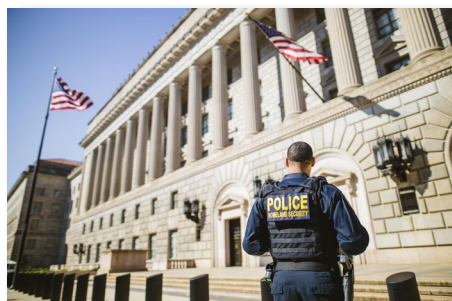
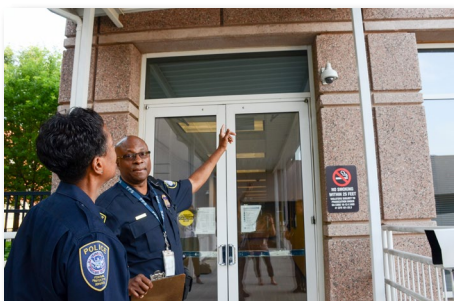
Employees

FPS employs nearly 1,300 federal staff. Approximately 944 of those employees are law enforcement specialists, criminal investigators, and canine handlers – all of whom are initially trained at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. FPS also procures more than 15,000 contract guard staff to conduct security screenings at more than 6,500 security posts at federal buildings across the country.

History

The Federal Protective Service marked its 50th anniversary in 2021. GSA formally established FPS in 1971. The origins of FPS date back even further, to the very founding of America's capital. In 1790, President George Washington appointed three commissioners to establish a federal territory for a permanent seat of federal government. Those commissioners hired six "night watchmen" to protect the designated buildings the government was planning to occupy. FPS traces its origins to the appointment of those six night watchmen.

Over time, the network of security guards grew and evolved to protect federal workers and government buildings. When the Homeland Security Act of 2002 was passed, FPS was transferred from GSA to the newly formed U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Today, FPS operates in 204 field offices in every state and U.S. territory.



To report emergencies or suspicious activity at a federal facility, contact the FPS Mega Center at 1-877-4FPS-411

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