



U.S. Secret Service

The U.S. Secret Service is an elite law enforcement agency, one of the oldest federal law enforcement agencies in the United States. Charged with an integrated mission of investigations and protection, the U.S. Secret Service has earned a reputation of serving this nation since its inception in 1865. This unique integrated mission is what distinguishes the U.S. Secret Service from all other law enforcement organizations.





History

The U.S. Secret Service was created by President Abraham Lincoln in 1865 as a bureau of the Treasury Department. At that time, its sole mission was to suppress the counterfeiting of U.S. currency, which was widespread by the end of the American Civil War. Congress authorized the U.S. Secret Service to protect the President of the United States after the assassination of President William McKinley in 1901. The agency received authority to protect major Presidential candidates following the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy in 1968.

In March 2003, the U.S. Secret Service was transferred from the U.S. Department of the Treasury to the new U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The U.S. Secret Service's integrated mission of protection and investigations is vital to the Department's efforts to safeguard the nation.

