



Protective Mission

The U.S. Secret Service has a long history of ensuring the safety of the nation's leaders and visiting foreign dignitaries. To accomplish this mission, the U.S. Secret Service develops and utilizes preventative strategies, including investigating threats made against protectees, implementing innovative threat assessment techniques and utilizing advanced protective methodologies.

Since the U.S. Secret Service's protective mission was first mandated in 1901, the agency's jurisdiction has expanded to meet the needs of an evolving security environment. Today, the U.S. Secret Service is legally authorized to protect:



- The President and Vice President of the United States, and their immediate families
- The White House complex
- Major Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, and their spouses
- Visiting foreign heads of state and their spouses
- Former Presidents, their spouses, and their minor children under the age of 16
- Other individuals as designated by Executive Order of the President
- Events designated as National Special Security Events by the Department of Homeland Security





Investigative Mission

The U.S. Secret Service's original mandate in 1865 was to investigate the counterfeiting of U.S. currency -- a mission the U.S. Secret Service continues today. However, advancement in computer technology and the existence of the internet have permanently changed the ways in which business and financial transactions are done. Online marketplaces now exist where cyber criminals share stolen information and criminal methodologies. The U.S. Secret Service's investigative mission has expanded significantly to combat these crimes against the nation's financial payment systems, critical financial infrastructure and U.S. Secret Service protectees.

Today, the U.S. Secret Service investigates:

- Violations of laws relating to counterfeiting obligations and securities of the United States
- Financial crimes that include, but are not limited to: financial institution fraud, false identification documents, access device fraud, wire fraud, bank fraud and money laundering as it relates to the agency's core violations
- Cyber-related attacks on the nation's financial, banking and telecommunications infrastructures to include: network intrusions, hacking attacks, malicious software, and account takeovers leading to significant data breaches
- Crimes pursuant to the Violent Crime Control and Enforcement Act (1994) and PROTECT Act (2003) in support of The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
- Threats against the President, Vice President and/or any other person designated under 18 USC 3056

In response to the increase of transnational cyber-related threats, the U.S. Secret Service's investigative mission abroad continues to grow. This increases the need for the agency's presence overseas and special agents with foreign language skills.

