

Pennsylvania Police Agency Comparison

State Constables

PA Act 49 (2009) section 7158

In addition to any other powers granted under law, a constable of a borough shall, without warrant and upon view, arrest and commit for hearing any person who:

1. Is guilty of a breach of the peace, vagrancy, riotous or disorderly conduct or drunkenness.
2. May be engaged in the commission of any unlawful act tending to imperil the personal security or endanger the property of the citizens.
3. Violates any ordinance of the borough for which a fine is imposed.

PA Title 13 P.S. 40

Constables, county detectives, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, waterways patrolmen, and game protectors shall perform all those duties authorized or imposed on them by statute.

Municipal Police

PA Title 11 section 12005

Police officers shall be ***ex-officio constables*** of the city and shall enforce the laws of this Commonwealth or otherwise perform the functions of their office in accordance with 42 Pa.C.S. 8952 (relating to primary municipal police jurisdiction) and 8953 (relating to Statewide municipal police jurisdiction) and upon property owned or controlled by the city or by a municipal authority created by the city. A police officer may, without warrant and upon view, arrest and commit for hearing any and all individuals:

1. Guilty of: (I) breach of the peace, (ii) vagrancy, (iii) riotous or disorderly conduct, or (iv) drunkenness.
2. Engaged in the commission of any unlawful act tending to imperil the personal security or endanger the property of the citizens.
3. Violating any ordinance of the city for the violation of which a fine or penalty is imposed.

County Detectives

PA Title 16 P.S. Counties 1440

(d) County detectives shall be general police officers and shall have the powers **conferred upon constables** by the laws of this Commonwealth, so far as they relate to criminal law and procedure.

County Police

PA Title 16 P.S. Counties 4501

1. The county commissioners in any county of the second class shall have power to employ such number of police as may be fixed by the salary board of the county. The compensation of such police officers shall be paid by the county.
2. Such police officers shall have jurisdiction anywhere within the county by which employed, and shall have and possess all of the following powers:
 - (a) To make arrests, without warrant, for all of the violations of the law which they may witness, and to serve and execute warrants issued by the proper authorities.
 - (b) In cases of offenses for violation of any of the provisions of the Vehicle Code, the power to make arrests without warrant shall be limited to cases where the offense is designated a felony or a misdemeanor, and cases causing or contributing to an accident resulting in injury or death to any person.
3. The powers and perogitives conferred by law upon members of the police force of the first class.
4. The powers and perogatives conferred by law **upon constables** of the Commonwealth.

State Police

Pennsylvania Act 278 of 1905, Section 5

The various members of the police force are hereby authorized and empowered to make arrests, without warrant, for all violations of the law which they may witness, and to serve and execute warrants issued by the proper local authorities. They are also authorized and empowered to act as forest, fire, game and fish wardens; and, in general, to have the powers and prerogatives conferred by law upon members of the police force of cities of the first class, **or upon constables** of the commonwealth;

PA Title 71 P.S. State Government 252
Pennsylvania State Police Force, Admin Code 712

The various members of the Pennsylvania State Police are hereby authorized and empowered:

(a) To make arrests, without warrant, for all violations of the law, including laws regulating the use of the highways, which they may witness, and to serve and execute warrants issued by the proper local authorities. They shall have all the powers and prerogatives conferred by law upon members of the police force of cities of the first class, and **upon Constables** of the Commonwealth.