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Fall 9-1-2022

## My Three Criminal Justice Careers

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### Recommended Citation

Sanchez, Brisa, "My Three Criminal Justice Careers" (2022). *Undergraduate Scholarly Works*. 2.  
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## **My Three Criminal Justice Careers**

Brisa A. Sanchez

CRJU 1101: Introduction of Criminal Justice

Dr. DiBari, PhD

November 05, 2022

## **Abstract**

What are the benefits of choosing a career in Criminal Justice? It is mainly to consider public security, counter violations that the suspect needs to be dismissed for criminal activity and handle real life crime conflict. The question is that few publics do misunderstand the task of each component in criminal justice careers. In this paper, I will show by virtue of what bearing a course in Criminal Justice can be of consequence for organization. Criminal Justice is about public security. There are three types of parts in Criminal Justice such as the Law Enforcement, Court, and Corrections System. I will illustrate each component and their average salary. I will interpret what they are responsible for in their work field and the benefits of being occupied in their area. The objective of this paper is to determine the role of careers in the Law Enforcement, Court, and Corrections System and what they do for a living.

*Keywords:* Criminal justice, careers, homicide detective, correlation officer, court clerk.

## **Introduction: My Three Criminal Justice Careers**

One of the main reasons it is important to have careers in Criminal Justice is for public safety and security. Many people need protection from police officers and support in our community. In this research paper, I have an interest in 3 main careers of criminal justice. Under the “law enforcement” careers heading, I will be examining the department of homicide detectives. The reason I want to research Homicide detective is because I have watched many Crimes Scene Documentary shows and I wonder myself what do they do in the work force. Under the “court” careers heading, I will be examining what a court clerk is. The reason I want to explore what do court clerks do is because they must handle plenty of paperwork. A court

clerk works in courtrooms and support offices assisting judges with court cases (Court Clerks, 2020). They are also known as the Right hand of the jury. Finally, under the “correctional career” heading, I will be examining what a correctional officer is. The reason I want to explore what a correctional officer does is because of what happened on September 11, 2001. Many officers acted and tried to save lives of all American citizens. All my 3 careers of criminal justice are appealing for those who are wanting to find answers, protect our community, and finally to make people feel safe.

### **Law Enforcement:**

What exactly is a homicide detective? To be considered a homicide detective, one must have investigation skills, communication skills, and technical skills. They solve crime cases; however, to do so they need to interview witnesses, gather their evidence, and collect any other information they can find. In the state of Georgia, the average salary of becoming a homicide detective is \$67,277.00 with experience (ERI Economic Research Institute, 2022). A homicide detective receives plenty of health benefits because they work for the government. Every day they discover a new experience and discover mysterious cases from their local community to rural areas. Their job is to investigate who committed a crime and find the suspect. As a homicide detective and among other criminal justice careers, their work and effort demonstrate a passion for working with everyone and believing they can help make society feel safer and productive (Mijares, 2018, p. 79). One of the conflicts about this job is having to deal with stress and working day and night to solve a case. Being a homicide detective is one of the primary functions of the police departments (Payne, Oliver, & Marion, 2017, p. 489). It is like any career that must handle situations with stress and mental health. It requires many years of experience to

be an official homicide detective. One of the benefits for considering this career is that they work in teams such as the police officers, investigators, forensic team, etc.

### **Court Clerk:**

What is the definition of court clerk? A court clerk is responsible for scheduling or cancellation cases for the court. One of their requirements for this career is supporting with office management, organizing skills, and administrative tasks. They fill out important legal documents for all the cases. In addition, they are responsible for transcripts or paperwork of the proceedings. Most importantly, one of the main duties of becoming a court clerk is that you are the judge's right hand. Before the trial begins in the court room, the primary thing to do is give the oaths to the jurors (Payne, Oliver, & Marion, 2017, p. 730). The minimum education they have is at least a high school diploma and take a few courses in a community college and the average salary of becoming a court clerk is \$37,030 per year (US Census Bureau, 2021). Their most valuable thing while working inside the court is staying organized (Mooney, p. 62). One of the benefits of this career path is his position may be a stepping-stone for someone preparing to become an attorney or to get experience in the office (*Exploring and Understanding Careers in Criminal Justice*). They get to develop their career by working in the government system and stay in communication with the jurors and officers.

### **Corrections:**

What is exactly a correction officer? A correctional officer has many names such as a keeper, a night keeper or a guard (Payne, Oliver, & Marion, 2017, p. 730). One of the

responsibilities for this profession is public safety and protecting everyone under the law. The officer learns how to take care of a person's physical health, promote emotional and psychological health, and improve the soul by building self-esteem (Bonica, 2019). They are also known as the first responder in helping those who have been involved in law enforcement and are reintegrating back into society through specialized training. The average salary of a Correctional Officer is \$43,550; however, the highest salary of an Officer Salary can reach up to \$69,610 (*Correctional Officer Salary*). Some of the common qualifications for this career. The minimum requirement for becoming a correctional officer is a high school diploma and being an entry level officer. It does not require military experience. One of the benefits of becoming a correction officer is they get paid holidays, a 401K, Sick and Vacation Leave (Mijares, 2018). The benefit for this job is that they provide the most “hands-on” type of experience in the criminal justice system, supporting many young people who are interested in working physically (Mijares, 2018, p. 77).

### **Conclusion:**

Overall, in this research, I have a conclusion that I have a higher level of interest in pursuing a career as a court clerk. For this reason, it fits in with my personality. A court clerk must be organized and responsible for all the paperwork. I see myself sitting at a desk and getting ready to work. Their role is important for the jury because they are considered as the right hand of the jury. Court clerks are part of the criminal justice system careers. They do not need a 4-year degree to begin in this job. As I mentioned before, for this position they need a high school diploma. They manage everything in the court such as calling clients, setting up a case schedule, and maintaining files. They are known as the point of contact for the public and

knowing the laws (Payne, Oliver, & Marion, 2017, p. 730). They can work anywhere at any court office such the Local, State, or Federal Department Courts. Now, I believe that any career that is related to criminal justice is extremely important because their main goal is public safety and doing the right thing.

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