

This Free E-Book is brought to you by [Natural-Aging.com](http://Natural-Aging.com).

**100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment**  
**Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances**  
**Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!**

**Criminal Law Overview**

**By SWI Digital Staff**

**Criminal Law Overview by SWI Digital Staff**

Criminal law involves prosecution by the government of a person for an act that has been classified as a crime. Civil cases, on the other hand, involve individuals and organizations seeking to resolve legal disputes. In a criminal case the state, through a prosecutor, initiates the suit, while in a civil case the victim brings the suit. Persons convicted of a crime may be incarcerated, fined, or both. However, persons found liable in a civil case may only have to give up property or pay money, but are not incarcerated. A "crime" is any act or omission (of an act) in violation of a public law forbidding or commanding it. Though there are some common law crimes, most crimes in the United States are established by local, state, and federal governments. Criminal laws vary significantly from state to state. There is, however, a Model Penal Code (MPC) which serves as a good starting place to gain an understanding of the basic structure of criminal liability.

Crimes include both felonies (more serious offenses -- like murder or rape) and misdemeanors (less serious offenses -- like petty theft or jaywalking). Felonies are usually crimes punishable by imprisonment of a year or more, while misdemeanors are crimes punishable by less than a year. However, no act is a crime if it has not been previously established as such either by statute or common law. Recently, the list of Federal crimes, dealing with activities extending beyond state boundaries or having special impact on federal operations, has grown. See Title 18.

All statutes describing criminal behavior can be broken down into their various elements. Most crimes (with the exception of strict-liability crimes) consist of two elements: an act, or "actus reus," and a mental state, or "mens rea." Prosecutors have to prove each and every element of the crime to yield a conviction. Furthermore, the prosecutor must persuade the jury or judge "beyond a reasonable doubt" of every fact necessary to constitute the crime charged. In civil cases, the plaintiff needs to show a defendant is liable only by a "preponderance of the evidence," or more than 50%.

**Criminal Justice: The Right Career For You?**

**By Leon Chaddock**

## Criminal Law Overview

If you are considering a career in criminal justice, you may want to consider your options well before making a decision. While this is an exciting and honorable career to take on, it may be more of a challenge than you realize. For those who are considering the true aspects of criminal justice, it makes sense that they should weigh their options completely before making a choice. Criminal justice is a career that is not by any means easy. Nor is it one that is enjoyable. But, it can be more rewarding than any other career out there.

For individuals who are interested in a criminal justice career, it is encouraged that you find the time to visit your local offices. Take tours and talk to individuals. What do they like and dislike. What are the basic tasks performed? Is it all glamorous? How do they justify the risks to themselves? Getting a firsthand experience of criminal justice from individuals who do this type of work for their life's work is essentially the best way to do it.

Then, you will want to consider your schooling options. There are criminal justice opportunities out there that are amazing. The schools that offer these programs are set up to allow for flexible schedules as well as a number of on-the-job lessons that are so true to life that your instincts and reflexes are taken into careful consideration. There are many opportunities out there to consider in these schools.

To find the criminal justice schools that are in your area, use the web to locate them and then to help you find their curriculum requirements as well as their enrollment criteria. Some basic courses in criminal justice can be taken and completed on the web as well. Weigh your options carefully so that you make the very best decision for your situation in criminal justice.

For more information please see



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by [Natural-Aging.com](http://Natural-Aging.com).

**[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)**  
**Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances**  
**Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!**