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PUBLIC ORDER



Public Order

Macao is a peaceful, safe city with a much lower crime rate than many other cities around the world. Its citizens are well housed and adequately paid for their work. Taking into account the social situation and crime trends, the Government's security authorities adjust, deploy and execute relevant measures to effectively combat and prevent crime, safeguard the security of residents and their property, and maintain social stability and peace in accordance with the policy guidelines.

Unitary Police Service

The Unitary Police Service is a department under the Secretary for Security of Macao. Since its establishment in 2001, it has been responsible for commanding and leading operations by the Judiciary Police and the Public Security Police. It is also responsible for coordinating civil protection work, coordinating the implementation of various disaster prevention and mitigation measures and emergency plans by members of the civil protection authorities; and preventing and combating crimes in money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and is committed to ensuring public security and Macao's prosperity and stability.

Adopting the concept of "rationalising the administrative structure", the Government has amended laws and administrative regulations to merge the Financial Intelligence Office with the Unitary Police Service, in a bid to promote administrative reform and strengthen cooperation between the Financial Intelligence Office and the police, thereby achieving greater effectiveness in preventing and combating related crimes. After the merger, the Financial Intelligence Office has become a subordinate agency with technical expertise and independent operations. Macao's membership of international organisations remains unaffected, and that it can continue to fulfil its statutory responsibilities.

Effective from February 1, 2024, the organisational structure of the Unitary Police Service comprises the following eight subordinate units: the Office of the Commissioner General; the Intelligence Analysis Centre; the Operations Planning Centre; the Civil Protection and Coordination Centre; the Administration and Finance Department; the Department of Computer and Information Technology; the Department for Studying, Planning and Coordinating Civil Protection Operations and the Information and Public Relations Division. The Financial Intelligence Office, as a subordinate agency, also falls under the Unitary Police Service.

Operation Planning and Command

In 2023, Macao's economic recovery accelerated, the number of visitors to Macao continued increasing, and a series of large-scale exhibitions, conferences, performances and sporting events were held in Macao. There was good progress with developing the comprehensive tourism and leisure industry, and the alignment of the Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin with Macao accelerated. As Macao has entered a new era of historical development, law enforcement work by the police is facing more challenges.

The Unitary Police Service actively strengthens exchanges and cooperation with police agencies

in neighbouring regions, collects intelligence through multiple channels, and continuously conducts risk assessments and comprehensive analyses of social security risks, especially to ensure safety during important holidays and various large-scale events. This enables more precise police deployment and provides strong support for the security of the country and Macao.

During festivals and large-scale events, the Unitary Police Service sets up an inter-departmental joint operations command centre to implement real-time joint command and coordinate with the Macao Customs Service, the Public Security Police Force, the Judiciary Police, and the Fire Services Bureau, to promptly respond to and emergencies that may occur during the events. This enhances the ability to handle emergencies in real-time, to ensure social order and public safety, and protect residents' lives and property during the events.

The Unitary Police Service plans large-scale joint police operations on a regular basis to maintain public order. These include a series of measures to prevent and fight crimes, such as the Winter Precaution Operations and Thunderbolt Operations jointly organised between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, to stabilise the public order of society.

To curb the spread of crimes associated with illegal money exchange gangs, which harm Macao's social order and tarnish its image as a healthy tourism city, the Unitary Police Service, in coordination with the Public Security Police and the Judiciary Police, launched a joint police operation in May 2023. The operation involved unannounced inspections of entertainment venues in Macao and their surroundings, resulting in the prosecution and removal of individuals engaged in illicit money exchanging and other illegal activities.

Disaster Prevention and Mitigation

The Unitary Police Service conducts the “Crystal Fish” typhoon drill before typhoon season each year, and invites the public to participate, in order to enhance public awareness of the Evacuation Plan for Storm Surges in Low-lying Areas during Typhoons.

On 22 April, 2023, civil protection authorities conducted the “Crystal Fish 2023” civil protection drill, which simulated 50 typhoon-related scenarios and involved over 2,300 participants, including members of the civil protection authorities, 52 non-governmental organisations, all non-tertiary institutions in Macao, civil protection volunteers, and members of the public. The drill covered evacuations of over 3,000 households.

The Unitary Police Service actively reaches out to communities and schools through various means, including seminars, drills, and educational campaigns, to enhance public awareness of the civil protection system and emergency public events. Additionally, through the mechanism for civil protection related communications in the community, the Unitary Police Service invites community organisations to participate in meetings, training, and visits, thus stepping up civilian-police cooperation to jointly create a safer community environment.

The third phase of recruitment for the civil protection volunteers has completed in 2023, expanding the number of volunteers to 217. Macao's civil protection forces are growing in scale and can more effectively prevent and respond to disasters.

Financial Intelligence Office

The Financial Intelligence Office is an independent department formed under Executive Order No. 227/2006. It was originally under the Secretariat for Economy and Finance, and responsible for collecting and analysing information regarding money-laundering and terrorist-financing, as well as providing related information to relevant authorities.

In 2018, the Government decided that the operations of the Financial Intelligence Office should be supervised by the Secretary for Security, to fulfil Macao's pledge to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. This decision came into effect on 16 October, 2018.

The Government has further reformed the establishment of the Financial Intelligence Office (GIF) by incorporating the former project-based GIF into the Unitary Police Service (SPU). Effective from 1 February 2024, the GIF was officially incorporated into the SPU as a subordinate agency with technical and operational independence, following the amendment of Law No. 1/2001 of the Macao SAR – “Unitary Police Service” by Law No. 23/2023, and the amendment of By-Law No. 5/2009 – “Organisation and Operation of the Unitary Police Service” by By-Law No. 3/2024.

While maintaining its original responsibilities, the GIF will further strengthen cooperation with the police after being incorporated into the SPU, aiming to achieve greater effectiveness in preventing and combating money laundering, terrorism financing, and any proliferation of financial crimes.

From November 2006, the Financial Intelligence Office has been receiving reports on suspicious transactions. In 2023, it received more than 4,600 reports from financial services, gaming and other industries.

In terms of participation in the work of international organisations, since September 2013, the Financial Intelligence Office has been sending representatives to take up the post as co-chairman of the committee of mutual evaluation of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG); in July 2022, it was reappointed as co-chairman until 2025.

Moreover, in April 2020, the Director of the Financial Intelligence Office was appointed the co-chairman of the regional subgroup Asia/Pacific Joint Group (APJG) of the International Cooperation Review Group (ICRG), which is responsible for developing the watch list of the international anti-money laundering organisation, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). The appointment is until 2024.

As co-chair of the Asia-Pacific Joint Group, the GIF was invited to host the four-day Asia-Pacific Joint Group Meeting in Macao in May 2023. The meeting brought together approximately 70 experts, representatives of assessed jurisdictions, and international organisations.

The Government continues sending members to participate in international anti-money laundering organisations, improve Macao's image, keep up with the latest FATF assessment requirements and policies, and take an active part in international efforts to combat money laundering and terrorism financing.

Locally, the Financial Intelligence Office is responsible for coordinating the efforts of the interdepartmental task force on combating money laundering and terrorism financing. The task force comprises members of judicial affairs, law enforcement, and regulatory departments. They work

together to collect data, conduct research and implement recommendations regarding anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing, formulate guidelines for industries under their supervision, and conduct statistical and other analyses of information collected on suspicious transactions.

In 2023, the GIF coordinated with working group members to finalise the industry version of the latest Risk Assessment Report on Money Laundering/Terrorist Financing/Proliferation Financing in the Macao Special Administrative Region. The report was introduced to the industry in stages during the first quarter of 2024.

In the area of international cooperation, the Financial Intelligence Office joined the Egmont Group in May 2009, and anticipated fostering connections and collaboration with other countries and regions. It also signed memorandums on cooperation with the financial intelligence bodies of 33 countries and regions: mainland China, Hong Kong, Portugal, Korea, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Japan, Thailand, Singapore, Fiji, Australia, the United States, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Canada, Israel, Cambodia, Monaco, Lebanon, Timor-Leste, Estonia, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Brazil, Cape Verde, India and New Zealand, Malta, Tonga, Mongolia, and the Netherlands. Of these, 23 are countries or regions along the “Belt and Road”.

Strengthening the Police Force through Technology

To implement the administrative principle of strengthening the police force through technology, the Unitary Police Service promotes the application and construction of smart policing, and continues constructing the Macao city-wide electronic surveillance system (“Sky Eye”).

As of 2023, the security authorities have installed a total of 1,701 surveillance cameras in different locations in Macao through five phases. In the fifth phase, 300 new cameras were added to or replaced in the existing “Sky Eye” network or their supporting pillars (resulting in an actual increase of 81 cameras), and they were put into operation in March 2023. After the completion of the first five phases of construction, the overall layout of the “Sky Eye” surveillance system has been completed. The system is operating well and is performing as anticipated.

Under the leadership of the Secretary for Security, the Unitary Police Service continued to fully implement the overall national security concept and adhere to the three police work philosophies of proactive policing, community policing, and police public relations, as advocated by the Secretary for Security. The SPU made every effort to ensure the smooth running of three major events in 2024: the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the People’s Republic of China, the 25th anniversary of Macao’s return to the motherland, and the third anniversary of the establishment of the Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin.

Also, the SPU continues shouldering the responsibility of safeguarding national security and Macao’s public order, closely monitors changes in the social security situation, promotes police-public cooperation, deepens smart policing, and continuously analyses and evaluates the security environment, thus safeguarding the stability of Macao.

Public Security Police Force

The Public Security Police Force is responsible for maintaining public order and social stability;

preventing, investigating and combating crime; protecting public and private property; controlling illegal immigration; handling immigration; as well as controlling and monitoring vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

At the end of 2023, the Public Security Police Force comprised 6,355 staff, with 4,945 in-service personnel, 1,410 vacancies and 420 clerical staff.

Operations and Communication Centre

The Operations and Communication Centre is under the Planning and Operations Department of the Public Security Police Force. All 999 emergency calls from residents are routed to the centre, which classifies them and deploys police officers to the scene to take action.

The centre employs a network of traffic-monitoring systems, which allow officers to monitor traffic through images sent from cameras installed at three cross-harbour bridges in Macao, and implement timely management and regulatory actions.

The city-wide electronic surveillance system, “Sky Eye”, commenced operations on 15 September 2016. The surveillance cameras are positioned to cover the peripheral areas of border-crossing checkpoints, major roads and streets, traffic hubs, public security black spots, quiet areas and places with security risks. The system enables the staff of the Operations and Communication Centre to strengthen the police force through technology, ensure public security and safety and order and, especially, to prevent crimes and assist in criminal investigations.

Police Tactical Unit

The Police Tactical Unit was officially established in 1979 as an action-oriented subordinate unit under the Public Security Police Force, with a status equivalent to a department. It can rapidly carry out special operations in any part of Macao. The PTU comprises six specialised units: the anti-riot team, the inspection and security team, the police dog team, the VIP and important facility protection unit, the bomb-disposal team, and the special operations unit. They are responsible for the safety of facilities, combating criminals – especially those using firearms, protecting important individuals, and taking action when there is serious violence, including should there be instances of sniper attacks and hostage-taking.

Crime Prevention

The Public Security Police Force uses various information platforms to disseminate crime prevention information to the public, whilst disseminating information to communication platforms such as the communication mechanism for community policing, the communication mechanism between the police and schools, and the communication mechanism for the hotel industry, so that information can be more rapidly transmitted via communication officers. The Public Security Police also conducted visits, interviews, seminars and promotions with various community organisations, schools and hotels, and maintained close relationships with community communication officers. These efforts served to understand the latest developments of the community and schools, conduct further analyses

based on information received, and coordinate with frontline police units to formulate and adjust police strategies according to the prevailing situation.

Regarding youth policy, the Junior PSP Group, which is a uniformed youth group of the Public Security Police, has continuously organised events and training related to five domains: patriotic education, law popularisation, community engagement, career development, and physical and mental health. The group aims to foster correct values among the younger generation through peer influences.

Traffic Accidents

According to statistics provided by the Public Security Police, 13,563 traffic accidents occurred in Macao during 2023, resulting in 4,729 injuries and eight fatalities.

Judiciary Police

The Judiciary Police is a criminal police authority with statutory duties to prevent and investigate crimes and provide assistance to the judiciary authority. It is specifically responsible for investigating crimes. According to current Law No. 5/2006, the Judiciary Police has exclusive right to investigate the following crimes: crimes in which the identity of the perpetrator is unknown, and that are punishable by more than three years of imprisonment; drug-related crimes; counterfeiting of currency and cheques; gang- or triad-related crimes; gambling-related crimes; using illegal substances in animals involved in races; cybercrimes; money laundering; terrorism; crimes against national security; as well as crimes against personal freedom and crimes against properties.

The Judiciary Police comprises eight departments and 25 divisions, with specialties in criminal investigation, safeguarding national security, criminal forensics, technical and administrative support, and personnel training. Interpol Macao, China (Sub-bureau of the Chinese National Central Bureau of ICPO) is also incorporated within the Judiciary Police.

Since October 2020, safeguarding national security has been explicitly defined as a function of the Judiciary Police. Investigation and technical departments such as the Security Department, the Terrorism Crimes Early Warning and Investigation Division, and the Cyber Security Division have been established to implement the overall national security concept and safeguard national security and the safety of Macao.

In 2023, there were 1,502 permanent staff positions in the Judiciary Police, with 1,273 serving staff.

Safeguarding Overall National Security

In 2023, under the leadership of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security and higher-level authorities, the Judiciary Police strictly adhered to the law in carrying out national security law enforcement work; enhanced law enforcement capabilities; responded to threats posed by external forces since society's return to normality; prevented infiltration, interference and sabotage activities by external forces; and effectively safeguarded national security and social stability. Also,

the Judiciary Police continuously improved its internal operations and efficiently supported the operations of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security and its office.

The Judiciary Police coordinates the Cybersecurity Incident Alert and Response Centre, to implement the work of safeguarding cybersecurity. In 2023, the cyber security centre sent 214 warnings to key infrastructure operators and received 31 incident reports. The increase in warnings and the reduction in cybersecurity incidents indicate a positive trend in Macao's cybersecurity situation. The cybersecurity centre completed the upgrade of the cybersecurity situational awareness system, forming a cybersecurity threat intelligence platform to enhance risk detection and early warning capabilities. It cooperated with regulatory entities in various industries, to encourage key infrastructure operators to improve the cybersecurity protection mechanism. In 2023, professional forums on cybersecurity and cybersecurity incident drills were held for operators.

Combating Crime

In 2023, the Judiciary Police opened 12,390 case files, of which 6,804 were designated for special criminal investigations and indictments, 4,030 were preliminary investigations and the remaining 1,556 case files concerned investigations that had been requested. During the year, 10,480 case investigations were completed, of which 5,809 were designated as special investigations, 3,093 were preliminary investigations and the remaining 1,578 were investigations that had been requested.

Serious crimes continued to maintain a low occurrence rate or zero occurrence. While the incidence of most types of crimes – such as gambling, drug-related offenses, and theft – increased year-on-year, the numbers remained lower than in 2019. Social order continued to improve and remain stable. However, telecommunications fraud and cybercrime continued rising and surpassed pre-pandemic levels, indicating that non-contact crimes pose an increasing threat to the public.

During the year, cases designated for special criminal investigations and indictments included: four homicides, 45 arson cases, 230 extortion cases, 33 robberies, 728 thefts, 50 cases of narcotic drug trafficking, nine cases of narcotic drug taking, one human trafficking case, eight cases of prostitution exploitation, 28 cases of gang crimes and 15 cases of domestic violence. There were 2,717 gambling-related cases, including 119 loan-sharking cases and 33 cases involving infringement of freedom of movement arising from loan sharking. Additional cases included 134 cases of passing counterfeit currency (including using counterfeit credit cards), 2,240 cases of fraud, and 575 cases of cybercrime, and other types of cases.

Crime Prevention

The Judiciary Police joined forces with the community to promote crime prevention. It continued improving the civilian-police cooperation mechanisms, such as School Security Network, the Judiciary Police Crime Prevention Team for Residential Buildings and the Judiciary Police Crime Prevention Alliance for Women, to enhance cooperation and mutual trust between the police and the community. The Judiciary Police also continued holding training programmes such as Community Security Youth Leaders and Junior Anti-Crime Pioneers, to raise young people's awareness of being law-abiding citizens. Through a combined online and offline crime prevention education model, the

Judicial Police also made use of the unique advantages of new media platforms in spreading police information. In 2023, official accounts were established on several popular social media platforms in Macao, to help with widely and thoroughly implementing crime prevention and publicity work.

Anti-Fraud Measures

The prevalence of telecommunication fraud continued in 2023. The Judiciary Police continuously improved its anti-fraud mechanism and work arrangements, to better protect the property and legal rights of the public.

In 2023, the Judiciary Police established an Anti-Fraud Coordination Centre to strengthen the coordination and promotion of anti-fraud work. In terms of prevention, the Judiciary Police held 528 anti-fraud publicity events during the year, reaching over 107,000 people. The Judiciary Police collaborated with non-government organisations, the education sector and various industries to conduct innovative and targeted anti-fraud activities, thus raising public awareness of and vigilance against fraud. Additionally, the Judiciary Police formed a Special Working Group on Anti-Fraud Education for Tertiary Students in cooperation with the Education and Youth Development Bureau and tertiary institutions, to enhance anti-fraud education among tertiary students.

In terms of recovering losses, in 2023 the Judiciary Police worked closely with the banking industry to actively implement measures such as discouraging suspicious online and offline remittances, and emergency suspensions of payments, successfully intercepting 531 cases involving over 130 million patacas. During the year, the Judiciary Police proactively reported 361 bank accounts that were suspected of being fraudulent to the banking industry, prompting the banking sector to take precautionary measures such as issuing warnings and freezing the accounts.

In terms of combating crimes, the Judiciary Police worked closely with overseas law enforcement agencies to combat cross-border fraud gangs. It strengthened intelligence gathering and investigation efforts, breaking up three telephone fraud dens in Macao and arresting a total of 134 members of fraud gangs during the year. Starting in July 2023, the Judiciary Police and the telecommunications industry established a mechanism for notifications regarding and rapid blocking of phishing website, blocking 194 phishing websites within six months, and effectively preventing losses to the public that could have occurred through accessing these sites.

Macao Public Security Forces

The Macao Public Security Forces (FSM) comprises the Public Security Forces Affairs Bureau, the Public Security Police Force, the Fire Service and the Academy of Public Security Forces. At the end of 2023, the FSM had a total of 7,542 staff members, with 6,393 disciplined services staff (including Customs and Prison Officers), 957 clerical staff and 192 trainees (including those enrolled in officer training courses for Police, Fire Services, Customs, and Prison, as well as security training courses).

Public Security Forces Affairs Bureau (DSFSM)

The DSFSM is responsible for providing technical and administrative support concerning the law,

human resources, logistics, financial management, communications, infrastructure, organisation and information, for Macao's public security forces. It also provides support in connection with planning, coordination and standardisation of procedures; explores and plans the overall IT development of the public security forces to enhance coordination of their information, data sharing and security system functions; and coordinates the operation of land border checkpoint buildings managed by the security forces.

Recruitment

Recruitment of police officers and fire service officers is under the central control of the DSFSM. The minimum academic entry requirement for police officers and Fire Service officers is senior high school level. Applicants must pass a full medical examination, a physical fitness test, a general knowledge test and a psychological skill test. After finishing the Training Programme for Public Security Cadets and passing the assessment, an eligible candidate can assume the position of a police officer or a fire service officer.

Details of 2023 public security cadet recruitment are as follows:

Training Programmes for Public Security cadets	Number of Applicants	Number of Recruited Candidates				Total	Date of Assumption
		Police Officer		Fire Service Officer			
		Male	Female	Male	Female		
31st	3,795	88	34	-	-	122	25 March 2025
32nd (note 1)	3,276	116	34	-	-	150	13 December 2024
33rd (note 2)	2,710						

Note 1: The recruitment process was in progress until the end of 2023; the recruitment quota was 150 officers. Successful applicants started engaging in related programmes that commenced on 18 March 2024, and will become police officers on 13 December 2024.

Note 2: The recruitment process was in progress until the end of 2023, and the quota was 120 (90 for police training courses and 30 for fire service training courses). Successful applicants will start engaging in related programmes from July 2025.

Also, clerical staff are recruited by the Public Security Forces Affairs Bureau (DSFSM). Successful applicants are allocated to various divisions, according to the divisions' needs.

Enquiries and Complaints

In 2023, the DSFSM received 283 cases: 94 complaints, 31 suggestions and opinions, 126 enquiries,

31 crime reports and one case that was not relevant to the DSFSM. Of the 94 complaints, 64 concerned transport, 10 concerned officers and staff, 13 concerned equipment and facilities, one concerned the environment, and two concerned other matters.

Disciplinary Cases

The DSFSM requires rigorous disciplinary compliance from all its officers. According to information provided by the DSFSM, during 2023, investigations were completed regarding 196 disciplinary cases involving 207 people, 167 of whom were in the Public Security Police, 22 in the Fire Service, three in the DSFSM and 15 in the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces. Most disciplinary actions were in response to minor offences; eight Public Security Police officers and three Fire Service officers were disciplined for criminal offences.

Fire Services Bureau

The core functions of the Fire Services Bureau are to assist in cases of fire, flooding, building collapses, and other situations threatening life and property. It takes measures to prevent fires and provides assistance in emergency cases involving illness or danger. The Fire Services Bureau also participates in civil protection and emergency management.

At the end of 2023, the Fire Services Bureau had a staffing level of 1,589 posts, with 1,434 serving personnel and 155 vacancies. It has ten fire stations on the Macao peninsula, Taipa and Coloane islands: the Fire Services Bureau Headquarters and Sai Van Lake Station, Central Station, Areia Preta Station, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Station, Ilha Verde Station Taipa Station, and Coloane Station, Hengqin Island Station, and two stations at Macau International Airport.

The Fire Services Bureau responded to 52,685 incidents during 2023.

Appliances and Equipment

The Fire Services Bureau currently has 264 fire vehicles, including 30 with large water pumps, 11 aerial ladder pumps, 10 ladder platforms, 15 rescue units, three tenders equipped for high rescues, six rescue cushion tenders, one demolition machine, six dangerous goods and chemicals vehicles, 30 fire/ambulance motorcycles, 58 ambulances, 18 support vehicles, and 76 logistics and other vehicles.

Fire Fighting

In 2023, the Fire Services Bureau handled 19 No. 2 alarm fires, 570 No. 1 alarm fires, and 247 miscellaneous fires. Classified by cause, 164 fire incidents were due to unattended cooking stoves, 59 were the result of electrical short circuits, 116 involved accidental false alarms, 135 were suspected to be due to kindling left behind by negligent people, six were due to suspected arson, 11 were due to unusual causes and the remaining 345 were due to other causes. During the year, 35 people were injured in fires.

Other Emergency and Special Services

The Fire Services Bureau provides other accident, emergency and special services, such as handling gas leaks, emergency opening of doors and the rescue of people trapped in malfunctioning lifts, and suicide attempts. It assists the injured in industrial and traffic accidents, removes fallen objects, cleans roads, and deals with collapsed buildings or fallen trees, landslides and flooding. When needed, it also provides emergency and special services to Macau International Airport. In 2023, the Fire Services Bureau handled 8,790 emergency and special service calls concerning incidents in the above categories.

Ambulance Service

The Fire Services Bureau is also responsible for all emergency assistance work in Macao. Its emergency ambulance team comprises 1,300 paramedics. In 2023, the Fire Services Bureau responded to 43,059 emergency requests for ambulances, and dispatched ambulances on 46,086 occasions.

Fire Prevention

The design of all buildings and fire-prevention equipment in Macao are regulated by Law No. 15/2021, Legal System of Fire Safety of Buildings and Premises. The Fire Services Bureau examines and monitors fire-prevention measures in shopping malls, factories, catering establishments, and various recreational and entertainment venues.

In 2023, the Fire Services Bureau examined 6,781 construction plans, conducted 1,515 site inspections, performed 2,092 fire-fighting-equipment tests and undertook 8,785 fire-prevention and safety patrols. It handled 1,196 complaints and appeals, and awarded 1,323 quality certificates for fire-prevention and fire-fighting equipment.

Academy of Macao Public Security Forces

Founded in 4 July 1988, the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces is a tertiary educational institute under the Secretary for Security.

The main role of the Academy of Macao Public Security Forces is to offer professional training programmes for Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's degrees covering police security, to upgrade the academic and professional standards of the Public Security Forces and their officers, thus meeting community needs. These include training courses such as Master's Degree in Social Sciences (Public Security Administration), undergraduate Police Science, Protection and Safety Engineering and Prison Security degree programmes.

In addition, the academy provide training courses or internship that help public security forces and related departments through further training, retraining or professionalisation, in order to cope with the development of the community and provide better services to the public.

The Academy of Macao Public Security Forces co-organises promotion preparation programmes with the public security forces and relevant departments, and is responsible for providing occupational training to applicants of Public Security Police, Fire Service, Customs and Prison officers.

The Academy of Macao Public Security Forces launched its first Master's Degree Programme in Social Sciences (Public Security Administration) in 2022, with a total of 30 officers from the public security forces and relevant departments taking the course. Since the launching of the first Police/Fire Service/ Customs Officers' Training Programme in 1990, the academy had trained 373 officers in its Police/Fire Service/ Customs Officers by 2023. There are 70 officers taking part in the Police/Fire Service/ Customs/ Prison Officers' Training Programme during the 2023/2024 academic year.

Regarding the training at basic officer level, a total of 8,706 cadets were trained in the District Public Security Services Programme from 1990 to 2003, and the Training Programme for Public Security Cadets from 2003 to 2022. In 2023, the academy organised 32 short-term courses, talks and seminars, for a total of 2,876 participants.

Macao Customs Service

Founded in accordance with the Basic Law of the MSAR, the Macao Customs Service (Macao Customs) is an independently administered public authority. The Director-General is the highest person-in-charge of the Macao Customs, who is nominated by the Chief Executive for the appointment from the Central People's Government. The Director-General of Macao Customs reports directly to the Chief Executive, but this does not affect the supervisory authority of the Secretary for Security empowered by the relevant by-laws.

Macao Customs implements its duties for preventing and combating smuggling, customs fraud and intellectual property infringements. It also strengthens exchanges of information and coordination with the customs departments of neighbouring regions, and combats and intercepts illegal cross-border activities, such as smuggling and drug trafficking. Moreover, Macao Customs works with related departments on the inspection and quarantine of imported food, to ensure food hygiene and safety.

In 2023, Macao Customs detected and solved 68 cases of illegal border crossings, arresting 187 illegal immigrants and 35 human smuggling ring leaders. It also seized a large quantity of undeclared imports, including 57,707 kilogrammes of meat and vegetables, 3,702 litres of alcoholic beverages, 810,770 cigarettes, 96,650 grammes of cigars, and 5,053 grammes of tobacco.

As regards intellectual property and industrial property protection, counterfeit items seized included 64 accessories, 14 bags, 21 pairs of shoes, 44 bottles of wine, 1,809 items of clothing, one watch, two mobile phone accessories, 2,811 daily commodities, 2,422 cosmetics, and 5,000 sets of CDs.

Moreover, 5,743 case reports and 58 indictments were issued by Macao Customs, including:

- 5,330 cases involving infringement of the External Trade Law;
- 132 cases involving the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Control;

- 37 cases involving non-compliance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;
- Six cases involving the violation of the Control of Cross-border Physical Transportation of Cash and Bearer Negotiable Instruments;
- Eight cases involving non-compliance with the Regulations on the Prohibition of Illegal Employment;
- 24 cases involving the violation of the Law on Employment of Non-Resident Workers;
- One case involving non-compliance with the Marine and Water Bureau regulations;
- 108 cases involving violations of the Law of Smoking Prevention and Control;
- Three cases involving the violation of the Control and Reduced Use of Ozone-Depleting Substances;
- One case involving non-compliance with the regulation on commercial or industrial activities concerning computer programs, audio recordings and products, as well as audiovisual products;
- 38 cases involving the Penal Code;
- 77 cases involving violations of the Legal System on Immigration Control, Authorisation to Stay and Residence Permits in the Macao Special Administrative Region;
- Four cases involving prohibiting the illegal production, trafficking and consumption of narcotics and psychoactive drugs;
- 16 cases involving the infringement of the Industrial Property Law;
- 14 cases involving violations of the Legal Framework of Public Health and Economic Offences; and
- Two cases involving violations of the Copyright and Related Rights Code.

Marine Supervision

The Marine Enforcement Department of the Macao Customs is responsible for patrolling Macao's coastal waters. Through the Anti-illegal Immigration Collaboration Mechanism, it jointly combats illegal immigration with the Public Security Police and the Judiciary Police. Through a point-to-point joint collaboration mechanism, it jointly combats illegal immigration activities in Macao and Zhuhai with Zhuhai Public Security Bureau, Zhuhai Armed Police Corps and the Zhuhai Coast Guard.

During exchanges of information in 2023, Macao Customs and law enforcement authorities in China reported 2,892 suspicious incidents that mainly involved crimes such as illegal immigration and smuggling. Macao Customs and Zhuhai Public Security Bureau conducted six synchronised patrol operations, to ensure order and safety at sea along the coast of Macao. In the Inner Harbour, Macao Customs and Zhuhai Armed Police Corps conducted eight synchronised patrols and two rescue drills. Moreover, to strengthen the order and safety of the inner harbour and the outer harbour,

Macao Customs and the Marine and Water Bureau conducted five joint marine actions and three search and rescue drills.

The Macao Customs fleet currently has 15 patrol vessels, 41 high-speed boats and three water bikes.

International Cooperation

Macao Customs is a member of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and coordinates and organises operations within the territory of Macao. In 2023, major actions against illicit activities included:

- Participating in operations organised by the Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia and the Pacific (RILO AP) from 15 April to 15 September, to combat the illegal trafficking of controlled small and light weapons;
- During the above period, Macao Customs took part in operations jointly organised by RILO AP and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to combat the smuggling of drugs and their precursors, as well as illegal trafficking in wild fauna and flora, including endangered species;
- From 25 September to 19 November 19, Macao Customs participated in operations jointly organised by Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department and RILO AP, to combat the illegal trafficking of drugs and drug precursors, including established psychotropic substances, new psychoactive substances, and cannabis;
- From 1 October to 31 October, Macao Customs engaged in operations jointly organised by the WCO and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) to combat the smuggling of wild fauna and flora, including endangered species, and associated illegal activities such as document forgery of commercial and customs documents and illicit financial flows;
- From 13 November to 24 November, Macao Customs took part in operations organised by Interpol to combat the illegal trafficking of weapons, firearms, ammunition, and hazardous materials (explosives precursors); and
- From 4 December to 15 December, Macao Customs participated in operations organised by the WCO to combat the illegal trafficking of counterfeit or non-compliant medicines and daily necessities.

Handling Enquiries and Complaints

The Internal Affairs Office, which is directly under the Director-General of Macao Customs, is responsible for handling reports, complaints and enquiries. During 2023, the office received 774 reports from the public. The topics included intellectual property infringements, violation of external trade policies, violation of marine safety regulations, illegal border crossings, illegal labour, and smuggling of narcotics and psychoactive drugs. In all, there were 148 complaints received, concerning the conduct of customs officers, service procedures, equipment and facilities, and

environment and noise pollution. The office also handled 1,258 enquiries.

Civil Protection Master Plan

Civil protection refers to the multi-discipline activities conducted by the Macao SAR on an ongoing basis, to safeguard against public emergencies caused by natural or human factors that endanger people's lives and property. It involves rescuing and assisting persons in danger, maintaining the security of public property and the normal operations of institutions, and – if necessary – helping to resume public order and normal living conditions.

Public emergencies are classified into natural disasters, accidents, public health incidents and social safety incidents, based on their risks, factors and characteristics. According to the extent of the problems, they may be ranked in five levels, including ordinary, prevention, immediate prevention, rescue(s), and disaster. Regarding announcements on emergencies: the Chief Executive has to specify the times that emergency situations start and finish, as specified in Articles 3 to 5 in the Executive Order published in the Macao SAR Gazette. If a situation is obviously in emergency, the Chief Executive can announce when it began through social media, so it is publicised and response measures can be legally implemented.

The civil protection system comprises the following entities:

- (1) The Chief Executive;
- (2) The Commander of the Joint Operation;
- (3) The Public Security Forces and relevant security departments (Unitary Police Services, Macao Customs, Public Security Police, Fire Services Bureau, Judiciary Police, Public Security Forces Affairs Bureau and Academy of Macao Public Security Forces);
- (4) Public and private entities designated by the Chief Executive that have special authority or skills for implementing civil protection:
 - Public entities: the Civil Aviation Authority; Conde S. Januario Hospital; Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau; the Marine and Water Bureau; the Transport Bureau; the Education and Youth Development Bureau; the Environmental Protection Bureau; the Land and Urban Construction Bureau; Macao Government Tourism Office; the Government Information Bureau; the Municipal Affairs Bureau; the Social Welfare Bureau; the Housing Bureau; the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau and the Health Bureau; and
 - Private entities: Companhia de Electricidade de Macau; Sai Van Bridge Management Company; Companhia de Telecomunicacoes de Macau; Macao Red Cross; Kiang Wu Hospital; Macao Water Supply Company (SAAM) and Teledifusao de Macau (TDM).

According to Law No. 11/2020 and the regulations of By-law No. 31/2020 that came into effect on 15 September 2020, the Chief Executive is the highest authority of civil protection in Macao, with the right to approve civil protection master plans.

In 2023, Macao activated the civil protection mechanism during Typhoon Talim in July, Super Typhoon Saola in September, and Tropical Cyclone Koinu in October. Under the leadership of the Chief Executive and the direction of the Secretary for Security, members of civil protection

authorities maintained their roles while responding to these natural disasters, and taking appropriate disaster prevention measures to safeguard residents' lives and property.

Correctional Services Bureau

The Correctional Services Bureau is responsible for organising and managing departments of prison affairs and departments that implement juvenile correction and education, as well as supporting their operations. Coloane Prison and the Youth Correctional Institution are subsidiaries of the Correctional Services Bureau.

Coloane Prison

Coloane Prison is authorised to implement confinement and custodial sentences. It has separate male and female sections. Each has two sub-sections, for convicted inmates and for inmates on remand. Moreover, one section is used to house inmates who are under special supervision.

Prison Population

Coloane Prison can accommodate a maximum of 2,041 inmates. As at 31 December 2023, it held 1,335 inmates, of whom 268 were on remand and 1,087 were convicted. There were 1,133 male inmates and 222 female inmates.

Returning to Society

Coloane Prison fully assists inmates with returning to society, with consideration of individual, family and society perspectives, and provides diverse, comprehensive services assisting this return. The measures include counselling services; education and occupational training; organising family activities and family gatherings; and jointly organising seminars, events and employment programmes with relevant public departments and social organisations.

Youth Correctional Institution

The Youth Correctional Institution is an educational institution responsible for the enforcement of court-ordered containment measures. The institution is divided into separate areas for boys and girls, with an Observation Centre, an Educational Centre, and an Education and Training Centre in each area. There is a team of counsellors working round-the-clock, together with social workers, psychologists, occupational training tutors and teachers, providing academic and vocational training, personal and family counselling, as well as implementing social service schemes.

Inmates

The institution generally only accepts young people aged 12 to 16, but may extend its services to them until they reach 21. There were 11 boys and no girl in the institution as at 31 December 2023.



Flag-raising Team





Every year, the Public Security Police flag-raising team is always present at large-scale flag-raising ceremonies held in Golden Lotus Square on National Day and the anniversary day of the establishment of the Macao Special Administrative Region. Driven by a sense of patriotism with love for the country and Macao, they take part in drills outside police work, and guard the solemnity of the flag-raising ceremonies with precise movements. In addition, the flag-raising team actively supports the publicity and education work on the flag-raising ceremony, with a view to enhancing knowledge of the national flag and the regional flag among younger generations, and strengthening their sense of belonging to the country and Macao.