



KEEPING AMERICA SAFE

You did your duty and protected your nation. Now you can protect and serve as a civilian. Here's how.

BY MARTY LEVINE

If you think security just means police officers in patrol cars or correctional officers in prisons, think again. Companies whose main job is security have surprising job needs – and you might not guess what other companies need security talent.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – the Metro in our nation's capitol – is looking to hire more than 1,700 people over the next year. Sure, the biggest number will be bus operators and mechanics, says Maurice Blue, Metro's senior sourcing officer/military recruiter. But, he adds, "Vacancies will truly span all disciplines, including technical, operational, skilled trades, financial,

safety and security, procurement, administrative, and many more."

That includes Metro transit regular and special police officers, who make sure the whole transportation system is safe, both in uniform and plain clothes. Metro is looking for veterans and counting on their "teamwork, discipline, selfless service and mission accomplishment," Blue says.

Their work dovetails with traditional security jobs. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), all of these jobs are growing, and none requires more than a high-school diploma to start.

But you probably didn't know that a company like insurance giant Travelers is looking for senior investigators – and seeking

military security experts to fill those spots.

According to Jim McMahon, vice president for talent acquisition at Travelers, investigative services pros develop major fraud investigations – conducting research, in-person interviews and off-site inspections. "Our investigations are everything from workers comp fraud to large-scale organized crime," he says. "We have former FBI, state and municipal detectives and MPs/military investigators in our ranks."

Secure your future with a security job. If you're a veteran, you're a major suspect – and they're searching for you now. ▶

HOT JOBS IN SECURITY

GIJOBS.COM/HOTJOBS

SECURITY SPECIALIST

POLICE/ DETECTIVE

PROBATION OFFICER/ CORRECTIONAL TREATMENT SPECIALIST

FIRE INSPECTOR/ INVESTIGATOR

PRIVATE DETECTIVE/ INVESTIGATOR

CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

POLICE, FIRE, AND AMBULANCE DISPATCHERS

GAMING SURVEILLANCE OFFICERS

WHAT YOU'LL DO

Security specialists guard facilities and personnel both CONUS and OCONUS.

Police and detectives patrol their cities, protecting and serving the residents and their property.

Probation officers and correctional treatment specialists help keep released offenders from committing further crimes, monitoring and aiding their progress back into society.

They look for the causes of fires, working on site to determine the origins of blazes.

In a world with increasing security issues and lawsuits, private detectives and investigators work for corporations and private individuals to solve or prevent Internet-based and other types of crimes and also gather information desired by clients.

Secure prisoners and the facilities that house them, transport personnel and see to the safety of their fellow officers and the public visiting the facilities.

They're the first responder of first responders, taking calls for emergency and non-emergency assistance and helping to mobilize forces to take care of the situation.

They guard the financial and safety interests of casinos and other large luxury facilities.

MEDIAN SALARY

\$64,120

\$56,980

\$52,849

\$53,990

\$48,653

\$38,970

\$36,300

\$30,840

JOB OUTLOOK

12 percent growth through 2022.

5 percent growth through 2022.

Steady employment – no change – says the BLS.

6 percent growth through 2022.

11 percent growth through 2012.

5 percent growth through 2022.

8 percent growth through 2022.

12 percent growth through 2022.

EDUCATION/ TRAINING

High school diploma

Ranges from a high school diploma to a college, or higher, degree. Most police and detectives must graduate from their agency's training academy before completing a period of on-the-job training.

Bachelor's degree

High school diploma and previous work experience in a fire or police department. Workers attend training academies and receive on-the-job training in inspection and investigation.

High school diploma

High school diploma

High school diploma

High school diploma

WHO'S HIRING

SAIC, Defense Department, State Department, Department of Homeland Security, Vinnell Arabia, L-3 Communications, Brinks, G4S

Washington Metro Area Transit Authority, Chenega Corporation, National Security Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Veterans Affairs, New York Police Department, local municipalities nationwide

Correct Care Solutions, State of Tennessee, G4S, Louisiana State Government, State of Ohio, State of Montana, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, City of New York

Applied Technical Services Inc., EFI Global Inc., State of Wyoming, SEA Ltd., Rimkus Consulting Group, State of Arkansas, Travelers.

Travelers Insurance, Amtrak, Apple, Comcast, Hewlett-Packard Company, Deloitte

Iowa Department of Administrative Services, State of Tennessee, State of Arizona, State of Ohio, Geo Group, Washington State Department of Corrections, Commonwealth of Kentucky

Police and fire departments, counties and ambulance services nationwide

Harrah's New Orleans, Penn National Gaming Inc., Horseshoe Baltimore, Kentucky Downs LLC, Tropicana Las Vegas Inc., Las Vegas Sands Corp.



JAMES W. MORRISON IV

Police Officer III, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Police Department

WHAT DO YOU DO? I'm currently assigned to the Metrobus Enforcement Division. We ride Metrobus and patrol bus routes in plainclothes, which allows us to observe crimes or violations that might not be committed in front of a uniformed officer.

WHY DID YOU PICK THIS JOB? I selected the Metro Transit Police Department because of its unique style of policing. It offered an opportunity to work in three different jurisdictions.

ANY FUNNY INCIDENTS DURING YOUR FIRST DAYS ON THE JOB? When I was in the academy and the police drill instructors were first introduced to the recruits, seeing some of the frightened looks on some of the recruits' faces and their mannerisms was hilarious.

WHAT'S THE COOLEST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB? No day is ever the same, and that seven years after being hired I still get excited and look forward to coming to work. ▶



Age: 29

Military Service: Army Reserve (2003-2011)

Highest Rank: Sergeant (E-5)

MOS: Motor Transport Operator (88M)

AD



TOSHA FERRON

Investigator, Special Investigative Unit, Travelers Insurance

WHAT DO YOU DO?


I conduct investigations to detect fraud on claims against the company, and provide investigative expertise to limit exposure and protect company assets.

BIGGEST TRANSITION HEADACHE? It was difficult for me to explain to potential employers what I did in the military in a way that would make sense to them. Military skills, experiences and accomplishments often get lost in translation.

WHY DID YOU PICK THIS JOB? I chose this career because I am able to use the investigative skills I developed in my military career, and this field is never boring. Each investigation differs from the last and offers varied types of evidence, methods and techniques, which keeps the job interesting.

WHAT'S THE COOLEST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

I get to meet new people just about every day working out in the field. Perks like working from home and the use of a company vehicle are also great!

BEST ADVICE FOR TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBERS? When looking for a job, do not be afraid to explore options that you think may not work for you. Some jobs may not seem to fit your profile at first, but do not hesitate to try other career fields before making up your mind. 



Age: 38

Military Service: Air Force (1994-2006)
Air Force Reserve (2006-Present)

Highest Rank: Staff Sergeant (E-5)

AFSC: Special Agent, Office of Special Investigations