

On the publication of the White Paper on Police 2009

The White Paper on Police has been created to further the understanding among the people of the current status of the activities of the police in Japan.

This year's White Paper on Police contains a special feature which focuses on the theme of "Measures to Cope with Crimes that Threaten Everyday Life."

Although the number of cases of recognized criminal offenses has continued to fall since the peak year of 2002, the people continue to feel uneasy about the state of order in Japan due to crimes which serve to damage the trust people have in each other – crimes which hit close to home, such as *furikome* fraud (threats), commercial offenses utilizing the victim's lack of knowledge about the elements of a transaction to carry out a scam, and criminal acts which threaten the safety of well-known foods and products.

Contained in this White Paper is information on the current initiatives of the Police to tackle the highly dangerous crimes, especially *furikome* fraud, which occur everyday before targets even realize they are being victimized. At the same time, this White Paper puts forth issues on which the police wish to link up with the people and relevant organizations and groups to create a society resistant to this kind of crime.

In addition to the above, this White Paper contains a topics section featuring four particular issues, such as police initiatives to respond to large-scale disasters, which the police would like the people to know more about.

Finally, this White Paper discusses the current state of the latest police actions to push society back on the path toward public order as well as a section entitled "At the cutting edge of police activities," the personal notes of a police personnel member active at crime scenes, in which he candidly describes his thoughts and feelings.

In order to have this White Paper on Police 2009 read by as many people as possible, we have endeavored to give easy-to-understand explanations using many diagrams and photographs. We sincerely hope that this White Paper on Police will prove useful in deepening further the understanding of the police administration among the people. We hope for everyone's support and cooperation for police activities in the future.

Commissioner-General of the National Police Agency (NPA) Takaharu Ando
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