



**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**A BILL**

**FOR**

**AN ACT TO REPEAL THE POLICE ACT, CAP. P19, LAWS OF THE  
FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND ENACT NIGERIA POLICE ACT,  
2020 TO PROVIDE FOR THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE POLICE FORCE  
AND ENSURE COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE  
POLICE AND COMMUNITIES IN MAINTAINING PEACE,  
COMBATING CRIME, PROTECTING LIBERTIES, LIFE AND  
PROPERTY; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 685)**

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**Nigeria Police Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020 (HB. 685)**



**Sponsored by: Hon. Gagdi Adamu Yusuf**

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- 2      Specific objectives.
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# Nigeria Police Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE POLICE ACT, CAP. P19, LAWS OF THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 AND ENACT NIGERIA POLICE ACT, 2020 TO PROVIDE FOR THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE POLICE FORCE AND ENSURE COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE POLICE AND COMMUNITIES IN MAINTAINING PEACE, COMBATING CRIME, PROTECTING LIBERTIES, LIFE AND PROPERTY; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS (HB. 685)

[ ]

Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria—

1. The Objective of this Bill is to provide for a more efficient and effective police force that is based on the principles of: General objective.

- (a) accountability and transparency;
- (b) protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms; and
- (c) partnership with other security agencies.

2. The Specific objectives of this Bill are to:

Specific objectives.

- (a) provide for a Police Force that is more responsive to the needs of the general public and has entrenched in its operations the values of fairness, justice and equity;
- (b) reposition the Police Force to uphold and safeguard the fundamental rights of every person in Nigeria in its operations;
- (c) bring about a positive change in the public perception of the Police Force by ensuring that its functions are performed in a manner sensitive to the needs and well-being of the general public;
- (d) empower the Police Force to effectively prevent crimes without threatening the liberty and privacy of persons in Nigeria;
- (e) strengthen the Police Force in the performance of its functions, including safety and security of all persons, communities and property in Nigeria;
- (f) ensure that the police performs its functions by creating the enabling environment to foster cooperation and partnership between it and the communities it serves to effectively prevent, reduce or eradicate crimes;
- (g) develop professionalism in the Police Force by providing relevant training in all police formations in Nigeria for enhanced performance; and

(h) respect for rights of victims of crime and an understanding of their needs.

3. (1) There is established for Nigeria the Nigeria Police Force (in this Bill referred to as "the Police Force") which shall, subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria:

Establishment,  
composition and  
duties of the  
Nigeria Police  
Force.

(a) be organised and administered in accordance with the provisions of this Bill;  
and

(b) have such powers and duties and carry out such responsibilities as are conferred on it under this Bill or any other law.

(2) The Police Force shall consist of:

(a) all persons who immediately before the commencement of this Bill were members;

(b) the Inspector-General of Police;

(c) persons appointed to offices in the Police Force by the Police Service Commission under Part IV of this Bill;

(d) Special Constables appointed under this Bill; and

(e) such other persons that may be appointed under this Bill.

(3) The hierarchy of the Police Force is as specified in the Schedule to this Bill.

4. The Police Force shall:

Primary functions  
of the Police  
Force.

(a) prevent and detect crimes, and protect the rights and freedom of every person in Nigeria as provided in the Constitution, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Right, and any other law;

(b) maintain public safety, law and order;

(c) protect the lives and property of all persons in Nigeria;

(d) enforce all laws and regulations without prejudice to the enabling Acts of other security agencies;

(e) discharge such duties within and outside Nigeria as may be required of it under this Bill or any other law;

(f) collaborate with other agencies to take any necessary action and provide the required assistance or support to persons in distress, including victims of road accidents, fire disasters, earthquakes and floods;

(g) facilitate the free passage and movement on highways, roads and streets open

to the public;

(h) adopt community partnership in the discharge of its responsibilities under this Bill or under any other law; and

(l) to vet and approve the registration of private Detective Schools and private Investigative outfits.

5. (1) There is established for the Federation the Nigeria Police Council (in this Bill referred to as "the Police Council") which is the highest policy making body in matters relating to the Police Force.

Establishment and functions of the Nigeria Police Council.

(2) The Police Council consists of:

(a) the President, who is the Chairman;

(b) the Governor of each State of the Federation;

(c) the Chairman of the Police Service Commission; and

(d) the Inspector-General of Police.

(3) The functions of the Police Council shall include:

(a) the organisation and administration of the Nigeria Police Force and all other matters relating thereto (not being matters relating to the use and operational control of the Force, or the appointment, disciplinary control and dismissal of members of the Force); and

(b) advising the President on the appointment of the Inspector-General of Police.

(4) The Police Council shall meet at least twice in a year and may hold emergency meetings when necessary.

(5) The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Police Affairs, shall serve as secretary to the Police Council and his office shall provide the necessary secretarial support for the work of the Police Council.

(6) Subject to the provision of this section, the Police Council shall regulate its own proceedings.

6. (1) The Police Force is responsible for promoting and protecting the fundamental rights of persons in police custody as guaranteed by the Constitution.

Duty of Police Force to enforce certain constitutional provisions, etc.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1) of this section, the Police Force shall collaborate with and maintain close working relationships with any Government agency or relevant private initiatives in the establishment of schemes or mechanisms offering legal services to accused persons, detainees or accused persons in police custody in need of legal services to ensure that they have full access to justice as laid down under the relevant provisions of Chapter IV of the Constitution.



7. (1) The Police Force is responsible for maintaining and securing public safety and public order. Public safety and public order.

(2) The Police Force shall, in carrying out its responsibilities under subsection (1) of this section:

- (a) uphold the provisions of the Constitution and other laws;
- (b) uphold and protect the fundamental rights of all persons in Nigeria; and
- (c) be fair to all persons in Nigeria notwithstanding their economic status or religious, ethnic or political beliefs and affiliations.

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Commissioner of Police of a State is responsible for maintaining security, public safety and public order within the State.

(4) Where a person or organisation notifies the police of his or its intention to hold a public meeting, rally or procession on a public highway, or such meetings in a place where the public has access to, the police officer responsible for the area where the meeting, rally or procession will take place, shall mobilise personnel to provide security cover for the meeting, rally or procession.

8. (1) The Inspector-General may delegate any of his powers under this Bill to any police officer, as may be appropriate and such powers may be exercised with respect to the matters or class of matters specified or defined in the instrument of delegation. Delegation of powers.

(2) For efficiency, effectiveness and ease of delegation of powers under subsection (1) of this section, and to ensure quick response to priority, safety and security needs, the Inspector-General shall assign powers to Zonal, State, Area and Divisional Commands of the Police Force, as may be appropriate.

9. When required to perform military duties in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of this Bill, such duties entailing service with the armed forces of Nigeria or any force for the time being attached thereto or acting therewith, the Police shall be under the command and subject to the orders of the Officer in command of the armed forces in Nigeria, but for the purposes of internal security shall remain under the control of a Superior Police Officer. Command of Police in case of active service.

10. Pursuant to Section 215 (1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended), the hierarchy of the Police shall consist of the following: Hierarchy of the Police.

- (i) the Inspector-General of Police;
- (ii) Deputy Inspectors- General of Police;
- (iii) Assistant Inspectors-General of Police;
- (iv) Commissioners of Police;
- (v) Deputy Commissioners of Police;

- (vi) Assistant Commissioners of Police;
- (vii) Chief Superintendents of Police;
- (viii) Superintendents of Police;
- (ix) Deputy Superintendents of Police;
- (x) Assistant Superintendents of Police I
- (xi) Assistant Superintendents of Police II;
- (xii) Cadet Assistant Superintendents of Police;
- (xiii) Chief Inspectors of Police;
- (xiv) Deputy Chief Inspectors of Police;
- (xv) Assistant Chief Inspectors of Police;
- (xvi) Principal Inspectors of Police;
- (xvii) Senior Inspectors of Police;
- (xviii) Inspectors of Police I (Confirmed);
- (xix) Inspectors of Police II (Unconfirmed);
- (xx) Cadet Inspectors of Police;
- (xxi) Sergeant Majors;
- (xxii) Sergeants;
- (xxiii) Corporals;
- (xxiv) Constables I;
- (xxv) Constables II;
- (xxvi) Recruits; and
- (xxvii) such other Officers as the Nigeria Police Council may, from time to time consider necessary for effective discharge of the functions of the Police.

11. (1) The Inspector-General of Police shall be the head of the Nigeria Police Force and shall exercise full Command and Operational Control over the Police and all its departments/units. Appointment of the Inspector-General of Police.
- (2) The person to be appointed as Inspector-General of Police shall be a Senior Police

Officer not below the rank of an Assistant Inspector-General of Police with the requisite academic qualifications of not less than a first degree or its equivalent in addition to professional and management experience.

(3) The Inspector-General of Police shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Police Council from among serving members of the Nigeria Police Force.

(4) The Inspector-General of Police shall not be removed from Office except for gross misconduct, gross violation of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or demonstrated incapacity to effectively discharge the duties of the Office.

(5) The Inspector-General of Police shall not be removed from office except by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

(6) The person appointed to the Office of the Inspector-General of Police shall hold Office for four (4) years subject the provision of clause 21 (8) of the Bill.

12. (1) The Inspector-General of Police shall exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions necessary to give effect to section 10 (1) of this Bill.

Powers, duties and functions of the Inspector-General of Police.

(2) Subject to subsection (1) of this section, the Inspector-General of Police's powers, duties and functions shall include to:

(a) develop a plan before the end of each financial year, setting out the priorities, objectives and expected outcomes of policing and for the next financial year;

(b) having due regards to the state of the security across the country and population, determine the distribution of the numerical strength of the Police;

(c) organize or re-organize the Nigeria Police Force at the national level into various components, units or groups;

(d) establish and maintain training institutions or centres for the training of Officers and other members; and

(e) perform any duty on behalf of the Nigeria Police Force.

(3) Subject to the approval of the Inspector-General of Police, a retired Police Officer may be re-engaged for service for a period of two years and upon further application may be retained or re-engaged for another term of two years.

(4) The Inspector-General of Police shall be charged with the command and operational control of the Force.

13. (1) The Deputy Inspectors-General of Police and Assistant Inspectors-General of Police shall be appointed by the Police Service Commission on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Police.

Appointment of Deputy Inspectors-general of Police and Assistant Inspectors-general

(2) A Person appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall hold Office until retirement or removal following due process by the Police Service Commission on account of gross

misconduct or incapacity to perform his/her duties based on recommendation by the of Police.  
Inspector-General of Police;

(3) The appointment of the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police shall reflect the Federal Character Principle as provided in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

14. (1) The most senior Deputy Inspector-General of Police shall act in the absence of the Inspector-General of Police. Duties of the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police.

(2) The Deputy Inspectors-General of Police shall perform such duties as assigned by the Inspector-General of Police.

(3) The most senior Deputy Inspector-General of Police shall, in the absence from office of the Inspector-General, act on behalf of the Inspector-General in performing any of the functions and discharging the duties of the Inspector-General under this Bill or under any law or in respect of any function as may be delegated by the Inspector-General.

(4) On resumption of duty by the Inspector-General, the said Deputy Inspector-General shall furnish reports, in such form or details as the Inspector-General may specify, of all matters dealt with by the Deputy Inspector-General in the absence of the Inspector-General from office.

15. (1) The Assistant Inspectors-General of Police shall be subordinate in rank to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police but shall be senior to all Commissioners of Police. Duties of the Assistant Inspectors-General of Police.

(2) The Assistant Inspectors-General of Police shall act for the Inspector-General of Police in the absence of both the Inspector-General of Police and the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, and when so acting, the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 10 of this Bill shall, with all necessary modifications, apply to him;

(3) The Assistant Inspectors-General of Police shall be in charge of Police Zonal Commands and shall perform such duties as assigned by the Inspector-General of Police.

16. (1) The Police Service Commission shall appoint such numbers of Commissioners of Police as are required for the efficient performance of the functions of the Police Force. Appointment of Commissioners of Police.

(2) The Police Service Commission shall, from among the Commissioners of Police appointed under subsection (1) of this section, assign a Commissioner of Police to a State or to the Federal Capital Territory.

(3) The Commissioners of Police not assigned under subsection (2) of this section may be deployed by the Inspector-General of the Police to head Departments and such other operational units of the Police Force.

(4) The Police Service Commission or Inspector-General of Police, in assigning or deploying, as the case may be, the Commissioners of Police under this section to State commands, departments or units, shall reflect the principle of Federal character as provided in the Constitution and under the relevant Act.

(5) A person appointed under subsection (1) of this section shall hold office until promotion,

redeployment, retirement or removal by the Police Service Commission on account of gross misconduct or incapacity to perform the functions of his office, as the case may be.

17. Subject to the provisions of this Bill, the Commissioner of Police of a State or the Federal Capital Territory shall: Functions of Commissioners of Police for States.

(a) have command and control over the Police in the State he is assigned to; and

(b) exercise powers and perform the functions necessary to give effect to sections 4 of this Bill; and

(c) perform any duty delegated to him by the Inspector-General.

18. (1) The Inspector-General of Police may delegate any of his powers under this Bill to any Police Officer so that the delegated powers may be exercised by the delegate with respect to the matters or class of matters specified or defined in the instrument of delegation. Delegation by the Inspector-general of Police.

(2) Guided by the principle of efficiency and effectiveness, and for ease of delegation of powers, the Inspector-General of Police shall devolve powers to Zonal, States, Area Commands, Divisions and Police Posts to ensure quick response to safety and security needs.

19. On enlistment/recruitment or appointment of any person as a member of the Nigeria Police Force, such person shall forthwith take and subscribe to the official oath, the Police oath, the oath of allegiance and oath of secrecy. Oaths for Police Officers.

20. (1) The police officer shall not be paid salary below what is payable to officers in other security agencies. Remuneration.

(2) A police officer shall not get himself involved in indebtedness of any kind while still in service, and where he does, he shall be disciplined and the debt or liability shall be recovered from his remuneration if the creditor can prove the indebtedness by withholding from the police officer's remuneration an amount not exceeding one-third of his monthly remuneration until the amount of the debt or liability is made good.

(3) Where the recovery of the debt or liability is by a court order, the court making the order shall give due notice to the senior police officer in charge of the command to which the indebted officer belongs, and the amount ordered shall be withheld or deducted from the indebted officer's remuneration until the amount of the debt is made good.

21. (1) The responsibility for the recruitment of recruit constables into the Nigeria Police Force and recruit cadets into the Nigeria Police Academy shall be the duty of the Inspector-General of Police. Recruitment, appointment and service.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), there shall be the Nigeria Police Recruitment Committee (in this Bill referred to as "the Police Recruitment Committee").

(3) The Police Recruitment Committee is responsible for the recruitment of recruit constables into the Nigeria Police Force.

(4) The Police Recruitment Committee shall consist of:

- (a) the Inspector-General of Police as Chairman;
- (b) all the serving Deputy Inspectors-General of Police;
- (c) the Force Secretary;
- (d) Commandants of Staff College, Jos;
- (e) Police Academy, Wudil, Kano;
- (f) a representative of the Police Colleges; and
- (g) the Officer in-charge of the Legal Section of the Nigeria Police Force.

(5) The recruitment of recruit constables into the Nigeria Police Force shall be of national spread across each State of the Federation.

(6) The members of the Police Recruitment Committee shall have power to delegate officers, not below the rank of Chief Superintendent of Police, to represent them at any meeting or recruitment exercise.

(7) The decision of the Police Recruitment Committee is final on any matter concerning the recruitment of recruit constables into the Nigeria Police Force.

(8) Every police officer shall, on recruitment or appointment, serve in the Nigeria Police Force for a period of 35 years or until he attains the age of 60 years, whichever is earlier.

(9) Professionals from the relevant fields, including engineering, medicine, pathology, aviation, law, psychology, accountancy and forensic science, shall:

- (a) be appointed into the Nigeria Police Force as specialists; and
- (b) practise their professions and use their expertise in the advancement of the objectives of the Police Force.

(10) All candidates wishing to be recruited or appointed into the Nigeria Police Force shall undergo psychological and other medical evaluations as may be required as part of the recruitment or appointment process to ascertain their character and suitability for the job.

(11) Within the period of recruitment or appointment, every police officer shall undergo specialised training in any professional field relevant to policing and law enforcement.

22. (1) The Inspector-General shall ensure that all police officers undergo regular training and re-training in: Training programmes.

- (a) basic policing, ethics, code of conduct and standard operating procedures;
- (b) crime detection and law enforcement;

- (c) investigation and gathering of evidence;
- (d) effective nationwide citizen engagement;
- (e) human rights, gender issues, public relations and other emerging issues;
- (f) democratic policing and emotional intelligence;
- (g) prosecution and defence.

(2) The Inspector-General, in consultation with the Ministry and the Police Service Commission, is responsible for the revision of the training, duration and content of the training of police officers, at least once in every five years.

(3) The Inspector-General shall ensure that training programmes are made available to all police officers, irrespective of gender and for all other staff or employees charged with responsibilities for discharging the duties and responsibilities of the Police Force.

(4) All police officers shall undergo periodic training and retraining in basic policing and law enforcement courses as well as specialized courses relevant to law enforcement;

(5) The Inspector-General of Police shall be responsible for the revision of the training duration as well as content of Police training at least once in every three years.

23. Where an alleged offence is reported to the Police, or a person is brought to the police station on the allegation of committing an offence, the Police shall investigate the allegation in accordance with due process and report its finding to the Attorney-General of the Federation or of a State, as the case may be, for legal advice.

Investigation of an allegation by the Police.

24. (1) A suspect or defendant alleged or charged with committing an offence established by an Act of the National Assembly or under any other law shall be arrested, investigated, tried or dealt with according to the provisions of this Bill, except otherwise provided under this Bill.

Arrest generally.

(2) A person shall not be arrested merely on a civil wrong or breach of contract.

(3) A suspect shall be brought before the court as prescribed by this Bill or any other written law or otherwise released conditionally or unconditionally.

25. In making an arrest, the police officer or other person making the arrest shall actually touch or confine the body of the suspect, unless there is a submission to the custody by word or action.

Mode of arrest.

26. A suspect or defendant may not be handcuffed, bound or subjected to restraint except:

No unnecessary restraint.

(a) there is reasonable apprehension of violence or an attempt to escape;

(b) the restraint is considered necessary for the safety of the suspect or defendant;  
or

(c) by order of a court.

27. (1) Except when the suspect is in the actual course of the commission of an offence or is pursued immediately after the commission of an offence or has escaped from lawful custody, the police officer or other person making the arrest shall inform the suspect immediately of the reason for the arrest.

Notification of cause of arrest and rights of suspect.

(2) The police officer, the person making the arrest or the police officer in charge of a police station shall inform the suspect of his rights to:

(a) remain silent or avoid answering any question until after consultation with a legal practitioner or any other person of his own choice;

(b) consult a legal practitioner of his choice before making, endorsing or writing any statement or answering any question put to him after arrest; and

(c) free legal representation by the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria or other organisations, where applicable.

(3) The authority having custody of the suspect shall notify.

28. A person shall not be arrested in place of a suspect

Arrest in lieu prohibited.

29. A suspect shall:

Humane treatment of arrested suspect.

(a) be accorded humane treatment, having regard to his right to the dignity of his person; and

(b) not be subjected to any form of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

30. (1) A police officer may, without an order of a court and without a warrant, arrest a suspect:

Arrest by police officer without warrant.

(a) whom he suspects on reasonable grounds of having committed an offence against a law in Nigeria or against the law of any other country, unless the law creating the offence provides that the suspect cannot be arrested without a warrant;

(b) who commits any offence in his presence;

(c) who obstructs a police officer while in the discharge of his duty, or who has escaped or attempts to escape from lawful custody;

(d) in whose possession anything is found which may reasonably be suspected to be stolen property or who may reasonably be suspected of having committed an offence with reference to the thing;

(e) whom he suspects on reasonable grounds of being a deserter from any of the



armed forces and police in Nigeria;

(f) whom he suspects on reasonable grounds of having been involved in an act committed at a place outside Nigeria which, if committed in Nigeria, would have been punished as an offence, and for which he is, under a law in force in Nigeria, liable to be apprehended and detained in Nigeria;

(g) having in his possession without lawful excuse, the burden of proving which excuse shall lie on the person, any implement of housebreaking, car theft, firearm or any offensive or dangerous weapon;

(h) whom he has reasonable cause to believe a warrant of arrest has been issued by a court of competent jurisdiction in Nigeria;

(i) found in Nigeria taking precautions to conceal his presence in circumstances, which afford reason to believe that he is taking such precautions with a view to committing an offence;

(j) whom he is directed to arrest by a judge or magistrate;

(k) whom he reasonably suspects to be planning to commit an offence for which the police officer may arrest without a warrant, if it appears to him that the commission of the offence cannot be otherwise prevented;

(l) required to appear by a public summons issued under this Bill or any other Act;

(m) to protect a child or other vulnerable person from the suspect in question; and

(n) to prevent the suspect in question from:

(i) causing physical injury to himself or any other person;

(ii) suffering physical injury;

(iii) causing loss of or damage to property;

(iv) committing an offence against public decency where members of the public going about their normal business cannot reasonably be expected to avoid the person in question; or

(v) causing an unlawful obstruction of the highway.

(2) No person shall be arrested without a warrant except as provided in subsection (1) (e).

(3) The authority given to a police officer to arrest a suspect who commits an offence in his presence is exercisable in respect of offences committed in the officer's presence notwithstanding that the Act creating the offence provides that the suspect cannot be arrested without a warrant.

31. A private person may arrest a suspect in Nigeria who in his presence commits an offence, or whom he reasonably suspects of having committed an offence for which the police is entitled to arrest without a warrant. Arrest without warrant by private person.
32. (1) A private person who arrests a suspect shall immediately hand over the suspect so arrested to a police officer or, in the absence of a police officer, shall take the suspect to the nearest police station, and the police officer shall make a note of the name, address and other particulars of the private person making the arrest. Handing over of an arrested suspect by private person.
- (2) Where there is reason to believe that the arrested suspect comes under the provisions of section 40 (1), a police officer shall re-arrest him, but if there is no sufficient reason to believe that the suspect has committed an offence, he shall be released immediately.
- (3) Where there is reason to believe that the suspect has committed an offence, and he refuses, on the demand of a police officer, to give his name and address, or gives a name or address which the police officer reasonably believes to be false, the provisions of section 63 of this Bill shall apply.
- (4) Where a suspect so arrested by a private person is handed over to a police officer or an official of an agency authorised by law to make arrests, the police officer or official shall take note of the name, residential address and other particulars of the private person making the arrest, and the date, time and other circumstances of the arrest, and where the arrested suspect is taken to the police station or to the agency, the officer shall make the entries in the crime diary.
- (5) The police officer or official to whom the arrested suspect is handed over by the private person shall obtain from the private person who made the arrest a formal witness statement setting out the facts and circumstances of the arrest.
- (6) The provisions of section 46 do not apply to this section unless the suspect arrested and handed over has been re-arrested in accordance with subsection (2).
33. A judge or magistrate may arrest or direct the arrest of a suspect committing an offence in his presence and shall thereupon hand him over to a police officer who shall proceed to take necessary action. Arrest for offence committed in presence of Judge or Magistrate.
34. A person is bound to assist a judge, magistrate or police officer or other person reasonably demanding his aid in arresting or preventing the escape of a suspect whom the judge, magistrate, police officer or other person is authorised to arrest. When public is bound to assist in arrest.
35. (1) A suspect who is arrested, whether with or without a warrant, shall be taken immediately to a police station, or other place for the reception of suspect, and shall be promptly informed of the allegation against him in the language he understands. Arrested suspect to be taken immediately to police station.
- (2) A person who has the custody of an arrested suspect shall give the suspect reasonable facilities for obtaining legal advice, access to communication for taking steps to furnish bail, and otherwise making arrangements for his defence or release.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (2), any communication or legal advice

shall be done is given in the presence of an officer who has custody of the arrested suspect.

36. (1) Where a suspect is arrested, whether with or without a warrant, and taken to a police station or any other agency effecting the arrest, the police officer making the arrest or the officer in charge shall cause to be taken immediately, in the prescribed form, the following record of the suspect arrested: Recording of arrests.

- (a) the alleged offence;
- (b) the date and circumstances of his arrest;
- (c) his full name, occupation and residential address; and
- (d) for the purpose of identification:
  - (i) his height;
  - (ii) his photograph;
  - (iii) his full fingerprint impressions; or
  - (iv) such other means of his identification.

(2) The process of recording in subsection (1) shall be concluded within a reasonable time of the arrest of the suspect, but not exceeding 48 hours.

(3) Any further action in respect of the suspect arrested under subsection (1) shall be entered in the record of arrests.

(4) Where a suspect who is arrested, with or without a warrant, volunteers to make a confessional statement, the police officer shall ensure that the making and taking of the statement shall be in writing and may be recorded electronically on a retrievable video or audio visual means.

(5) Notwithstanding the provision of subsection (4), an oral confession of arrested suspect is admissible in evidence.

37. A police officer or any other person authorised to make an arrest may break out of a house or place in order to liberate himself or any other person who, having lawfully entered for the purpose of making an arrest, is detained in the house or place. Power to break out of a house or place for the purpose of liberation.

38. (1) A police officer making an arrest or to whom a private person hands over the suspect, shall immediately record information about the arrested suspect and an inventory of all items or property recovered from the suspect. Inventory of property of arrested suspect.

(2) An inventory recorded under subsection (1) shall be duly signed by the police officer and the arrested suspect, but the failure of the arrested suspect to sign the inventory does not invalidate it.

(3) The arrested suspect, his legal practitioner or such other person, as the arrested suspect may direct, shall be given a copy of the inventory.

(4) Where any property has been taken under this section from an arrested suspect, a police officer may, upon request by either the owner of the property or parties having interest in the property, release such property on bond pending the arraignment of the arrested suspect before a court.

(5) Where a police officer refuses to release the property to the owner or any person having interest in the property under subsection (4), the police officer shall immediately make a report to the court of the fact of the property taken from the arrested suspect and the particulars of the property.

(6) The court to which a report is made under subsection (5), may, if it is of the opinion that the property or any portion of it can be returned in the interest of justice to the safe custody of the owner or person having interest in the property, direct that the property or any portion of it be returned to the owner or to such person having interest in the property.

(7) Where any property has been taken from a suspect under this section, and the suspect is not charged before a court but is released on the ground that there is no sufficient reason to believe that he has committed an offence, any property so taken from the suspect shall be returned to him, provided the property is neither connected to nor a proceed of an offence.

39. (1) The Inspector-General and head of every agency authorised by law to make arrests shall remit quarterly to the Attorney-General of the Federation a record of all arrests made with or without warrant in relation to Federal offences within Nigeria.

Quarterly report of arrests to the Attorney-General.

(2) The Commissioner of Police of a State and the head of every agency authorised by law to make arrest within a State shall remit quarterly to the Attorney-General of that State a record of all arrests made with or without warrant in relation to State offences or arrests within the State.

(3) The report shall contain the full particulars of arrested suspects as prescribed under section 46 of this Bill.

(4) A register of arrests containing the particulars prescribed under section 46 of this Bill shall be kept in the prescribed form at every police station or agency authorised by law to make arrests, and every arrest, whether made with or without warrant, within the local limits of the police station or agency, or within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, shall be entered accordingly by the officer in charge of the police station or official in charge of the agency as soon as the arrested suspect is brought to the station or agency.

(5) The Attorney-General of the Federation shall establish an electronic and manual database of all records of arrests at the Federal and State level.

40. (1) A police officer may seize and retain anything for which a search has been authorised.

Power to search.

(2) In every case in which property is seized under this section, the person on whose premises it was at the time of seizure or the person from whom it was taken, if other than

the person on whose premises it was, may be summoned or arrested and brought before a court to account for his possession of the property, and the court shall make such order on the disposal of the property and may award costs as the justice of the case may require.

(3) An authority under subsection (2) may only be given when the premises to be searched are, or within the preceding 12 months have been, in the occupation of any person who has been convicted of receiving stolen property or of harbouring thieves, or of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty, and punishable by imprisonment.

(4) While searching the premises, a police officer shall not violate the human rights of persons found in the premises that is being searched.

41. (1) A police officer may exercise the power to stop and search in any:

Power to stop and search.

(a) place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission; or

(b) other place to which the public has ready access at the time when he proposes to exercise the power but which is not a private residence.

(2) A Police officer may detain and search any person or vehicle where:

(a) reasonable grounds for suspicion exist that the person being suspected is having in his possession; or conveying in any manner anything which he has reason to believe to have been stolen or otherwise unlawfully obtained;

(b) reasonable grounds for suspicion exist that such person or vehicle is carrying an unlawful article;

(c) reasonable grounds for suspicion that incidents involving serious violence may take place within a locality;

(d) information has been received as to a description of an article being carried or of a suspected offender; and

(e) a person is carrying a certain type of article at an unusual time or in a place where a number of burglaries or thefts are known to have taken place recently.

(3) If, in the course of a search, a police officer discovers an article which he has reasonable grounds for suspecting to be a stolen or prohibited article, he may seize it.

(4) An article is prohibited for the purposes of this Part of this Bill if it is:

(a) an offensive weapon; or

(b) an article:

(i) made or adapted for use in the course of or in connection with an offence to which this section refers; or

(ii) intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by some other person.

(5) The offences to which subsection (4) (b) (i) applies are:

(a) burglary;

(b) theft; and

(c) offences related to receiving stolen property or of harbouring thieves, or of any offence involving fraud or dishonesty.

(6) In this Part of this Bill "offensive weapon" means any article:

(a) made or adapted for use for causing injury to persons; or

(b) intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by some other person.

42. (1) Where a police officer is exercising the powers under section 51 of this Bill, he shall, before carrying out the search, question the person about his behaviour or his presence in circumstances which gave rise to the suspicion.

Action before a search takes place.

(2) If the person to be searched has a satisfactory explanation which makes a search unnecessary or other circumstances come to the attention of the police officer that make the search unnecessary, no search may take place.

(3) Before any search of a detained person or vehicle may take place, the officer shall give the person to be searched or in charge of the vehicle:

(a) his name and the name of the police station to which he is attached;

(b) the object of the search; and

(c) his grounds or authorisation for undertaking the search.

(4) For any police officer to exercise the power to stop and search, he shall be in uniform or wear visibly a valid Police Identity Card.

43. (1) Reasonable effort shall be taken to minimise the embarrassment that a person or the person whose property is being searched may experience.

General conduct of the search.

(2) The co-operation of the person to be searched shall be sought in every case.

(3) A forcible search may be used as a last resort only if it has been established that the person being searched is unwilling to co-operate or resists.

(4) The length of time for which a person or vehicle may be detained for a search depends on the circumstances, but this shall be within a reasonable time.

(5) Searches in public shall be restricted to superficial examination of outer clothing.

(6) Where it is considered necessary to conduct a more thorough search that requires a person to take off his cloth or headgear, it:

(a) shall be done out of public view and by an officer of the same sex with the person being searched; and

(b) may not be made in the presence of anyone of the opposite sex unless the person being searched requests it.

44. (1) Where a suspect is arrested by a police officer or a private person, the police officer making the arrest or to whom the private person hands over the suspect may search the suspect if the police officer has reasonable grounds for believing that the arrested person may present a danger to himself or others. Search of arrested suspect.

(2) A police officer shall also have the power in any such case to search the arrested person for anything:

(a) which he might use to assist him to escape from lawful custody; or

(b) which might be evidence relating to an offence.

(3) Where an arrested suspect is admitted to bail and bail is furnished, he shall not be searched unless there are reasonable grounds for believing that he has on his person any:

(a) stolen article;

(b) instrument of violence or poisonous substance;

(c) tools connected with the kind of offence which he is alleged to have committed; or

(d) other articles which may furnish evidence against him in regard to the offence, which he is alleged to have committed.

(4) The power to search conferred under subsection (2) is only a power to search to the extent that is reasonably required for the purpose of discovering anything or evidence.

(5) The powers conferred under this section to search a person are not to be construed as authorising a police officer to require a person to remove any of his clothing in public.

(6) A police officer may not search premises in the exercise of the power conferred under subsection (2) (b) unless he has reasonable grounds for believing that there is evidence for which a search is permitted under that paragraph on the premises.

(7) A police officer shall place in safe custody all articles other than necessary wearing apparel found on the suspect.

45. (1) Subject to the provision of this section, an intimate search of a suspect may be carried out, if a police officer of at least the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police has reasonable grounds for believing that the suspect in lawful custody: Examination of arrested suspect.

(a) may have concealed on him anything which:

(i) could be used to cause physical injury to himself or others; and

(ii) might so use while he is in police detention or in the custody of a court;  
or

(b) that evidence of the offence alleged to have been committed can only be gotten from examination of the suspect.

(2) An authorisation under subsection (1) may be given orally or in writing, and where an oral authorisation has been given, it shall be confirmed in writing as soon as practicable specifying the grounds for the intimate search.

(3) A police officer carrying out the intimate search shall inform the person who is to be subjected to the search of the:

(a) purpose for the search; and

(b) authorisation and grounds for the search.

(4) An intimate search shall be by way of examination by a suitably qualified person.

(5) Where an officer of the rank of at least an Assistant Superintendent of Police considers it impracticable for an intimate search to be by way of examination by a suitably qualified person, the intimate search may be carried out by a police officer at the rank of Sergeant.

(6) An intimate search shall be carried out by a suitably qualified person or Sergeant of the same sex as the suspect.

(7) No intimate search may be carried out except:

(a) at a police station;

(b) at a hospital; or

(c) at some other place used for medical purposes.

(8) If an intimate search of a person is carried out, the custody record relating to him shall state:

(a) the authorisation by virtue of which the search was carried out;

(b) the grounds for giving the authorization;

(c) the fact that the appropriate consent was given;



(d) which parts of his body were searched; and

(e) why they were searched.

(9) The information required to be recorded by subsection (8) of this section shall be recorded as soon as practicable after the completion of the search.

(10) The custody officer at a police station may seize and retain anything which is found on an intimate search of a person, or cause any such thing to be seized and retained if he:

(a) believes that the person from whom it is seized may use it to:

(i) cause physical injury to himself or any other person;

(ii) damage property;

(iii) interfere with evidence; or

(iv) assist him to escape;

(b) if he has reasonable grounds for believing that it may be evidence relating to an offence.

(11) Where anything is seized under this section, the suspect from whom it is seized shall be told the reason for the seizure unless he is:

(a) violent or likely to become violent; or

(b) incapable of understanding what is said to him.

(12) Where the appropriate consent for an intimate search of any suspect was refused without good cause, in any proceeding against that suspect for the offence for which the search was required, the court, judge, magistrate or presiding judicial officer may draw such inferences from the refusal as it is considered proper.

(13) Every quarterly report submitted to the Attorney-General pursuant to section 49 of this Bill shall contain information about searches under this section which have been carried out during the period to which it relates.

(14) The report on the searches referred to under subsection 12 of this section shall include

(a) the total number of searches;

(b) the number of searches conducted by way of examination by a suitably qualified person;

(c) the number of searches not conducted by a suitably qualified person, but conducted in the presence of such a person; and

(d) the result of the searches carried out.

(15) In this section "suitably qualified person" means a registered:

- (a) medical practitioner; or
- (b) nurse.

46. The following shall not be grounds for reasonable suspicions:

Where reasonable suspicion never exist.

- (a) personal attributes, including a person's colour, age, hairstyle or manner of dress;
- (b) previous conviction for possession of an unlawful article; or
- (c) stereotyped images of certain persons or groups as more likely to be committing offences.

47. (1) Where a person or police officer acting under a warrant of arrest or otherwise having authority to arrest, has reason to believe that the suspect to be arrested has entered into or is within any house or place, the person residing in or being in charge of the house or place shall, on demand by the police officer or person acting for the police officer, allow him free access to the house or place and afford all reasonable facilities to search the house or place for the suspect sought to be arrested.

Search of place entered by suspect sought to be arrested.

(2) Where access to a house or place cannot be obtained under subsection (1) of this section, the person or police officer may enter the house or place and search it for the suspect to be arrested, and in order to effect an entrance into the house or place, may break open any outer or inner door or window of any house or place, whether that of the suspect to be arrested or of any other person or otherwise effect entry into such house or place, if after notification of his authority and purpose, and demand of admittance duly made, he cannot obtain admittance.

(3) Where the suspect to be arrested enters a house or place in the actual occupancy of another person being a woman who by custom or religious practice does not appear in public, the person making the arrest shall:

- (a) before entering the house or place, give notice to the woman that she is at liberty to withdraw; and
- (b) afford her every reasonable opportunity and facility for withdrawing, and may then enter the house or place, but the notice shall not be necessary where the person making the arrest is a woman.

48. (1) An officer who has carried out a search shall make a written record unless it is not practicable to do so, including situations where the number of persons to be searched is large or in situations involving public disorder.

Action after search is carried out.

(2) The records shall be completed and signed by the officer and person being searched on the spot and a copy to be given to the person being searched or the vehicle driver if it is a vehicle.

(3) Subject to subsection (2), in case the search record is not available on the spot, the officer that carried out the search shall advise the person searched or the driver of the vehicle searched, of the police station the person may pick up the search record.

(4) A searched person may refuse to collect a search record that his signature is not appended on.

(5) Where the person to be searched is unwilling to provide detailed information about himself, the officer may not detain him, he shall be allowed to go unless unlawful items are found in his possession or in the vehicle searched.

49. (1) A search record shall be prepared in the prescribed Form to be known as a National Search record. search Record Form.

(2) The following information must always be included in the National Search Record;

- (a) the name of the person searched or if, he withholds it, description of the person;
- (b) the date of birth of the person searched;
- (c) a note of the person's ethnic origin;
- (d) when a vehicle is searched, a description of the vehicle, including the registration number;
- (e) the object of the search;
- (f) the ground for making the search;
- (g) the date and time the search was made;
- (h) the place where the search was made;
- (i) the result of the search;
- (j) a note of any injury or damage to property resulting from the search; and
- (k) the identity of the officer making the search.

50. (1) A search warrant is unlawful unless it complies with this section.

Search warrant  
safeguards.

(2) Where a police officer applies for any search warrant, it shall be his duty to State:

- (a) the ground on which he makes the application;
- (b) the law under which the warrant would be issued;
- (c) the premises to be searched; and

(d) possibly the article or person to be searched.

(3) An application for a warrant shall be made in writing under oath and supported by necessary information.

(4) A warrant shall authorise an entry on one occasion only.

(5) A warrant shall:

(a) specify:

(i) the name of the person who applies for it;

(ii) the date on which it is issued;

(iii) the law under which it is issued; and

(iv) the premises to be searched;

(b) a warrant shall identify, as practicable as possible, the article or person to be searched.

(6) Two copies of a warrant shall be made.

(7) The two copies shall be clearly certified as copies.

51. (1) A warrant to enter and search premises may be executed by any police officer.

Execution of  
search warrant.

(2) Such a warrant may authorise a person to accompany any police officer who is executing it.

(3) A search warrant may be issued and executed at any time on any day, including a Sunday or public holiday.

(4) Where the occupier of premises which is to be searched is present at the time when a police officer seeks to execute a warrant to enter and search, the police officer shall:

(a) identify himself to the occupier and, if not in uniform, shall produce to the occupier, his official identity card;

(b) produce the warrant to the occupier; and

(c) supply the occupier with a copy.

(5) Where the occupier is not present, but some other person who appears to the police officer to be in charge of the premises is present, subsection (4) of this section shall take effect as if the occupier is present.

(6) Upon the execution of a warrant, a police officer shall make an endorsement on it stating whether:

(a) the articles or persons sought were found; and

(b) any other articles were seized, other than articles which were sought.

52. (1) Where a suspect is arrested on allegation of having committed an offence, his statement shall be taken, if he so wishes to make a statement.

Recording of  
statement of  
suspect.

(2) The statement may be taken in the presence of a legal practitioner of his choice, or where he has no legal practitioner of his choice, in the presence of an officer of the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria or an official of a Civil Society Organization or a Justice of the Peace or any other person of his choice, provided that the legal practitioner or any other person mentioned in this subsection shall not interfere while the suspect is making his statement, except for the purpose of discharging his duty as a legal practitioner.

(3) Where a suspect does not understand or speak or write in the English language, an interpreter shall record and read over the statement to the suspect to his understanding and the suspect shall then endorse the statement as having been made by him, and the interpreter shall attest to the making of the statement.

(4) The interpreter shall endorse his name, address, occupation, designation or other particulars on the statement.

(5) The suspect referred to in subsection (1) shall also endorse the statement with his full particulars.

53. (1) Where a suspect who, in the presence of a police officer, has committed or has been accused of committing an offence triable summarily, refuses, on demand of the police officer, to give his name and residential address, or gives a name or residential address which the officer has reason to believe to be false, he may be arrested by the officer in order that his name or residential address may be ascertained.

Refusal to give  
name and  
residence.

(2) Where the true name and residential address of the suspect have been ascertained, he shall be released on his entering a recognizance with or without sureties to appear before a magistrate if so required, but if the person is not resident in Nigeria, a surety or sureties resident in Nigeria shall secure the recognizance.

(3) Where the true name and address of the suspect cannot be ascertained within 48 hours from the time of arrest, or if he fails to execute a recognizance, or, where so required, to furnish sufficient sureties, he shall immediately be brought before the nearest magistrate having jurisdiction.

(4) Where the suspect on being brought before the court still refuses, the court may deal with him as it will deal with an uncooperative witness under this Bill.

54. (1) Where a suspect has been taken into police custody without a warrant for an offence other than an offence punishable with death, an officer in charge of a police station shall inquire into the case and release the suspect arrested on bail subject to subsection (2) of this section, and where it will not be practicable to bring the suspect before a court having jurisdiction with respect to the offence alleged, within 24 hours after the arrest.

Release on bail of  
a suspect arrested  
without warrant.

(2) The police officer in charge of a police station shall release the suspect on bail on his entering into a recognizance with or without sureties for a reasonable amount of money to appear before the court or at the police station at the time and place named in the recognizance.

(3) Where a suspect is taken into custody and it appears to the police officer in charge of the station that the offence is of a capital nature, the arrested suspect shall be detained in custody, and the police officer may refer the matter to the Attorney-General of the Federation or of a State, as the case may, for legal advice and cause the suspect to be taken before a court having jurisdiction with respect to the offence within a reasonable time.

55. (1) Where a suspect is taken into custody, and it appears to the police officer that the inquiry into the case cannot be completed immediately, he may discharge the suspect on his entering into a recognizance, with or without sureties for a reasonable amount, to appear at the police station and at such times as are named in the recognizance, unless he previously receives notice in writing from the police officer in charge of that police station that his attendance is not required.

Power to release on bail before charge is accepted.

(2) A recognizance under subsection (1) of this section may be enforced as if it were a recognizance conditional for the appearance of the said suspect before a magistrate's court or the place in which the police station named in the recognizance is situate.

56. (1) Where a suspect taken into custody in respect of a non-capital offence is not released on bail after 24 hours, a court having jurisdiction with respect to the offence may be notified by application on behalf of the suspect.

Remedy of suspect detained in custody.

(2) The court shall order the production of the suspect detained and inquire into the circumstances constituting the grounds of the detention and where it deems fit, admit the suspect detained to bail.

(3) An application for bail under this section may be made orally or in writing.

57. Any summons lawfully issued by a court may be served by any police officer at any time during the hours of daylight, which is between 6 am to 6 pm.

Summons.

58. (1) Subject to the provisions of section 174 and 211 of the Constitution and section 106 of the Administration of the Criminal Justice Act which relates to the powers of the Attorney-General of the Federation and of a State to institute, take over and continue or discontinue criminal proceedings against any person before any court of law in Nigeria, a police officer who is a legal practitioner, may prosecute in person before any court whether or not the information or complaint is laid in his name.

Powers to prosecute.

(2) A police officer may, subject to the provisions of the relevant criminal procedure laws in force at the Federal or State level, prosecute before the courts those offences which non-qualified legal practitioners can prosecute.

(3) There shall be assigned to every Police Division at least one police officer:

(a) who is qualified to practise as legal practitioner in accordance with the Legal Practitioners Act; and

(b) whose responsibility is to promote human rights compliance by officers of the Division.

59. (1) There shall be established at the Nigeria Police, a Central Criminal Records Registry. Central criminal records registry.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section, there shall be established at every State Police Command a Criminal Records Registry which shall keep and transmit all records to the Central Criminal Records Registry.

(3) The State or Federal Capital Territory Police Command, Abuja shall ensure that the decisions of the court in all criminal trials are transmitted to the Central Criminal Records Registry within 30 days of the judgment.

60. (1) A police officer shall take and record for the purposes of identification the measurements, photographs and fingerprint impression of all persons who may be in lawful custody. Power to take fingerprints.

(2) Where a person who has not previously been convicted of any criminal offence is discharged or acquitted by a court, all records relating to such measurements, photographs and fingerprint impressions including the document of acquittal or discharge shall be stored in a retrievable form and handed over to such person upon request.

(3) A police officer shall apply to a court to compel any person in lawful custody, who refuses to submit to the taking and recording of his measurements, photographs or fingerprint impressions, to submit himself.

(4) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, the court may authorise a police officer to take the measurements, photographs and finger-print impressions of such person.

61. (1) An officer in charge of a police station or an official in charge of an agency authorised to make arrest shall, on the last working day of every month, report to the nearest magistrate the cases of all suspects arrested without warrant within the limits of their respective stations or agency whether the suspects have been admitted to bail or not. Police to report to supervising Magistrates.

(2) The report shall contain the particulars of the suspects arrested as prescribed under section 46 of this Bill.

(3) The magistrate shall, on receipt of the reports, forward them to the Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee which shall analyse the reports and advise the Attorney-General of the Federation as to the trends of arrests, bail and related matters.

(4) The Attorney-General of the Federation shall, upon request by the National Human Rights Commission, the Legal Aid Council of Nigeria or a non-governmental organisation, make the report available to them.

(5) Where no report is made in accordance with subsection (1) of this section, the magistrate shall forward a report to the Chief Judge of the State and the Attorney-General of the State for appropriate remedial action.

(6) With respect to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, the report referred to in subsection (5) of this section shall be forwarded to the Chief Judge of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and the Attorney-General of the Federation for remedial action.

62. (1) The Chief Magistrate, or where there is no Chief Magistrate within the police division, any magistrate designated by the Chief Judge for that purpose, shall, at least every month, conduct an inspection of police stations or other places of detention within his territorial jurisdiction other than the prison.

Chief Magistrate to visit police stations every month.

(2) During a visit, the magistrate may:

(a) call for, and inspect, the record of arrests;

(b) direct the arraignment of a suspect;

(c) where bail has been refused, grant bail to any suspect, where appropriate, if the offence for which the suspect is held is within the jurisdiction of the magistrate.

(3) An officer in charge of a police station or an official in charge of an agency authorised to make an arrest shall make available to the visiting Chief Magistrate or designated magistrate exercising his powers under subsection (1) of this section:

(a) the full record of arrest and record of bail;

(b) applications and decisions on bail made within the period; and

(c) any other facility the magistrate requires to exercise his powers under that subsection.

(4) With respect to other Federal Government agencies authorised to make arrests, the High Court having jurisdiction shall visit such detention facilities for the purpose provided in this section.

(5) Where there is default by an officer in charge of a police station or an official in charge of an agency authorised to make arrest to comply with the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, the default shall be treated as a misconduct and shall be dealt with in accordance with the relevant police regulations under this Bill, or under any other disciplinary procedure prescribed by any provision regulating the conduct of the officer or official of the agency.

63. Where under a law, there is power to arrest a suspect without warrant, a warrant for his arrest may be issued by the court.

General authority to issue warrant.

64. (1) A warrant of arrest issued under this Bill, unless the contrary is provided under any other law, shall:

Form and requisites of warrant of arrest.

(a) bear the date of issue;

(b) contain all necessary particulars; and

(c) be signed by the issuing judge or magistrate.



(2) A warrant shall:

- (a) state the offence or matter for which it is issued;
- (b) name and describe the suspect to be arrested; and
- (c) order the person to whom it is directed to arrest the suspect and bring him before the court.

65. A warrant of arrest shall not be issued in the first instance in respect of any complaint or statement unless the complaint or statement is on oath either by the complainant himself or by a material witness.

Warrant to be issued on complaint only if on oath.

66. A warrant of arrest may be issued on any day, including a Sunday or public holiday.

Warrant may be issued on any day.

67. (1) A warrant of arrest may be directed to a police officer by name or to all police officers.

Warrant, to whom directed and duration.

(2) It is not necessary to make a warrant of arrest returnable at any particular time and a warrant shall remain in force until it is executed or until a Judge or a Magistrate cancels it.

(3) Where a warrant of arrest has been executed and the suspect arrested has been released, the warrant shall no longer be valid authority for re-arresting the suspect.

68. (1) A court issuing a warrant of arrest may, where its immediate execution is necessary and no police officer is immediately available, direct it to some other person or persons and the person or persons shall execute the warrant.

Warrant of arrest may in exceptional cases be directed to other persons.

(2) A person, when executing a warrant of arrest directed to him, shall have all the powers, rights, privileges and protection given to or afforded by law to a police officer executing a warrant of arrest and shall conform with the requirement imposed by law on a police officer.

69. (1) A warrant of arrest may be executed on any day, including a Sunday or public holiday.

Execution of warrant and procedure.

(2) A warrant of arrest may be executed by any police officer at any time and in any place in any State other than within the actual court room in which a court is sitting.

(3) The Police officer executing a warrant of arrest shall, before making the arrest, inform the suspect to be arrested that there is a warrant for his arrest unless there is reasonable cause for abstaining from giving the information on the ground that it is likely to occasion escape, resistance or rescue.

(4) A suspect arrested on a warrant of arrest shall, subject to the provisions of the Constitution, sections 80 and 81 of this Bill, be brought before the court that issued the warrant of arrest.

70. A warrant of arrest may be executed notwithstanding that it is not in the possession of the person at the time of executing the warrant, but the warrant shall, on the demand by the suspect, be shown to him within 24 hours after his arrest.	Power to arrest on warrant but without the warrant.
71. (1) A court, on issuing a warrant for the arrest of a suspect in respect of a matter other than an offence punishable with death, may, if it deems fit by endorsement on the warrant, direct that the suspect named in the warrant be released on bail on his entering into such a recognizance for his appearance as may be required in the endorsement.	Court may direct particulars of security to be taken on execution of warrant.
(2) The endorsement shall specify:	
(a) the number of sureties, if any;	
(b) the amount in which they and the suspect named in the warrant are, respectively, to be bound, or are to provide as cash security on the request of the surety or suspect;	
(c) the court before which the arrested suspect is to attend; and	
(d) the time at which the suspect is to attend, including an undertaking to appear at a subsequent time as may be directed by any court before which he may appear.	
(3) Where an endorsement is made, the officer in charge of a police station to which on arrest the suspect named in the warrant is brought, shall discharge him on his entering into a recognizance, with or without sureties approved by that officer, in accordance with the endorsement, condition for his appearance before the court and at the time and place named in the recognizance.	
(4) Where security is taken under this section, the officer who takes the recognizance shall cause it to be forwarded to the court before which the suspect named in the recognizance is bound to appear.	
72. (1) A warrant of arrest issued by a Federal High Court sitting anywhere in Nigeria may be executed in any part of Nigeria.	Warrant issued by the Federal High Court.
(2) A warrant issued under this section may be executed in accordance with section 79 of this Bill.	
73. Where a suspect in lawful custody escapes or is rescued, the person from whose custody he escaped or is rescued or any other person may pursue and re-arrest him in any place in Nigeria.	Re-arrest of suspect escaping.
74. The provisions of sections 47 and 57 of this Bill shall apply to arrests under sections 78 and 83 of this Bill, although the person making such arrest is not acting under a warrant and is not a police officer having authority to arrest.	Provisions of sections 47 and 57 to apply to arrests under sections 78 and 83.

75. (1) The Police Force is responsible for maintaining and securing public safety and public order. Public safety and public order.

(2) The Police Force shall, in carrying out its responsibilities under subsection (1) of this section:

- (a) uphold the provisions of the Constitution and other laws;
- (b) uphold and protect the fundamental rights of all persons in Nigeria; and
- (c) be fair to all persons in Nigeria notwithstanding their economic status or religious, ethnic or political beliefs and affiliations.

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, the Commissioner of Police of a State is responsible for maintaining security, public safety and public order within the State.

(4) Where a person or organisation notifies the police of his or its intention to hold a public meeting, rally or procession on a public highway, or such meetings in a place where the public has access to, the police officer responsible for the area where the meeting, rally or procession will take place, shall mobilise personnel to provide security cover for the meeting, rally or procession.

76. (1) A police officer may intervene for the purpose of preventing, and shall, to the best of his ability, prevent the commission of an offence. Police to prevent offences and injury to public property.

(2) A police officer may of his authority intervene to prevent an injury attempted to be committed in his presence to any public property, whether movable or immovable, or the removal of or injury to any public landmark or buoy or other mark used for navigation.

77. A police officer receiving information of a plan to commit any offence shall communicate the information to the police officer to whom he is subordinate, and to any other officer whose duty it is to prevent or take cognizance of the commission of the offence. Information of plan to commit offence.

78. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Bill or any other law relating to arrest, a police officer on a reasonable suspicion of a plan to commit an offence, may arrest, without orders from a magistrate and without warrant, the suspect where it appears to the officer that the commission of the offence cannot otherwise be prevented. Arrest by police to prevent offences.

79. (1) A judge, magistrate, or any other public officer charged with responsibility for maintaining law and order may intervene to prevent the commission of an offence or any damage to any public property, movable or immovable. Prevention by other public officers of offences and injury to public property.

(2) A person is bound to assist a Judge or Magistrate or police officer or any other public officer reasonably demanding his aid:

- (a) in preventing the commission of an offence or any damage to any public property, movable or immovable;
- (b) in the suppression of a breach of the peace or in the prevention of any damage

to any property, movable or immovable or to any railway, canal, water supply, telecommunication system, oil pipeline or oil installation, or electrical installation; or

(c) in the prevention of the removal of any public landmark, buoy or other mark used for navigation.

80. (1) Where a police officer or any other person finds a lost property, the police officer or person who finds the property shall take it to the nearest police station within 24 hours after it is found. Found and unclaimed property.

(2) A police officer on duty shall collect the property which was found and make a record of it.

(3) A register shall be kept at a police station for the purpose of making entries of the property found and brought to the station which shall contain:

(a) the type of property found;

(b) the description of the property stating the general particulars and state and condition of the property when it was brought to the police station and any other relevant information relating to the property;

(c) the date and time it was found and brought;

(d) the name, address and telephone number, if any, of the person who found and brought the property to the station;

(e) the name and rank of the police officer who collected the property; and

(f) the signatures of the police officer and the person who found and brought the property to the station.

(4) A police officer who collects the lost and found property shall enter the details in the register referred to in subsection (3) of this section and prepare two forms acknowledging the receipt of the lost and found property and give a duly signed copy to the person who found and brought the property to the police station.

(5) The police officer in charge of the police station in possession of the property found shall make a public announcement at least on three consecutive times in the print and electronic media about the property in the custody of the police station for the rightful owner to claim the property with authentic proof of ownership within a period of six months.

(6) The police officer in charge of the station in possession of the property shall release the property upon satisfactory proof of ownership.

(7) Where the property remains unclaimed after the expiration of six months, the police officer in charge of that police station shall bring the property before a magistrate court for auction and the proceeds shall be paid into the Police Reward Fund established under section 93 of this Bill.

(8) Where a property in Police custody is a perishable article or its custody involves unreasonable expense or inconvenience, it may be sold at any time, and the proceeds of sale shall be paid into the Police Reward Fund established under section 93 of this Bill.

(9) There shall be deducted from the proceeds of a sale under subsections (7) and (8) of this section, before being paid into the Police Reward Fund the cost, if any, of the sale and of any sum which the court may direct to be paid as a reward to any person by whom the property was delivered into the possession of the police.

81. (1) Where a person appears in a police station in respect of an offence or an allegation of the commission of an offence either as an accused person or a witness, or as a relation or friend of an accused person or a witness, the duty officer or such other officer as may be authorized by the officer-in-charge of the police station shall enter in the official record book: Documentation of arrest, witnesses and death in police station.

(a) the name of the person and his national identity number, if any;

(b) the date of birth of the person;

(c) the reason for the person's visits;

(d) the name and address of the person's next-of-kin;

(e) the exact time the person comes to the station and leaves, for everyday he visits; and

(f) any ailment or medical condition which the person has.

(2) The particulars mentioned in subsection (1) of this section shall be updated each day the person remains in custody in the police station.

(3) Where, in the discharge of the police duty, a person is shot, wounded or killed, the officer commanding the operation shall record:

(a) the number of those wounded or killed, the names of the victims or their description as much as possible; and

(b) efforts made to ensure hospitalisation of the wounded or proper preservation of the dead.

(4) A police officer who fails to keep appropriate records referred to in subsections (1), (2) and (3) of this section commits a serious misconduct, which shall attract a disciplinary measure.

(5) The Inspector-General shall give a quarterly report to the Police Service Commission itemising the number and identity of persons who:

(a) were detained in all police formations across Nigeria;

(b) were charged and prosecuted in the courts in Nigeria and the outcome of their

cases;

(c) were killed or wounded during police operations across Nigeria; and

(d) died in police custody.

82. (1) A person who is aware that a person under his employment or control is missing shall, within 24 hours, report to the police: Missing persons.

(a) the identity of the missing person; and

(b) circumstances in which that person got missing.

(2) When a report is made to the police under subsection (1) of this section, the duty officer or such other designated staff shall immediately record the name and address of the missing person and the person who made the report.

83. (1) There is established for the Nigeria Police the Police Reward Fund (in this Bill referred to as "the Reward Fund" into which shall be paid: Establishment,  
etc. of the Police  
Reward Fund.

(a) all money levied by order of a senior officer on members of the police for offences against discipline;

(b) all fines levied for assaults on members of the police;

(c) one-third of fees paid by members of the public in respect of extracts from reports made by the police;

(d) one-third of fees paid in accordance with Standing Orders for the services of police officers who would otherwise be off duty; and

(e) all sums ordered to be paid into the Fund under section 90 (7) of this Bill.

(2) Subject to the rules for the time being in force under section 23 of the Finance Control and Management Act, the Reward Fund shall be applied and disbursed at the direction of the Inspector-General, based on criteria laid by the Police Service Commission:

(a) to reward members of the police for exemplary services;

(b) for payment of ex gratia compassionate gratuities to widows or children of deceased members of the force;

(c) for making ex gratia payments towards the funeral expenses of any member of the police who dies in the service of the police; and

(d) for such other purpose as may be determined, by the Nigeria Police Council.

84. Police officers who have distinguished themselves with their outstanding performance in the discharge of their duties shall be duly honoured and recognised for their gallant and exemplary service by the Police Force: Recognition and  
commendation for  
gallantry, and

(a) by recommendation for national honours, attention being paid to deserving officers inclusive; exemplary service.

(b) through public presentation of awards and certificates of exemplary service from communities and civil society; or

(c) by the police setting aside a day or week in every year to celebrate outstanding performance by its officers and to remember their fallen heroes.

85. (1) A Police Officer shall not get himself trapped in indebtedness of any kind while still in service, and where he does, he shall be disciplined and the debt shall be recovered from his salary or remuneration provided the creditor has evidence(s) to prove the indebtedness. Police Officer and indebtedness.

(2) Subject to subsection (1) of this section, for such debt or liability to be settled the Officer's remuneration may be withheld to an extent not exceeding one-half of his monthly payment thereof.

(3) When an order for payment of such debt or satisfaction of such liability is made, the Court making the order shall give due notice to the Senior Police Officer in charge of the Command to which the indebted Officer belongs, and the amount ordered shall be withheld or deducted from the indebted Officer's remuneration until the amount of the debt is made good.

86. The remuneration of a police officer shall not be withheld on account of any debt or liability, which he may have incurred before being appointed to the police. Debt recovery: exception.

87. (1) While still in service, a Police Officer shall not directly be involved in managing and running any private business or trade except farming. Private Business and Conflict of Interest.

(2) Every Police Officer shall undertake a trade or skill of his choice at the Police Pre-retirement Training and Resettlement Centre within two (2) years to his retirement.

88. (1) A police officer who:

Offences by police officer.

(a) begins, raises, abets, countenances, or excites mutiny;

(b) causes or joins in any sedition or disturbance of any nature whatsoever;

(c) being at an assembly tending to riot, does not use his utmost endeavour to suppress the assembly;

(d) coming to the knowledge of any mutiny, or intended mutiny, does not immediately give information of the mutiny to his superior officer;

(e) strikes or offers any violence to his senior officer while in the discharge of his duty;

(f) deserts or aids or abets the desertion of an officer from the Nigeria Police;

(g) on enlistment, falsely states that he:

(i) has not been convicted or imprisoned for a criminal offence; or

(ii) was never employed by the Government of the Federation or of a State;

(h) fails to come to the aid or assist any person in need of assistance at the time of distress; shall be:

(i) subject to appropriate disciplinary proceedings in accordance with the police disciplinary mechanisms; and

(ii) if found liable, recommended for dismissal and charged to court for prosecution in accordance with the relevant laws in force.

(2) A police officer shall not, in discharging his duty:

(a) discriminate against any person in Nigeria, based on the person's:

(i) place of origin;

(ii) gender;

(iii) socio-economic status;

(iv) ethnic, political or religious affiliation; or

(v) any form of disability; and

(b) use a language or act in such a way that suggests a bias towards a particular group.

(3) A police officer may be proceeded against for desertion without reference to the time during which he may have been absent, and may be guilty, either of desertion or of absence without leave.

(4) A police officer shall not be convicted as a deserter or of attempting to desert unless the court is satisfied that there was an intention on the part of the officer either not to return to the Police Force or to escape some particular important service.

89. Upon reasonable suspicion that any person is a deserter, a Police Officer or any other person may apprehend him and forthwith bring him before a Court having jurisdiction in the place wherein he was found, which may deal with the suspected deserter or refer him to a Court having jurisdiction in the place in which he has deserted.

Apprehension of  
deserters.

90. Any person who assaults, obstructs or resists any Police Officer in the execution of his duty, or aids or incites any other person to assault, obstruct or resist any Police Officer or any person aiding or assisting such Police Officer in the execution of his duty, shall be guilty of an offence and, on summary conviction before a Magistrate, shall be liable to a penalty

Assault on Police  
Officer.



of One Hundred Thousand Naira (₦100,000.00) only or to imprisonment for a term of three months.

91. Where a person is called upon to aid and assist a police officer who is, while in the discharge of his duty, assaulted or resisted or in danger of being assaulted or resisted, and the person refuses or neglects to aid and assist, the person commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of ₦100,000 or imprisonment for three months or both.

Refusing to aid police officer assaulted.

92. (1) While on duty, a Police Officer shall not take any intoxicating liquor, psychotropic substances or stimulants, where he does, he shall be punished in accordance with the Police disciplinary procedures.

Drinking of alcohol or use of psychotropic substances and stimulants while on duty.

(2) A person who:

(a) knowingly harbours or entertains, or either directly or indirectly, gives any intoxicating liquor, psychotropic substance or stimulant to any Police Officer while on duty, or permits any such Police Officer to abide or remain in his house unlawfully; except in cases of extreme urgency;

(b) by threats or by offer of money, gift, spirits, liquors, psychotropic substances or stimulants induces or attempts to induce any Police Officer to commit a breach of his duty as a Police Officer or to omit any part of such duty,

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of at least ₦50,000.00 only.

93. A person not being a police officer who:

Impersonation of Police Officer.

(a) puts on or assumes either in whole or in part, the apparel, name, designation, or description of any police officer or resembling and intended to resemble the apparel, name or designation of any police officer; or

(b) in any way pretends to be a police officer for the purpose of obtaining admission into any house or other place, or of doing any act which such person would not by law be entitled to do of his own authority,

commits an offence and is liable and, on summary conviction to a fine of at least ₦100,000 or imprisonment for at least one year or both.

94. (1) A person who:

Obtaining admission into the Nigeria Police Force by fraud.

(a) knowingly uses or attempts to pass off any forged or false certificate, character, letter, or any other document for the purpose of obtaining admission into the Nigeria Police Force; or

(b) on applying for enlistment, makes any false answer to any statement put to him by any appropriate authority,

commits an offence and, on summary conviction to a fine of ₦50,000 or imprisonment for three months or both.

(2) A police officer may arrest without a warrant any person whom he reasonably believes or suspects of having committed an offence under this section.

95. Nothing in this Bill shall be construed to exempt a Police Officer from being proceeded against by the ordinary course of law when accused of any offence punishable under any other Act or law.

Ordinary course of law not to be interfered with.

96. (1) Person(s) acquitted by a court of any crime or offence shall not be tried on the same charge or suffer any punishment on the same offence under this Bill.

Person(s) acquitted by the court shall not be punished on the same charge under this bill, not if convicted, except by reduction.

(2) Where a member of the Nigeria Police Force has been convicted by a court of any crime or offence, he shall not be liable to be punished for the same offence under this Bill, otherwise than by administrative punishment of reduction in rank or grade or by dismissal from the Nigeria Police Force.

97. (1) The Inspector-General of Police may make Standing Orders relating to operational control of the Police.

Standing Orders.

(2) Such Standing Orders shall be binding upon all Police Officers and shall be published in the Federal Gazette and in one national daily.

(3) The Police Service Commission may, subject to the provisions of this Bill, make Standing Orders relating to:

(a) the appointment, promotion and disciplinary control, including dismissal of persons appointed by it into the Police Force; and

(b) appeals by persons appointed by it into the Police Force against dismissal or other disciplinary measures.

(4) The Standing Orders made under subsection (1) is binding on all persons appointed by the Police Service Commission and shall be published in the Federal Government Gazette.

98. All the provisions of this Bill shall extend to all persons who, at the commencement of this Bill are serving in the Nigeria Police Force established by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as if such persons had been appointed under this Bill.

Application of the Act to persons already serving.

99. (1) For the effective and efficient policing of communities in a State or Federal Capital Territory, the Commissioner of Police of a State shall establish Community Police Committee (in this Bill referred to as "the Committee") that shall consist of representatives of the Police Force and the local community in the State.

Establishment of community policing committee.

(2) A Commissioner of Police of a State shall establish Community Sub-Committee (in this Bill referred to as "the Sub-Committee") at all Divisional Police Headquarters in the State or Federal Capital Territory.

(3) Subject to section 116 (1) and (2) of this Bill, the Commissioner of Police and members designated by him from time to time for that purpose, shall be members of the Committee

and Sub-Committee established at various police formations.

100. (1) The duties of Community Policing Officers shall include assisting the Police in: Duties of community policing officers.
- (a) crime detection and prevention;
  - (b) conflict resolution;
  - (c) criminal intelligence gathering and dissemination to the local Police Commanders;
  - (d) maintenance of Law and Order;
  - (e) deployment to complement the conventional Police in the patrol of the public space within their local communities;
  - (f) reassuring and advising the public on public safety, crime prevention and security tips;
  - (g) dealing with minor offences and social vices;
  - (h) working with the community, schools, and young people, business communities, religious bodies, cultural groups, community-based Associations, recreational centres and hospitality businesses toward crime control;
  - (i) they could also assist in traffic management and school safety duties.

(2) The Inspector-General of Police in implementing Community Policing shall promote organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address conditions that cause crime, social disorder and fear of crime.

(3) The Inspector-General of Police in implementing Community Policing may vary strategies according to the needs of the communities involved and the cultural context. Local models will vary and evolve according to the differing needs of differing communities, whilst retaining and sharing the same set of goals and basic principles.

101. (1) A Commissioner of Police of a State shall, in collaboration with the stakeholders, establish a State Community Police Committee. Establishment of State Community Police committee.

(2) A State Community Police Committee shall, subject to subsection (3) of this section, consist of representatives of Divisional Community Police Committee designated for that purpose by the Divisional Community Police Committee of a State concerned.

(3) Subject to section 116 (1) and (2) of this Bill, Commissioner of Police in a State and the members designated by him, from time to time for that purpose, shall be members of the State Community Police Committee concerned.

102. (1) A State Commissioner of Police shall in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders in the community, establish Divisional Community Policing sub-committees in all Police Divisions within the State.

Establishment of  
Divisional  
Community  
Policing Sub-  
Committee.

(2) A Divisional Community Policing sub-committee shall subject to sub-section (3) of this Section consist of representatives of the various Community groups in the Division concerned, designated for the purpose of such Community Policing Sub-Committee.

(3) Subject to section 60 (1) of this Bill, the Divisional Police Officers and the members designated by him from time to time for that purpose, shall be members of the Divisional Community Policing Sub-committee.

103. (1) The Community Police Committee shall in each state be established with a view to:

Object of  
Community  
Policing  
Committees.

- (a) maintaining a partnership between the Community and the Police;
- (b) promoting communication between the Nigeria Police Force and the Community;
- (c) promoting co-operation between the Police and the community in fulfilling the needs of the community regarding policing;
- (d) improving the rendering of Police services to the community;
- (e) improving transparency in the Police and accountability of Police services to the community; and

(2) This section shall not prevent Police liaison with the community by means other than Community Policing Committee.

104. A State Community Policing Committee or Divisional Community Policing Sub-committee shall perform the functions it deems necessary and appropriate to achieve the objects stated in section 64 of this Bill.

Functions of  
Community  
Policing  
Committee.

105. (1) A Committee, Sub-Committee and Divisional Committee shall:

Procedural  
matters.

- (a) elect, from amongst their members, a Chairman, Vice- Chairman and Secretary who shall be police officers;
- (b) determine the number of members to be assigned by the State Commissioner or Divisional Police Officer to serve as members of the Committee or Sub-Committee concerned;
- (c) each determine its own procedure and cause minutes to be kept of its proceedings; and
- (d) whenever each considers necessary, co-opt other members, experts or community leaders to the Committee, Sub- Committee and Divisional Committee in an advisory capacity.

(2) Members of the Committee, Sub-Committee and Divisional Committee shall render their services on a voluntary basis and shall have no claim to any remuneration solely for services rendered to the Committee, Sub-Committee or Divisional Committee.

(3) The majority of the members of the Committee, Sub-Committee or Divisional Committee shall constitute a quorum at any of its meetings.

(4) In the absence of the Chairman of a Committee, Sub-Committee or Divisional Committee at a meeting, the Vice-Chairman shall preside over the meeting, and if both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent, the members present shall elect one of them present to preside over the meeting.

106. (1) The Special Constabulary is hereby established under this Bill.

The Special  
Constabulary.

(2) The special constabulary is deemed Part of the Nigeria Police Force, and accordingly references in this Bill to the Police Force shall, subject to the provisions of this Bill, include, and be deemed always to have included, references to the special constabulary.

(3) The special constabulary shall consist of —

(a) special constables appointed in normal circumstances under section 68 of this Bill; and

(b) such emergency special constables as may be appointed from time to time under section 70 of this Bill.

(4) If any enactment requires police officers to perform military duties or confers power (whether expressly or in general terms) to require police officers to perform such duties, that enactment shall not, in the absence of express provision to the contrary, extend to members of the special constabulary.

107. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, the competent authority may appoint as a special constable any person (whether male or female) who:

Appointment of  
Special  
Constables.

(a) has attained the age of 21 years but has not attained the age of fifty (50) years;

(b) is of good character and physically fit; and

(c) has signified willingness to serve as a special constable.

(2) The Inspector-General of Police shall, from time to time, by notice published in the Force Administrative Instructions fix the maximum number of persons who may at any time hold appointments under this section; and a person shall not be appointed as a special constable under this section if his appointment would cause the number for the time being so fixed to be exceeded.

(3) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the Inspector-General of Police may from time to time:

(a) review the maximum number of persons who may at any time hold

appointments under this section in any territory; and

(b) at his own discretion fix the maximum number of persons appointed under this section who may at any time hold any Particular rank in the special constabulary in any territory, and may, in either case, fix different numbers with respect to different territories; and it shall be the duty of every competent authority to ensure that the numbers fixed under this subsection are not exceeded.

(4) Every special constable appointed under this section-

(a) shall be appointed to serve as a special constable for one year or such longer period as may be agreed between him and the authority by whom he is appointed, and shall on appointment sign an engagement in the prescribed form to serve as a special constable for that period;

(b) shall be appointed in respect of the Police Area Command or, where there is no Police Area Command, the Police division in which he resides or is employed;

(c) shall within the territory in which the Police area in respect of which he is appointed is situated, but not elsewhere, have the powers, privileges and immunities of a special constable; and

(d) subject to the provisions of this Bill, shall be a member of the Special Constable for all purposes: provided that a Special Constable appointed in respect of a Police area within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja shall have the powers, privileges and immunities of a Special Constable not only within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja but also within any Police area adjacent to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

(5) A Special Constable appointed under this section shall have such rank as may be assigned to him by the competent authority; the assigning authority shall cause notice thereof to be published in Force Administrative Instructions.

(6) A special constable appointed under this section may within three months before the end of his first or any subsequent period of engagement, and with the permission of the competent authority, re-engage to serve for a further period of one year or such longer period as may be agreed between him and the authority and, if he does so, his appointment under this section shall be deemed to have been extended accordingly; and without prejudice to the right of the competent authority to refuse permission in any case, a person shall not be permitted to re-engage under this subsection unless he would, if not already a Special Constable, be qualified for appointment as such under this subsection.

(7) Every Special Constable appointed under this section shall, on appointment, be issued with a certificate of appointment in the prescribed form, and on the determination of his appointment (whether by the passage of time or under section 68 of this Bill, shall be issued with a certificate of discharge in the prescribed form.

108. (1) A special constable appointed under section 68 of this Bill may at any time give to the Superior Police Officer in charge of the Police Area in respect of which he is appointed notice in writing to the effect that he desires to resign his appointment on a date (not being

Resignation,  
suspension and  
dismissal of

less than Thirty (30) days later than the date on which the notice is given) mentioned in the notice.

special constables  
appointed under  
section 68.

(2) On receipt of a notice under the foregoing subsection the Superior Police Officer in question shall refer it to the competent authority; and if, but only if, the competent authority consents to the notice having effect, the appointment of the special constable by whom the notice was given shall determine on the date mentioned in the notice or the date on which he is notified that the competent authority has given his consent under this subsection, whichever is the later.

(3) The competent authority may at any time, for reasons appearing to him to be sufficient, by notice in writing forthwith suspend or determine the appointment of any special constable appointed under section 68 of this Bill and may, if he thinks fit, do so without informing the Special Constable of the reasons for his action, but shall in every case immediately report his action and the reasons thereof to the Inspector-General of Police.

(4) A Special Constable whose appointment is suspended or determined under subsection (3) of this section otherwise than by the Inspector-General of Police, may appeal against the suspension or determination to the competent authority; and any such appeal shall be heard and determined by the competent authority to whom it is made.

(5) Any delegation of the powers of the Inspector-General of Police under subsections (3) and (4) of this section shall be such as to secure that in every case the competent authority having power to hear and determine an appeal under subsection (4) of this section is a Police Officer of higher rank than the Police Officer against whose action the appeal is brought.

109. (1) If at any time the Commissioner of Police for a State is satisfied, as regards any Police Area in that State, that an unlawful assembly or riot or breach of the peace has taken place or may reasonably be expected to take place in that area, or that by reason of other special circumstances it is necessary in the public interest for Emergency Special Constables to be appointed in respect of that area, he may authorise the Superior Police Officer in charge of that area or any Chief Superintendent of Police to appoint persons resident or employed in that area (whether male or female) as Emergency Special Constables.

Appointment of  
emergency special  
constables.

(2) An authorization under this section need not be in writing, but must specify the maximum number of Emergency Special Constables who may be appointed under that authorisation.

(3) Where a Superior Police Officer proposes to appoint any person as an emergency special constable under an authorisation given under this section, he shall cause to be served on that person a notice in the prescribed form requiring him to present himself at a time and place specified in the notice for appointment as an Emergency Special Constable.

(4) Every person on whom a notice is served under subsection (3) of this section shall present himself at the time and place specified in the notice and shall there, on being required to do so by the Superior Police Officer proposing to appoint him, make and sign a promise in the prescribed form to serve as an Emergency Special Constable until such time as his appointment is determined under this section; and immediately after he has made and signed that promise, the Superior Police Officer shall hand to him a document in the prescribed form appointing him as an Emergency Special Constable in respect of the Police Area to which the authorisation under which he is being appointed relates.

(5) Every emergency special constable appointed under this section —

- (a) shall, in the police area in respect of which he is appointed, but not elsewhere, have the powers, privileges and immunities of a special constable; and
- (b) subject to the provisions of this Bill, shall be a member of the Special Constabulary for all purposes and shall accordingly be subject to the provisions of this Bill.

(6) The Superior Police Officer in charge of the Police Area in respect of which an Emergency Special Constable is appointed may at any time, and shall if so directed by the Commissioner of Police for the State in which that police area is situated, by notice in writing forthwith, or with effect from a future date specified in the notice, determine the Emergency Special Constable's appointment; and on the determination of his appointment under this section an emergency special constable shall be issued with a certificate of discharge in the prescribed form.

(7) Any person who without reasonable excuse (proof of which shall lie on him) —

- (a) refuses or fails to comply with the requirements of a notice served on him under subsection (3) of this section; or
- (b) refuses to make and sign a promise to serve on being required to do so under subsection (4) of this section; shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Ten Thousand Naira (₦10,000.00).

(8) The foregoing provisions of this section shall apply in relation to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja as they apply in relation to a State, subject to the modification that, in relation to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja any reference to the Commissioner of Police shall be construed as a reference to the Inspector-General of Police.

(9) The foregoing provisions of this section shall have effect subject to section 68 (2) and (3) of this Bill.

110. (1) The Commissioner of Police for a State or the Inspector-General of Police:

Provisions  
supplementary to  
section 68.

- (a) on giving an authorisation under section 70 of this Bill, shall forthwith inform the President of his action and of the circumstances which led him to take it, and shall as soon as possible cause notice of the giving of the authorisation to be published in the Force Administrative Instructions; and
- (b) as soon as possible after all Emergency Special Constables appointed under that authorisation have been discharged, shall cause notice of that fact to be published in the Force Administrative Instructions.

(2) The Inspector-General of Police may by order published in the Force Administrative Instructions declare persons of any class or description specified in the order to be exempted from appointment as Emergency Special Constables under section 70 of this Bill, and the power to appoint persons as Emergency Special Constables under that section shall not extend to persons of any class or description for the time being so specified.



(3) Any power to make or determine appointments under or by virtue of section 70 of this Bill shall be exercisable only while there is in force the necessary delegation of that power by the Inspector-General of Police.

111. (1) The Inspector-General of Police may provide for use by Special Constables such as batons, clothing and other equipment as he considers necessary for the proper carrying out of their duties. Equipment.

(2) Any expenses incurred by the Inspector-General of Police under this section shall be defrayed out of the funds of the Police Force.

112. (1) Regulations made by virtue of section 58 of this Bill with respect to the organisation and administration of the Force shall not require Special Constables to attend for instruction on more than four days in any one month or for periods amounting in the aggregate to more than 24 hours in any one month. Instructions of Special Constables.

(2) Any person responsible for giving instruction to Special Constables under regulations made as aforesaid shall have regard as far as possible to the convenience of Special Constables who are to attend for instruction and also, where applicable, to that of the employers of such Special Constables.

113. (1) Except as expressly provided by this section or by regulations made by virtue of subsection (3) of this section, a person's service as a Special Constable shall render him for a stipend as may be determined by the Inspector-General of Police as approved by Police Council. Allowances, Pensions, etc.

(2) A Special Constable shall have no claim on the Police Reward Fund established under section 44 of this Bill and shall not as such be entitled to occupy living accommodation provided at the public expense.

(3) Regulations made by virtue of section 58 (a) of this Bill may provide for stipends to be paid to Special Constables —

(a) in respect of expenses incurred by them in connection with their attendance at periods of instruction;

(b) as compensation for loss of earnings during periods of full-time duty; and

(c) in respect of the use by Special Constables of or of this subsection the rank of Inspector of their own vehicles while on full-time duty, but shall not provide for the payment of any other stipends to Special Constables; and the amount of any such stipends as is mentioned in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection shall be fixed by the regulations, and shall not be calculated by reference to the actual expenses or loss of earnings of the person to whom it is payable.

(4) Without prejudice to the generality of the said section 58 of this Bill, regulations thereunder may make provision for enabling any such stipend as is mentioned in subsection (3) of this section to be withheld by a Superior Police Officer if, in his opinion, there are good reasons for withholding it.

(5) Subject to subsection (7) of this section, section 6 of the Pensions Act (which contains corresponding provisions applicable to Police Officers above the rank of Constable) shall not apply to Special Constables as they apply to regular Police Officers.

(6) Subject to subsection (7) of this section, paragraphs (1) and (2) of regulation 24 of the repealed Pensions Regulations (which make provision for the payment of pensions to officers in respect of permanent injuries received while on duty) may apply to Special Constables as they apply to regular Police Officers, so however that, for the purposes of the application of those paragraphs to Special Constables, references to retirement shall be construed as references to retirement from employment other than employment as a Special Constable.

(7) If a Special Constable is killed or sustains injuries at a time when he holds some other office in the public service of the Federation or of a State, his duty as a Special Constable shall, for the purpose of the Pensions Act, be deemed to form Part of his duty as the holder of that other office, and subsections (5) and (6) of this section shall not apply in this case.

(8) Any pension granted by virtue of subsection (5) or (6) of this section shall be subject to the provisions of the Act under which it is granted and shall be liable to cease or be otherwise dealt with accordingly.

(9) In this section, "regular police officer" means a Police Officer who is neither a Special Constable nor a Supernumerary Police Officer.

114. (1) Any person (including any government department or private company) who desires to avail himself of the services of one or more Police Officers for the protection of property owned or controlled by him may make application therefore to the Inspector-General of Police, stating the nature and situation of the property in question and giving such other Particulars as the Inspector-General of Police may require.

Appointment of supernumerary Police Officers to protect property.

(2) On an application under the foregoing subsection the Inspector-General of Police may, with the approval of the President, direct the appropriate authority to appoint as Supernumerary Police Officers in the Force such number of persons as the Inspector-General of Police thinks requisite for the protection of the property to which the application relates.

(3) Every Supernumerary Police Officer appointed under this section-

(a) shall be appointed in respect of the area of the Police Command or, where there is no Police Command, the Police Area Command or Police division in which the property which he is to protect is situated;

(b) shall be employed exclusively on duties connected with the protection of that property;

(c) shall, in the Police Area in respect of which he is appointed and in any Police Area adjacent thereto, but not elsewhere, have the powers, privileges and immunities of a Police Officer; and

(d) subject to the restrictions imposed by paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection

and to the provisions of section 79 of this Bill, shall be a member of the Force for all purposes and shall accordingly be subject to the provisions of this Bill and in Particular the provisions thereof relating to discipline.

(4) Where any Supernumerary Police Officer is appointed under this section, the person availing himself of the services of that officer shall pay to the Accountant-General of the Federation:

(a) on the enlistment of the Officer, the full cost of the Officer's uniform; and

(b) quarterly in advance, a sum equal to the aggregate of the amount of the Officer's pay for the quarter in question and such additional amounts as the Inspector-General of Police may direct to be paid in respect of the maintenance of the Officer during that quarter, and any sum payable to the Accountant-General of the Federation under this subsection which is not duly paid may be recovered in a summary manner before a Magistrate on the complaint of any Superior Police Officer:

Provided that this subsection shall not apply in the case of an appointment made on the application of a department of the Government of the Federation.

(5) Where the person availing himself of the services of any Supernumerary Police Officer appointed under this section desires the services of that officer to be discontinued, he must give not less than two months' notice in writing to that effect, in the case of an Officer appointed in respect of a Police Area within that Part known as the Federal Capital Territory, to the Inspector-General of Police or, in the case of an officer appointed in respect of a Police area within a State, to the Commissioner of Police of that State; and on the expiration of such notice the services of the Supernumerary Police Officer in question shall be withdrawn.

(6) Where the services of a Supernumerary Police Officer are withdrawn in pursuance of subsection (5) of this section in the course of a quarter for which the sum mentioned in subsection (4) (b) of this section has been paid to the Accountant-General of the Federation, the Accountant-General of the Federation shall pay to the person by whom that sum was paid a sum which bears to that sum the same proportion as the unexpired portion of that quarter bears to the whole of that quarter.

(7) In this section, "the Accountant-General" means the Accountant-General of the Federation; "government department" means any department of the Government of the Federation or of the Government of a State; and "quarter" means any period of three months; and any reference in this section to the person availing himself of the service of a Supernumerary Police Officer appointed under this section is a reference to the person on whose application the Officer was appointed or, if that person has been succeeded by some other person as the person owning or controlling the property for the protection of which the Officer in question was appointed, that other person.

115. (1) The appropriate authority may, at the request of any Superior Police Officer, appoint any person as a Supernumerary Police Officer in the Force with a view to that person's employment on duties connected with the administration or maintenance of premises occupied or used for the purposes of the Force, but shall not do so in any Particular case unless satisfied that it is necessary in the interests of security or discipline that persons

Appointment of supernumerary Police Officers for employment on administrative

performing the duties in question should be subject to the provisions of this Bill relating to discipline. duties on police premises.

(2) Every Supernumerary Police Officer appointed under this section —

(a) shall be appointed in respect of the Police Area Command or where there is no Police Area Command, the Police Division in which the premises in connection with whose administration or maintenance he is to be employed are situated;

(b) shall be employed exclusively on duties connected with the administration or maintenance of those premises;

(c) shall, in the Police Area in respect of which he is appointed, but not elsewhere, have the powers, privileges and immunities of a Police Officer; and

(d) subject to the restrictions imposed by paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection and to the provisions of section 79 of this Bill, shall be a member of the Force for all purposes and shall accordingly be subject to the provisions of this Bill and in Particular the provisions thereof relating to discipline.

116. (1) If at any time the President is satisfied, as regards any police area, that it is necessary in the public interest for supernumerary police officers to be employed in that area, he may authorise the appropriate authority to appoint persons as supernumerary police officers in the Force under and in accordance with the authorisation.

Appointment of supernumerary Police Officers where necessary in the public interest.

(2) Every authorisation under this section shall be in writing and shall specify the police area to which it relates and the maximum number of supernumerary police officers who may be appointed under that authorisation.

(3) Every Supernumerary Police Officer appointed under an authorisation given under this section —

(a) shall be appointed in respect of the police area to which the authorisation relates;

(b) shall, in the police area in respect of which he is appointed and in any police area adjacent thereto, but not elsewhere, have the powers, privileges and immunities of a police officer; and

(c) subject to the restriction imposed by paragraph (b) of this subsection and to the provisions of section 79 of this Bill, shall be a member of the Force for all purposes and shall accordingly be subject to the provisions of this Bill and in Particular to the provisions thereof relating to discipline.

117. (1) The appropriate authority may at the request of the Inspector-General of Police or of the Commissioner of Police of a State appoint any person as a Supernumerary Police Officer in the Force with a view to that person's attachment as an orderly to —

Appointment of supernumerary Police Officers for attachment as Orderlies.

(a) a Minister; or

(b) a Commissioner of the Government of a State; or

(c) a Police Officer of or above the rank of Assistant Commissioner.

(2) Every Supernumerary Police Officer appointed under this section —

(a) shall be employed exclusively on duties connected with the activities of the person to whom he is attached;

(b) shall, while so employed, have throughout Nigeria the powers, privileges and immunities of a Police Officer; and

(c) subject to the restriction imposed by paragraph (a) of this subsection and to the provisions of section 79 of this Bill, shall be a member of the Force for all purposes and shall accordingly be subject to the provisions of this Bill and in Particular the provisions thereof relating to discipline.

118. (1) Every Supernumerary Police Officer shall, on appointment, be enlisted to serve in the Nigeria Police Force from month to month, and accordingly a Supernumerary Police Officer may at any time resign his appointment by giving one month's notice in that behalf to the Superior Police officer in charge of the Police Area in respect of which he is appointed, and his appointment may be determined by the appropriate authority on one month's notice in that behalf or on payment of one month's pay instead of such notice.

Provisions  
supplementary to  
sections 75 to 78.

(2) The ranks to which Supernumerary Police Officers may be appointed shall be prescribed by regulations made by the President under section 58 of this Bill on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Police.

(3) A Supernumerary Police Officer shall have no claim on the Police Reward Fund; and, without prejudice to any liability under the Workmen's Compensation Act, to pay compensation to or in respect of any person by virtue of his employment as a Supernumerary Police Officer, a person's service as such as Officer shall not render him or any other person eligible for any pension, gratuity or annual allowance under this Bill or the Pensions Act.

119. (1) There is hereby established a Traffic Warden Service (in this Bill referred to as "the warden Service")

Establishment of  
the traffic warden  
Service.

(2) The Warden Service shall consist of traffic wardens enlisted from time to time under this Bill.

(3) The Warden Service shall be a part of the Nigerian Police Force and accordingly, references to the Police established under this Bill shall subject to the provisions of this Bill include references to the Warden Service.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3) of this section, in so far as any enactment whether passed or made before or after the commencement of this Bill requires Police Officers to perform military duties, or confers any power on any person whether expressly or in general terms to require Police Officers to perform such duties, that enactment, shall not in the absence of express provision to the contrary extend to Traffic Wardens.

(5) Traffic Wardens shall be employed to discharge functions normally undertaken by the Police in connection with the control and regulation of, or the enforcement of the law

relating to road traffic and shall in that connection, act under the direction of the Police.

(6) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing subsection, a Traffic Warden shall be required to deal majorly with:

- (a) the general control and direction of motor traffic on the highway;
- (b) assisting pedestrians to cross the road; and
- (c) controlling vehicles stopping or parking in unauthorized places.

**120.** (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any enactment, the Inspector-General of Police is vested with the power to enlist, confirm such enlistment, promote, transfer, dismiss or exercise any disciplinary control over any Traffic Warden. Appointment of Traffic Wardens.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Bill, a person may be enlisted as a traffic warden if he:

- (a) is not less than 18 years and not more than 25 years of age;
- (b) possesses a minimum educational qualification of Senior Secondary School Certificate;
- (c) is not less than 167.64 centimetres and 162.56 centimetres tall respectively for the male and female;
- (d) in the case of male, has not less than 86.36 centimetres chest measurement when fully expanded;
- (e) is of good character and is physically fit; and
- (f) has signified his/her willingness to serve as a Traffic Warden.

(3) The Police Service Commission on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Police shall from time to time by notice published in the Federal gazette, fix the maximum number of persons who may at any given time hold office under this section; and a person shall not be enlisted as a traffic warden if his enlistment would cause the number for the time being so fixed to be exceeded.

(4) The Inspector-General of Police may:

- (a) from time to time fix the maximum number of traffic wardens who may at any given time hold office in any State;
- (b) at his own discretion fix the maximum number of traffic wardens who may at any given time hold any particular rank in the Warden Service in any State; and
- (c) in either case fix different numbers with respect to different States.

(5) In relation to traffic wardens enlisted under this Bill, the form of the police declaration prescribed by the Oaths Act shall be adapted by the substitution:

(i) for the words, "Police Officer" where they occur in the fifth line, of the words, "a Traffic Warden"; and

(ii) for the words from "for the preservation of peace" to the end of the declaration, of the words "to discharge all duties of my office according to law".

**121.** Every Traffic Warden enlisted under this Bill shall be enlisted to serve as a Traffic Warden for a period of 35 years or until he/she attains 60 years of age, whichever comes first, and only in the Police Command in which he resides. Period of service.

**122.** A Traffic Warden enlisted under this Bill shall, when on duty be in uniform and within the Police Command in which he is enlisted to serve, but not elsewhere, and shall have the powers, privileges and immunities of a Police Officer under any law relating to the regulation of Road Traffic. Powers of a traffic warden.

**123.** Every Traffic Warden shall on first enlistment, be issued with a certificate of enlistment in a form approved by the Inspector-General of Police and on the determination of that or any subsequent enlistment whether by effluxion of time or under section 82 of this Bill, shall in like manner be issued with a certificate of discharge. Certificate of enlistment and of discharge.

**124.** A Traffic Warden shall have such rank as may be assigned to him by the Inspector-General of Police beyond the following grades: Ranks of traffic wardens.

(a) Traffic Warden Grade III;

(b) Traffic Warden Grade II;

(c) Traffic Warden Grade I;

(d) Senior Traffic Warden II;

(e) Senior Traffic Warden I;

(f) Assistant Superintendent of Traffic II;

(g) Assistant Superintendent of Traffic I; and

(h) Deputy Superintendent of Traffic.

**125.** (1) A Traffic Warden enlisted under this Bill may at any time give to any Superior Police Officer under whom he is serving, notice in writing of his intention to resign his appointment on a date mentioned in the notice (not being less than 28 days later than the date on which the notice is given). Resignation.

(2) On receipt by the Superior Police Officer of the notice referred to in subsection (1) of this section, the Superior Police Officer shall immediately refer such notice to the Commissioner of Police having control over him and the Traffic Warden and if the Commissioner of Police consents to the notice having effect, the appointment of the traffic warden shall be terminated accordingly.

126. (1) In so far as the context so admits, but subject to the provisions of this Bill, a Traffic Warden shall be subject to the provisions of the Police Regulations subsidiary to this Bill, for purposes of discipline. Discipline.

(2) In the application to Traffic Wardens of the Second Schedule to the Police Regulations, references to Constables, Corporals, Sergeants, Inspectors and Senior Police Officers shall include respectively references to Traffic Wardens Grade III-I and Senior Traffic Wardens Grade II-I and Superintendents of Traffic respectively.

127. (1) The Inspector-General of Police may provide for use by the traffic wardens such equipment as he considers necessary for the proper carrying out of the duties of traffic wardens under this Bill. Provision of equipment.

(2) Any expenses incurred by the Inspector-General of Police under this section shall be defrayed out of the funds of the Police Force.

128. The Inspector-General of Police may delegate any of his powers under this Bill to the Commissioner of Police in a state or the Commandant of a Police College (except his power of delegation), so that the delegated powers may be exercised by the delegate with respect to the matters or class of matters specified or defined in the instrument of delegation. Delegation of power by the Inspector-general of Police.

129. (1) Every person enlisted into the Traffic Warden Service shall be required to undergo a course of training at the Traffic Training School of Police Colleges for a period of twelve weeks or such other or further period as the Inspector-General of Police may determine. Instruction of traffic wardens, etc.

(2) A Traffic Warden enlisted under this Bill shall be allocated a service number with the letters "TW" and the service numbers of all traffic wardens employed in the Federation shall appear on the register kept for that purpose by the Inspector-General of Police.

(3) A Traffic Warden to whom a service number has been allocated under subsection 2 of this section shall wear his service number on the shoulder flaps of the uniform whenever he is on duty.

130. (1) The Police Act, Cap. P19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 is repealed. Repeal and transitional provisions.

(2) Subject to subsections (1) and (4) of this section, anything done under or by virtue of the Police Act shall be deemed to have been done under or by virtue of the corresponding provision of this Bill; and anything begun under or by virtue of the said Act of 2004 may be continued under or by virtue of this Bill as if begun under or by virtue of this Bill.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (2) of this section, any person who immediately before the commencement of this Bill held an appointment as a member of the Nigeria Police Force under the Police Act, LFN, 2004 shall be deemed to have been appointed under and in accordance with the corresponding provisions of this Bill on the date and for the period on or for which he was actually appointed; and service under that Bill shall, for the purposes of any pension for which a Police Officer is eligible by virtue of this Bill, be deemed to be service under this Bill.

(4) Nothing in this Bill shall affect any pension which was before the commencement of this



Bill granted under the Police Act, LFN, 2004; and the provisions of that Bill shall continue to apply to any pension so granted as if this Bill had not been made.

131. (1) Where there is no specific provision under this Bill or in any State where the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 is not domesticated, the extant law of that State applies.

Saving as to other laws and subsidiary legislation.

(2) Provisions of Police Regulations, 1968 made pursuant to Section 46 of the repealed Police Act, Cap. P19, LFN, 2004 is still in force.

132. (1) The Inspector-General of Police shall establish a Police Complaints Response Unit (in this Bill referred to as "the Unit") in the Force Headquarters, and each of the Police Commands in all the States of the Federation and Federal Capital Territory.

Establishment of a Police Complaints Response Unit.

(2) The Unit established under subsection (1) shall be under the Public Relations Section.

133. (1) The Unit shall consist of representatives of the Federal or State Intelligence Bureau, Police Provost Marshal and any other unit as the Inspector-General of Police may deem fit.

Unit composition.

(2) The Unit shall be headed by an Officer not below the rank of a Chief Superintendent of Police.

134. (1) The Unit shall receive:

Functions of the Unit.

(a) complaint or information of Police Officers misconduct from the public; or

(b) complaint of Police Officers misconduct from other Police members or authority.

(2) The Unit may receive:

(a) any complaint alleging that the conduct complained of resulted in the death of or serious injury or other gross human rights violations; or

(b) any complaint showing that a Police officer may have committed a criminal offence;

(c) any complaint which shows that a Police Officer is involved in an act constituting professional misconduct.

(3) The Unit shall monitor the investigations initiated by the Unit.

(4) While conducting investigation into any complaint by any member of the public against a Police Officer, the Nigeria Police Force shall afford the person against whom the complaint has been made opportunity to defend himself.

(5) Upon the conclusion of an investigation, the appropriate investigative unit shall make available a copy of its findings or investigation report to the Unit within 21 days from the

day the complaint was made.

135. After investigation, the head of the Unit with the approval of the Inspector General of Police shall: Steps to be taken after investigation.

(a) send a copy of the investigation report and recommendations to the Commissioner of Police, Legal for advice and possible prosecution if the investigation reveals that a criminal offence has been committed;

(b) send a copy of the investigation report and recommendations to the appropriate Police or oversight authority for proper disciplinary action if the investigations reveal that the offence committed is against discipline as stated in the First Schedule Regulations 370 of the Police Act and Regulations; and

(c) where it is discovered after investigations that the complainant knowingly gave false information against any Police Officer or should have reasonably known that the information is false, such a person shall be tried in accordance with relevant laws for the time being in force.

136. (1) Subject to the provisions of this bill, the provisions of Public Officers Protection Act shall apply in relation to any suit instituted against any member of the Nigeria Police Force. Legal proceedings.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law or enactment, no suit against the Nigeria Police, the Inspector-General of Police, Commissioner of Police or any other member of the Police Force for any act done in pursuant or execution of this Bill or any other law or enactment or any public duties or authority or in respect of any alleged neglect, or default in the execution of this Bill or any other law or enactment, duties or authority shall lie or be instituted in any court unless it is commenced:

(a) within three months next after the act, neglect or default or complained of;

(b) in the case of a continuation of damage or injury within six months next after the ceasing thereof;

(c) after exhausting the remedies provided in sections 77 to 80 of this Bill.

(3) No suit shall be commenced against the Nigeria Police Force, the Inspector-General of Police, the Commissioner of Police or any member of the Police Force before the expiration of a period of one month after notice of intention to commence the suit have been served on the Inspector-General of Police or the Commissioner of Police where the alleged cause of action arose by the intending plaintiff or his agent or legal practitioner.

(4) The notice referred to in subsection 3 of this section shall clearly and explicitly state:

(a) the cause of action;

(b) the particulars of claim;

(c) the name and address of the intending plaintiff;

(d) the relief(s) which he claims;

(e) and be accompanied by the petition written to the police complaint unit established by this Bill.

(5) A notice, summons or other documents required or authorized to be served on the Nigeria police force, the Inspector-General of Police, Commissioner of Police or any member of the Nigeria Police Force under this Bill or any other law or enactment may be served by delivery to the Legal Department of the force headquarters or Zonal, State command headquarters or formation or by sending it by registered post addressed to the Commissioner of Police, Legal Department force headquarters or Officer in charge Legal section of the state, Zonal or Formation concerned.

(6) In any action or suit against the Nigeria Police Force, the Inspector-General of Police, Commissioner of Police or any member of the Nigeria Police Force, no execution or attachment of process in the nature thereof shall be issued against the Nigeria Police Force, the Inspector-General of Police, Commissioner of Police, unless not less than three months' notice of the intention to the execution or attachment has been given to the Inspector-General of Police or Commissioner of Police or any member of the Nigeria Police Force.

(7) Any sum of money which by the judgment of any court has been awarded against the Nigeria Police Force, the Inspector-General of Police or Commissioner of Police shall subject to any direction by the court where no appeal against the judgment has been filed, be paid by the member of the Police whose action led to the institution of the suit and the judgment.

137. All the provisions of this Bill shall extend to all persons who, at the commencement of this Bill are serving in the Nigeria Police Force established by the Constitution of the Federal of Nigeria as if such persons had been appointed under this Bill. Application.

138. The Police Force or other persons shall not, in the performance of their functions under this Bill, Regulations or Standing Orders made under this Bill, discriminate against any person on the basis of gender as provided under section 42 of the Constitution. Prohibition against gender discrimination.

139. (1) A police officer who, on reasonable grounds, believes that an order given to him by a senior officer is unlawful, he: Disobeying unlawful orders.

(a) is not bound to comply with the order; and

(b) shall immediately make a report in such form as it is provided by the Police Service Commission for that purpose.

(2) On the receipt of the report referred to in subsection (1), the Police Service Commission shall immediately inquire into the matter and may, where the inquiry reveals that the order was:

(a) lawful, take appropriate disciplinary action against the police officer for disobeying a lawful order; and

(b) unlawful, take appropriate disciplinary action against the senior police officer for giving an unlawful order.

140. (1) The Minister may make regulations on the recommendation of:

Power to make regulations.

(a) the Inspector-General of Police, with respect to the policy, organisation and administration of the Police Force, including establishments and financial matters, other than pensions within the meaning of the Pensions Reform Act; and

(b) the Police Service Commission, with respect to appointments, promotions and disciplinary control of police officers as specified in the Constitution.

(2) The Minister shall regularly review the police regulations.

141. (1) The Police Act Cap P19 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 is repealed.

Repeal.

(2) Subject to section 6 of the Interpretation Act (relating to the repeal of enactments), the repeal of the Act referred to under subsection (1) of this section does not affect anything done or purported to have been done under it.

142. (1) There are vested in the Police Force established under this Bill, all assets, funds, resources and other moveable or immoveable property which immediately before the commencement of this Bill were vested in the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill.

Savings and transitional provisions.

(2) All rights, interests, obligations and liabilities of the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill under any contract or instrument, or in law or in equity, are, by virtue of this Bill, assigned to, and vested in, the Police Force established under this Bill.

(3) Any contract or instrument referred to in subsection (2) has the same effect against or in favour of the Police Force established under this Bill and shall be enforced as fully and effectively as if, instead of the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill, the Police Force established under this Bill had been named in it or had been a party to it.

(4) Any proceeding or cause of action pending or existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill in respect of any right, interest, obligation or liability of the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill may be continued, or as the case may require, be commenced, and the determination of a court or tribunal or other authority or person may be enforced by or against the Police Force established under this Bill to the same extent that the cause of action or determination might have been continued or commenced or enforced by or against the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill as if this Bill had not been enacted.

(5) Subject to the provisions of this Bill and to such directions as may be issued by the Police Service Commission, a person who immediately before the commencement of this Bill held office in the Police Force existing before the commencement of this Bill is deemed to have been transferred to the Police Force established under this Bill on terms and conditions not

less favourable than those obtaining immediately before the commencement of this Bill, and employment in the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill is deemed to be service in the Police Force established under this Bill for the purpose of pension.

(6) Any regulation, order, notice made or issued by or for the purpose of the Police Force existing immediately before the commencement of this Bill are deemed, if not inconsistent with this Bill, to have been made or issued by or for the purposes of the Police Force established under this Bill, and shall continue in force until revoked or amended, subject to such modifications as may be applicable to the Police Force established under this Bill.

(7) The Minister may, if he thinks fit, within 12 months after the commencement of this Bill, by notice published in the Federal Government Gazette, make additional transitional provisions for the better realisation of the objectives of this section.

143. In this Bill:

Interpretation.

"Commissioner" means a Commissioner of Police, a Deputy Commissioner of Police or an Assistant Commissioner of Police;

"Constable" means any police officer below the rank of Corporal;

"Constitution" means the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as altered);

"court" means any court established by any law in force in Nigeria;

"Criminal justice monitoring committee" refers to the Administration of Criminal Justice Monitoring Committee set up under section 469 of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act to ensure effective and efficient application of the Act, speedy dispensation of criminal matters and for related matters;

"functions" includes duties;

"Inspector" includes a Chief Inspector and an Inspector of Police;

"Minister" means the Minister charged with responsibility police affairs and "Ministry" shall be construed accordingly;

"Non-Commissioned Officer" means a Police Sergeant-Major, a Police Sergeant or a Police Corporal as the case may be;

"Police" means the Police Force;

"Police Force" means the Police Force established under section 3 of this Bill;

"police officer" means a member of the Nigerian Police;

"prosecuting officer" means any person appointed by the Attorney-General of the Federation or of the State to prosecute crimes on their behalf and for the Nigeria Police;

"senior police officer" means any police officer above the rank of a Cadet Assistant

Superintendent of Police; and

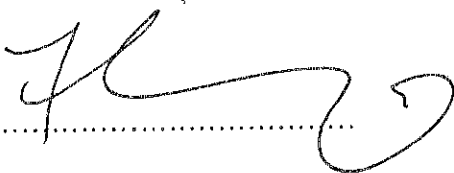
"Superintendent of Police" includes a Chief Superintendent of Police, Superintendent of Police, a Deputy Superintendent of Police, and an Assistant Superintendent of Police.

144. This Bill may be cited as the Nigeria Police Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, 2020. Citation.

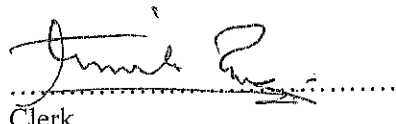
#### EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill repeals the Police Act, Cap. P19, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 and enact Nigeria Police Act, 2020 to provide for the framework for the police force and ensure cooperation and partnership between the police and communities in maintaining peace, protecting liberties, life and property.

PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON TUESDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE, 2020



.....  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



.....  
Clerk  
House of Representatives