

Jurisdiction as a key element of the law

Law



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The government has decided that one type of crime is more severe than another and that it affects the national interest. Additionally, if a crime involves several states—for example, if you rob banks in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, federal prosecutors will likely take over. Additionally, if a crime involves moving money in and out of the country, federal prosecutors will likely take over. Or if a crime such as corruption is occurring at the State Capitol, the FBI will be called in. Generally, there are a number of federal organizations such as the FBI, ATF, and DEA who have federal jurisdiction over certain serious types of crimes. These people will do their investigations and turn over their evidence to federal prosecutors who will then make their case to a federal judge. All of these people will have been appointed by the federal government. Jurisdiction is the place of the law.