The History of US Law Enforcement

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

**The history of US Law enforcement**

There had been various historical proofs which suggest that the law enforcement had been the essential part of the state system. In the civilization of Mesopotamia, various cities were practicing the law enforcement concept, as the bulky from among the citizens were chosen to look after the system of law and order. From among the Mesopotamian citizens, the Nubian slaves were among those which normally had to perform the duties of maintaining the law and order situation in different market places. Although Nubian's actors were as the first police officer the historical records as mentioned by Helmholtz suggests that the first organized police officer were from the Romans(Helmholtz, 1979). Since the United States had inherited the law enforcement system from Great Britain, it has been in the historical records that the watchmen were the earliest form of the law enforcement official in the US. The law enforcement in the US had remained primarily for the purposes of safeguarding the lands, and from protecting them from the grabbers. There had been the records which suggests that the earlier Americans were concerned more about their material possession and not much about the self of them. In view of this brief history of the development of law enforcement in the US, it remains viable to argue that *the development of the law enforcement had remained much dis related to the societal development in the US.*

Since it has been argued before that the US law enforcement system of the earlier times was heavily influenced by that of Great Britain, the following pieces of evidence are important to analyze the extent of this argument. Helmholtz argue that since the Europeans which first landed on the surface of the US, started designating the young ones from them as their bodyguards. These bodyguards were primarily recruited to take care of the lands, the people used to inherit from their elders and after attempting to grab them from the weak ones(Helmholz, 1979). After once the land situation became much rested on the new continent, the police system started taking hold of society. Back here in Britain, the ones who were convicted were chained and kept attached to the pole. This same practice was observed in the US, as punishment(Bumgarner, Crawford, & Burns, 2018). A little change to that with Britain was the clause of repayments in the US.

With the advent of the seventeenth century in the US, there was a kind of managed rural settings in the US. To maintain the law and order situation in the rural areas, the night watch systems were introduced to lower the chances of conflict among the rural people. As there remained every time the chances of conflict over the existing disputes. Between the revolutionary wars and the civil wars, the role of the watchmen became widened. They were then also used as warriors to protect the tribes. The other reasons the role of the watchmen was expanded was the increased industrialization and the growth of the population. As with the time went on, the watchmen were later established as organized forces. Hess and Orthoman argue that until the advent of the nineteenth century, the concept of the 24-hour police service was started been practiced by the local authorities(Hess, Orthoman, & Cho, 2016). Another important aspect of police enforcement in the earlier time of US history was the introduction of the armed services. In rural settings, the armed persons were not part of the watch services, this armed service was just observed in the urban settings in the US. The reason for the police presence in urban settings was increased industrial activities.

With the advent of the twentieth century, law enforcement was started teaching as the academic discipline in the American schools and in many of the American Universities. At this time in the American Academic history, law enforcement was taught under the criminal study syllabus. The graduates who studied law enforcement as the academic discipline were then made part of the American legal system. This practice continued to upfill the start of the world war I. the University of South Carolina and the Indiana State University were the first among the academic institutes to start teaching the law enforcement courses. At present, law enforcement activities are just not limited to preventing conflict scenarios. Since the crime at present is of many different types, therefore the crime prevention activities have also been broadened. These crime prevention activities have now been classified under the jurisdiction of law enforcement agencies. In the US, at present, federal law enforcement agencies work in collaboration with many state law enforcement agencies to maintain the law and order situation and to prevent criminal activities.

The essay has analyzed the history and development of law enforcement in the United States. It has been observed that since the history of the US, had been majority about the land disputes which arose with the landing of many Europeans at this continent. This aspect had remained impactful in the development of law enforcement in the US. There is also another aspect that remains dominant in the development of law enforcement which is its relevance with that of the other aspects of the disputes. As Herth and Orthoman argue that crimes such as looting and plundering were as much the part of the US society but the law enforcement development remained much related just to preventing the conflicts over the land disputes(Hess et al., 2016). This argument proves that how law enforcement remained dis related to the very development of society in the US.

# **References:**

Bumgarner, J. B., Crawford, C. E., & Burns, R. G. (2018). *Federal Law Enforcement: A Primer*. Carolina Academic Press.

Helmholz, R. H. (1979). The Early Enforcement of Uses. *Colum L. Rev.*, *79*, 1503.

Hess, K. M., Orthmann, C. H., & Cho, H. L. (2016). *Introduction to law enforcement and criminal justice*. Cengage Learning.