

Criminal Investigation,
Seventh Edition

Chapter Twenty-Two
The Decision to Initiate the Criminal
Process

The Process of Decision

- The investigator usually is assigned a case to investigate, however, the following is generally taken into account:
 - The nature of the loss.
 - The type of crime – property, persons, or crimes generally referred to as “victimless.”
 - How solvable is the case.
 - How much change is there of conviction.
 - Where does the crime fit into agency and prosecutor priorities.
 - Other factors that include community pressure, publicity, and other factors.

The Process of Decision

- Investigators may arrest based on an on-sight arrest, a warrant or issue a summons to court even for felonies in some cases.

The End