

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910781550903321
Autore	Crouch Barry A. <1941->
Titolo	The governor's hounds [[electronic resource]] : the Texas State Police, 1870-1873 // by Barry A. Crouch and Donaly E. Brice
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Austin, : University of Texas Press, c2011
ISBN	0-292-73538-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (327 p.)
Collana	Jack and Doris Smothers series in Texas history, life, and culture ; ; no. 30
Altri autori (Persone)	BriceDonaly E
Disciplina	363.209764
Soggetti	Police, State - Texas - History - 19th century Law enforcement - Texas - History - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Murder: an inalienable state right -- An "untiring enemy to all evil-doers": the formation of the state police -- "An affair only equalled by the exploits of the comanches": the Hill County imbroglio -- "The dark recesses of their hearts": the state police and martial law in Walker County -- A shamelessly disloyal community: the state police and Limestone/Freestone Counties -- The job is relentless: state policemen in action -- Lampasas: the death of the state police.
Sommario/riassunto	In the tumultuous years following the Civil War, violence and lawlessness plagued the state of Texas, often overwhelming the ability of local law enforcement to maintain order. In response, Reconstruction-era governor Edmund J. Davis created a statewide police force that could be mobilized whenever and wherever local authorities were unable or unwilling to control lawlessness. During its three years (1870–1873) of existence, however, the Texas State Police was reviled as an arm of the Radical Republican party and widely condemned for being oppressive, arrogant, staffed with criminals and African Americans, and expensive to maintain, as well as for enforcing the new and unpopular laws that protected the rights of freed slaves. Drawing extensively on the wealth of previously untouched records in the Texas State Archives, as well as other contemporary sources, Barry A. Crouch and Donaly E. Brice here offer the first major objective assessment of the Texas State Police and its role in maintaining law and

order in Reconstruction Texas. Examining the activities of the force throughout its tenure and across the state, the authors find that the Texas State Police actually did much to solve the problem of violence in a largely lawless state. While acknowledging that much of the criticism the agency received was merited, the authors make a convincing case that the state police performed many of the same duties that the Texas Rangers later assumed and fulfilled the same need for a mobile, statewide law enforcement agency.
