

Curatorial Information



Collections and Exhibits at a Glance

- The United States Marshals Museum (USMM) gets to tell the 230+ year-old deep and rich history of the USMS through nearly 2000 curated artifacts.
- Many artifacts are on loan to the USMM through the United States Marshals Service.
- As the home of the largest private collection of Marshals Service materials, the USMM will help to share the culture of the service and tell the story of Marshals from yesterday through today.
- The USMM is honored to have of the largest collection of objects related to one of the most prolific Deputy U.S. Marshals in history, Bass Reeves.
- Equipment, clothing, and documents related to enforcement of civil rights at New Orleans and Ole Miss.
- Library of more than 100 audio and video recordings related to Marshals Service history.

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Collections and Exhibits

- The USMM is honored to care for national treasures and other materials of national relevance. The unique nature of our mission and the role played by the USMS gives the USMM a rare opportunity to inspire and transform the understanding of our visitors and those who see our collections on loan to other institutions.
- The collection of the USMM originated as “America’s Star,” a traveling exhibit created by the USMS and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service to celebrate the bicentennial of the office of United States Marshal.
- In addition to the loan of 600 objects from the USMS (the “America’s Star” exhibit), more than 1200 objects have been given to the Museum by current and former United States Marshals and Deputy Marshals, other USMS staff, family members, descendants, and collectors of USMS memorabilia.
- The Collections and Exhibits department curates, exhibits, and cares for all of the artifacts and objects in the USMM collection.
- The collection represents the history of the USMS, its progression as America’s oldest federal law enforcement agency, and a history of America through the men and women who have served in the USMS.
- The USMM continues to actively seek artifacts and objects related to the USMS, as well as print and video histories, to provide a more complete representation of the Marshals Service history.
- There are many considerations to be made regarding the USMM’s collection. These objects help tell stories directly related to the USMS. Much of our archives are primary resources. Digital documents, video, and audio are also represented.
- As we continue on our path to open the United States Marshals Museum, the Collections and Exhibits staff will build the collection and care for those materials, helping us as we plan our future temporary exhibits, often exploring aspects of how to best tell the story of the United States Marshals.

