Yanchuk A.M. Scientific development of the problem of using freelance undercover workers by criminal police units. The article deals with definition and analysis of scientific works, which discusses the use of freelance silent employees by units of the criminal police. In particular, the author investigates scientific works since the XIII century, their achievements and disadvantages are determined. At the same time, the author analyzes modern scientific developments from the outlined problem, defining that the interests are the provisions related to: the genesis of the formation of the agent; the legal bases of using different types of confidential ones; the organizational principles of the use of different types of confidential. At the same time, it was noted that issues related to the specific peculiarities of the organizational tactical nature of confidentiality work are also reflected in most of the scientific papers of specialists in the field of operational and investigative activities devoted to the problem of counteraction to crime in general or its specific manifestations.

Based on the analysis of the empirical material, the issues that need further research are highlighted, in particular:

- content of the concept of freelance undercover officers, their classification;

- the genesis of the use of freelance clandestine employees by the units of the criminal police;

- foreign experience of use of freelance undercover employees by units of criminal police;

- legal regulation of the use of freelance undercover employees by units of the criminal police;

- organization of the use of freelance undercover employees by units of the criminal police;

- tactics of the use of freelance und

ercover employees by units of the criminal police.

Keywords: freelance undercover officers, scientific ellaboration, criminal police.