

(e) Limitation on punitive damages based on actions of volunteers**(1) General rule**

Punitive damages may not be awarded against a volunteer in an action brought for harm based on the action of a volunteer acting within the scope of the volunteer's responsibilities to a nonprofit organization or governmental entity unless the claimant establishes by clear and convincing evidence that the harm was proximately caused by an action of such volunteer which constitutes willful or criminal misconduct, or a conscious, flagrant indifference to the rights or safety of the individual harmed.

(2) Construction

Paragraph (1) does not create a cause of action for punitive damages and does not preempt or supersede any Federal or State law to the extent that such law would further limit the award of punitive damages.

(f) Exceptions to limitations on liability**(1) In general**

The limitations on the liability of a volunteer under this chapter shall not apply to any misconduct that—

(A) constitutes a crime of violence (as that term is defined in section 16 of title 18) or act of international terrorism (as that term is defined in section 2331 of title 18) for which the defendant has been convicted in any court;

(B) constitutes a hate crime (as that term is used in the Hate Crime Statistics Act (28 U.S.C. 534 note));

(C) involves a sexual offense, as defined by applicable State law, for which the defendant has been convicted in any court;

(D) involves misconduct for which the defendant has been found to have violated a Federal or State civil rights law; or

(E) where the defendant was under the influence (as determined pursuant to applicable State law) of intoxicating alcohol or any drug at the time of the misconduct.

(2) Rule of construction

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to effect subsection (a)(3) or (e) of this section.

(Pub. L. 105–19, § 4, June 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 219.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Hate Crime Statistics Act, referred to in subsection (f)(1)(B), is Pub. L. 101–275, Apr. 23, 1990, 104 Stat. 140, which is set out as a note under section 534 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

§ 14504. Liability for noneconomic loss**(a) General rule**

In any civil action against a volunteer, based on an action of a volunteer acting within the scope of the volunteer's responsibilities to a nonprofit organization or governmental entity, the liability of the volunteer for noneconomic loss shall be determined in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Amount of liability**(1) In general**

Each defendant who is a volunteer, shall be liable only for the amount of noneconomic loss allocated to that defendant in direct proportion to the percentage of responsibility of that defendant (determined in accordance with paragraph (2)) for the harm to the claimant with respect to which that defendant is liable. The court shall render a separate judgment against each defendant in an amount determined pursuant to the preceding sentence.

(2) Percentage of responsibility

For purposes of determining the amount of noneconomic loss allocated to a defendant who is a volunteer under this section, the trier of fact shall determine the percentage of responsibility of that defendant for the claimant's harm.

(Pub. L. 105–19, § 5, June 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 221.)

§ 14505. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter:

(1) Economic loss

The term “economic loss” means any pecuniary loss resulting from harm (including the loss of earnings or other benefits related to employment, medical expense loss, replacement services loss, loss due to death, burial costs, and loss of business or employment opportunities) to the extent recovery for such loss is allowed under applicable State law.

(2) Harm

The term “harm” includes physical, non-physical, economic, and noneconomic losses.

(3) Noneconomic losses

The term “noneconomic losses” means losses for physical and emotional pain, suffering, inconvenience, physical impairment, mental anguish, disfigurement, loss of enjoyment of life, loss of society and companionship, loss of consortium (other than loss of domestic service), hedonic damages, injury to reputation and all other nonpecuniary losses of any kind or nature.

(4) Nonprofit organization

The term “nonprofit organization” means—

(A) any organization which is described in section 501(c)(3) of title 26 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such title and which does not practice any action which constitutes a hate crime referred to in subsection (b)(1) of the first section of the Hate Crime Statistics Act (28 U.S.C. 534 note); or

(B) any not-for-profit organization which is organized and conducted for public benefit and operated primarily for charitable, civic, educational, religious, welfare, or health purposes and which does not practice any action which constitutes a hate crime referred to in subsection (b)(1) of the first section of the Hate Crime Statistics Act (28 U.S.C. 534 note).

(5) State

The term “State” means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Common-

wealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, any other territory or possession of the United States, or any political subdivision of any such State, territory, or possession.

(6) Volunteer

The term “volunteer” means an individual performing services for a nonprofit organization or a governmental entity who does not receive—

- (A) compensation (other than reasonable reimbursement or allowance for expenses actually incurred); or
- (B) any other thing of value in lieu of compensation,

in excess of \$500 per year, and such term includes a volunteer serving as a director, officer, trustee, or direct service volunteer.

(Pub. L. 105–19, § 6, June 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 221.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Hate Crime Statistics Act, referred to in par. (4), is Pub. L. 101–275, Apr. 23, 1990, 104 Stat. 140, which is set out as a note under section 534 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

CHAPTER 140—CRIMINAL JUSTICE IDENTIFICATION, INFORMATION, AND COMMUNICATION

SUBCHAPTER I—CRIME IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY

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SUBCHAPTER I—CRIME IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY

§ 14601. State grant program for criminal justice identification, information, and communication

(a) In general

Subject to the availability of amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts, the Office of Justice Programs relying principally on the expertise of the Bureau of Justice Statistics shall make a grant to each State, in a manner consistent with the national criminal history improvement program, which shall be used by the State, in conjunction with units of local government, State and local courts, other States, or combinations thereof, to establish or upgrade an integrated approach to develop information and identification technologies and systems to—

- (1) upgrade criminal history and criminal justice record systems, including systems op-

erated by law enforcement agencies and courts;

- (2) improve criminal justice identification;
- (3) promote compatibility and integration of national, State, and local systems for—
 - (A) criminal justice purposes;
 - (B) firearms eligibility determinations;
 - (C) identification of sexual offenders;
 - (D) identification of domestic violence offenders; and
 - (E) background checks for other authorized purposes unrelated to criminal justice; and
- (4) capture information for statistical and research purposes to improve the administration of criminal justice.

(b) Use of grant amounts

Grants under this section may be used for programs to establish, develop, update, or upgrade—

- (1) State centralized, automated, adult and juvenile criminal history record information systems, including arrest and disposition reporting;
- (2) automated fingerprint identification systems that are compatible with standards established by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and interoperable with the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- (3) finger imaging, live scan, and other automated systems to digitize fingerprints and to communicate prints in a manner that is compatible with standards established by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and interoperable with systems operated by States and by the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- (4) programs and systems to facilitate full participation in the Interstate Identification Index of the National Crime Information Center;
- (5) systems to facilitate full participation in any compact relating to the Interstate Identification Index of the National Crime Information Center;
- (6) systems to facilitate full participation in the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103(b) of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. 922 note) for firearms eligibility determinations;
- (7) integrated criminal justice information systems to manage and communicate criminal justice information among law enforcement agencies, courts, prosecutors, and corrections agencies;
- (8) noncriminal history record information systems relevant to firearms eligibility determinations for availability and accessibility to the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103(b) of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. 922 note);
- (9) court-based criminal justice information systems that promote—
 - (A) reporting of dispositions to central State repositories and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and