

Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery described in section 15251 of this title.

(10) State or local agency head

The term “State or local agency head” means the head of any executive, legislative, or judicial branch entity of a State or local government that employs State or local law enforcement officers.

(11) State or local law enforcement officer

The term “State or local law enforcement officer” means an employee of a State or local government—

(A) who has statutory authority to make arrests or apprehensions;

(B) who is authorized by the agency of the employee to carry firearms; and

(C) whose duties are primarily—

(i) engagement in or supervision of the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for, any violation of law; or

(ii) the protection of Federal, State, local, or foreign government officials against threats to personal safety.

(Pub. L. 110–298, §2, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2985.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 110–298, §1, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2985, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008’.”

SUBCHAPTER I—FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY

§ 15241. Authorization of a Badge

The Attorney General may award, and a Member of Congress or the Attorney General may present, in the name of Congress a Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery to a Federal law enforcement officer who is cited by the Attorney General, upon the recommendation of the Federal Board, for performing an act of bravery while in the line of duty.

(Pub. L. 110–298, title I, §101, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2986.)

§ 15242. Nominations

(a) In general

A Federal agency head may nominate for a Federal Law Enforcement Badge an individual—

(1) who is a Federal law enforcement officer working within the agency of the Federal agency head making the nomination; and

(2) who—

(A)(i) sustained a physical injury while—

(I) engaged in the lawful duties of the individual; and

(II) performing an act characterized as bravery by the Federal agency head making the nomination; and

(ii) put the individual at personal risk when the injury described in clause (i) occurred; or

(B) while not injured, performed an act characterized as bravery by the Federal agency head making the nomination that

placed the individual at risk of serious physical injury or death.

(b) Contents

A nomination under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a written narrative, of not more than 2 pages, describing the circumstances under which the nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a) and how the circumstances meet the criteria described in such subsection;

(2) the full name of the nominee;

(3) the home mailing address of the nominee;

(4) the agency in which the nominee served on the date when such nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a);

(5) the occupational title and grade or rank of the nominee;

(6) the field office address of the nominee on the date when such nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a); and

(7) the number of years of Government service by the nominee as of the date when such nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a).

(c) Submission deadline

A Federal agency head shall submit each nomination under subsection (a) to the Office not later than February 15 of the year following the date on which the nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 110–298, title I, §102, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2986.)

§ 15243. Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board

(a) Establishment

There is established within the Department of Justice a Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board.

(b) Duties

The Federal Board shall do the following:

(1) Design the Federal Law Enforcement Badge with appropriate ribbons and appurtenances.

(2) Select an engraver to produce each Federal Law Enforcement Badge.

(3) Recommend recipients of the Federal Law Enforcement Badge from among those nominations timely submitted to the Office.

(4) Annually present to the Attorney General the names of Federal law enforcement officers who the Federal Board recommends as Federal Law Enforcement Badge recipients in accordance with the criteria described in section 15242(a) of this title.

(5) After approval by the Attorney General—

(A) procure the Federal Law Enforcement Badges from the engraver selected under paragraph (2);

(B) send a letter announcing the award of each Federal Law Enforcement Badge to the Federal agency head who nominated the recipient of such Federal Law Enforcement Badge;

(C) send a letter to each Member of Congress representing the congressional district where the recipient of each Federal Law En-

forcement Badge resides to offer such Member an opportunity to present such Federal Law Enforcement Badge; and

(D) make or facilitate arrangements for presenting each Federal Law Enforcement Badge in accordance with section 15244 of this title.

(6) Set an annual timetable for fulfilling the duties described in this subsection.

(c) Membership

(1) Number and appointment

The Federal Board shall be composed of 7 members appointed as follows:

(A) One member jointly appointed by the majority leader and minority leader of the Senate.

(B) One member jointly appointed by the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives.

(C) One member from the Department of Justice appointed by the Attorney General.

(D) Two members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association appointed by the Executive Board of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association.

(E) Two members of the Fraternal Order of Police appointed by the Executive Board of the Fraternal Order of Police.

(2) Limitation

Not more than—

(A) 2 Federal Board members may be members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association; and

(B) 2 Federal Board members may be members of the Fraternal Order of Police.

(3) Qualifications

Federal Board members shall be individuals with knowledge or expertise, whether by experience or training, in the field of Federal law enforcement.

(4) Terms and vacancies

Each Federal Board member shall be appointed for 2 years and may be reappointed. A vacancy in the Federal Board shall not affect the powers of the Federal Board and shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(d) Operations

(1) Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Federal Board shall be a Federal Board member elected by a majority of the Federal Board.

(2) Meetings

The Federal Board shall conduct its first meeting not later than 90 days after the appointment of a majority of Federal Board members. Thereafter, the Federal Board shall meet at the call of the Chairperson, or in the case of a vacancy of the position of Chairperson, at the call of the Attorney General.

(3) Voting and rules

A majority of Federal Board members shall constitute a quorum to conduct business, but the Federal Board may establish a lesser quorum for conducting hearings scheduled by

the Federal Board. The Federal Board may establish by majority vote any other rules for the conduct of the business of the Federal Board, if such rules are not inconsistent with this subchapter or other applicable law.

(e) Powers

(1) Hearings

(A) In general

The Federal Board may hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Federal Board considers appropriate to carry out the duties of the Federal Board under this subchapter. The Federal Board may administer oaths or affirmations to witnesses appearing before it.

(B) Witness expenses

Witnesses requested to appear before the Federal Board may be paid the same fees as are paid to witnesses under section 1821 of title 28. The per diem and mileage allowances for witnesses shall be paid from funds appropriated to the Federal Board.

(2) Information from Federal agencies

Subject to sections 552, 552a, and 552b of title 5—

(A) the Federal Board may secure directly from any Federal department or agency information necessary to enable it to carry out this subchapter; and

(B) upon request of the Federal Board, the head of that department or agency shall furnish the information to the Federal Board.

(3) Information to be kept confidential

The Federal Board shall not disclose any information which may compromise an ongoing law enforcement investigation or is otherwise required by law to be kept confidential.

(f) Compensation

(1) In general

Except as provided in paragraph (2), each Federal Board member shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5 for each day (including travel time) during which such Federal Board member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Federal Board.

(2) Prohibition of compensation for government employees

Federal Board members who serve as officers or employees of the Federal Government or a State or a local government may not receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of their service on the Federal Board.

(3) Travel expenses

Each Federal Board member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 110-298, title I, §103, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2987.)

§ 15244. Presentation of Federal Law Enforcement Badges

(a) Presentation by Member of Congress

A Member of Congress may present a Federal Law Enforcement Badge to any Federal Law Enforcement Badge recipient who resides in such Member's congressional district. If both a Senator and Representative choose to present a Federal Law Enforcement Badge, such Senator and Representative shall make a joint presentation.

(b) Presentation by Attorney General

If no Member of Congress chooses to present the Federal Law Enforcement Badge as described in subsection (a), the Attorney General, or a designee of the Attorney General, shall present such Federal Law Enforcement Badge.

(c) Presentation arrangements

The office of the Member of Congress presenting each Federal Law Enforcement Badge may make arrangements for the presentation of such Federal Law Enforcement Badge, and if a Senator and Representative choose to participate jointly as described in subsection (a), the Members shall make joint arrangements. The Federal Board shall facilitate any such presentation arrangements as requested by the congressional office presenting the Federal Law Enforcement Badge and shall make arrangements in cases not undertaken by Members of Congress.

(Pub. L. 110-298, title I, §104, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2989.)

SUBCHAPTER II—STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY

§ 15251. Authorization of a Badge

The Attorney General may award, and a Member of Congress or the Attorney General may present, in the name of Congress a State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery to a State or local law enforcement officer who is cited by the Attorney General, upon the recommendation of the State and Local Board, for performing an act of bravery while in the line of duty.

(Pub. L. 110-298, title II, §201, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2990.)

§ 15252. Nominations

(a) In general

A State or local agency head may nominate for a State and Local Law Enforcement Badge an individual—

- (1) who is a State or local law enforcement officer working within the agency of the State or local agency head making the nomination; and
- (2) who—
 - (A)(i) sustained a physical injury while—
 - (I) engaged in the lawful duties of the individual; and
 - (II) performing an act characterized as bravery by the State or local agency head making the nomination; and
 - (ii) put the individual at personal risk when the injury described in clause (i) occurred; or

(B) while not injured, performed an act characterized as bravery by the State or local agency head making the nomination that placed the individual at risk of serious physical injury or death.

(b) Contents

A nomination under subsection (a) shall include—

- (1) a written narrative, of not more than 2 pages, describing the circumstances under which the nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a) and how the circumstances meet the criteria described in such subsection;
- (2) the full name of the nominee;
- (3) the home mailing address of the nominee;
- (4) the agency in which the nominee served on the date when such nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a);
- (5) the occupational title and grade or rank of the nominee;
- (6) the field office address of the nominee on the date when such nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a); and
- (7) the number of years of government service by the nominee as of the date when such nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a).

(c) Submission deadline

A State or local agency head shall submit each nomination under subsection (a) to the Office not later than February 15 of the year following the date on which the nominee performed the act of bravery described in subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 110-298, title II, §202, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2990.)

§ 15253. State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board

(a) Establishment

There is established within the Department of Justice a State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board.

(b) Duties

The State and Local Board shall do the following:

- (1) Design the State and Local Law Enforcement Badge with appropriate ribbons and appurtenances.
- (2) Select an engraver to produce each State and Local Law Enforcement Badge.
- (3) Recommend recipients of the State and Local Law Enforcement Badge from among those nominations timely submitted to the Office.
- (4) Annually present to the Attorney General the names of State or local law enforcement officers who the State and Local Board recommends as State and Local Law Enforcement Badge recipients in accordance with the criteria described in section 15252(a) of this title.
- (5) After approval by the Attorney General—
 - (A) procure the State and Local Law Enforcement Badges from the engraver selected under paragraph (2);
 - (B) send a letter announcing the award of each State and Local Law Enforcement