

Office shall provide staff support to the Board to establish criteria and procedures for the submission of recommendations of nominees for the Medal of Valor and for the final design of the Medal of Valor.

(Pub. L. 107–12, § 7, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 22.)

#### § 15207. Consultation requirement

The Board shall consult with the Institute of Heraldry within the Department of Defense regarding the design and artistry of the Medal of Valor. The Board may also consider suggestions received by the Department of Justice regarding the design of the medal, including those made by persons not employed by the Department.

(Pub. L. 107–12, § 9, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 22.)

#### § 15208. Law enforcement tribute acts

##### (a) Short title

This section may be cited as the “Law Enforcement Tribute Act”.

##### (b) Findings

Congress finds the following:

(1) The well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement and public safety personnel.

(2) More than 700,000 law enforcement officers, both men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace.

(3) Nationwide, 51 law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty in 2000, according to statistics released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This number is an increase of 9 from the 1999 total of 42.

(4) In 1999, 112 firefighters died while on duty, an increase of 21 deaths from the previous year.

(5) Every year, 1 in 9 peace officers is assaulted, 1 in 25 is injured, and 1 in 4,400 is killed in the line of duty.

(6) In addition, recent statistics indicate that 83 officers were accidentally killed in the performance of their duties in 2000, an increase of 18 from the 65 accidental deaths in 1999.

(7) A permanent tribute is a powerful means of honoring the men and women who have served our Nation with distinction. However, many law enforcement and public safety agencies lack the resources to honor their fallen colleagues.

##### (c) Program authorized

From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General may make grants to States, units of local government, and Indian tribes to carry out programs to honor, through permanent tributes, men and women of the United States who were killed or disabled while serving as law enforcement or public safety officers.

##### (d) Uses of funds

Grants awarded under this section shall be distributed directly to the State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe, and shall be used for the purposes specified in subsection (c) of this section.

##### (e) \$150,000 limitation

A grant under this section may not exceed \$150,000 to any single recipient.

##### (f) Matching funds

(1) The Federal portion of the costs of a program provided by a grant under this section may not exceed 50 percent.

(2) Any funds appropriated by Congress for the activities of any agency of an Indian tribal government or the Bureau of Indian Affairs performing law enforcement or public safety functions on any Indian lands may be used to provide the non-Federal share of a matching requirement funded under this subsection.

##### (g) Applications

To request a grant under this section, the chief executive of a State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe shall submit an application to the Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Attorney General may require.

##### (h) Annual report to Congress

Not later than November 30 of each year, the Attorney General shall submit a report to the Congress regarding the activities carried out under this section. Each such report shall include, for the preceding fiscal year, the number of grants funded under this section, the amount of funds provided under those grants, and the activities for which those funds were used.

##### (i) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002 through 2009.

(Pub. L. 107–273, div. C, title I, § 11001, Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1815; Pub. L. 109–162, title XI, § 1185, Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3127.)

#### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as the Law Enforcement Tribute Act, and also as part of the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, and not as part of the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001 which comprises this chapter.

#### AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 109–162 substituted “2009” for “2006”.

### CHAPTER 145A—LAW ENFORCEMENT CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY

Sec.

15231. Definitions.

#### SUBCHAPTER I—FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY

15241. Authorization of a Badge.

15242. Nominations.

15243. Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board.

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

15251. Authorization of a Badge.

15252. Nominations.

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

Sec.  
15254. Presentation of State and Local Law Enforcement Badges.

SUBCHAPTER III—CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY OFFICE

15261. Congressional Badge of Bravery Office.

§ 15231. Definitions

In this chapter:

**(1) Federal agency head**

The term “Federal agency head” means the head of any executive, legislative, or judicial branch Government entity that employs Federal law enforcement officers.

**(2) Federal Board**

The term “Federal Board” means the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board established under section 15243(a) of this title.

**(3) Federal Board members**

The term “Federal Board members” means the members of the Federal Board appointed under section 15243(c) of this title.

**(4) Federal Law Enforcement Badge**

The term “Federal Law Enforcement Badge” means the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery described in section 15241 of this title.

**(5) Federal law enforcement officer**

The term “Federal law enforcement officer”—

(A) means a Federal employee—

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

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

(iii) 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; and

(B) includes a law enforcement officer employed by the Amtrak Police Department or Federal Reserve.

**(6) Office**

The term “Office” means the Congressional Badge of Bravery Office established under section 15261(a) of this title.

**(7) State and Local Board**

The term “State and Local Board” means the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board established under section 15253(a) of this title.

**(8) State and Local Board members**

The term “State and Local Board members” means the members of the State and Local Board appointed under section 15253(c) of this title.

**(9) State and Local Law Enforcement Badge**

The term “State and Local Law Enforcement Badge” means the State and Local Law

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