

forfeitures as are authorized in respect of goods, wares, and merchandise forfeited for violation of the revenue laws. Laws for the benefit and protection of customs officers making seizures for violating revenue laws apply to officers and employees making seizures for violating the postal laws.

(Pub. L. 91-375, Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 728.)

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**CHAPTER 10—EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE POSTAL SERVICE**

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**§ 1001. Appointment and status**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, the Postal Service shall appoint all officers and employees of the Postal Service.

(b) Officers and employees of the Postal Service (other than those individuals appointed under sections 202, 204, and 1001(c) of this title) shall be in the postal career service, which shall be a part of the civil service. Such appointments and promotions shall be in accordance with the procedures established by the Postal Service. The Postal Service shall establish procedures, in accordance with this title, to assure its officers and employees meaningful opportunities for promotion and career development and to assure its officers and employees full protection of their employment rights by guaranteeing them an opportunity for a fair hearing on adverse actions, with representatives of their own choosing.

(c) The Postal Service may hire individuals as executives under employment contracts for periods not in excess of 5 years. Notwithstanding any such contract, the Postal Service may at its discretion and at any time remove any such individual without prejudice to his contract rights.

(d) Notwithstanding section 5533, 5535, or 5536 of title 5, or any other provision of law, any officer or employee of the Government of the United States is eligible to serve and receive pay concurrently as an officer or employee of the Postal Service (other than as a member of the Board or of the Postal Regulatory Commission) and as an officer or employee of any other department, agency, or establishment of the Government of the United States.

(e) The Postal Service shall have the right, consistent with section 1003 and chapter 12 of

this title and applicable laws, regulations, and collective-bargaining agreements—

(1) to direct officers and employees of the Postal Service in the performance of official duties;

(2) to hire, promote, transfer, assign, and retain officers and employees in positions within the Postal Service, and to suspend, demote, discharge, or take other disciplinary action against such officers and employees;

(3) to relieve officers and employees from duties because of lack of work or for other legitimate reasons;

(4) to maintain the efficiency of the operations entrusted to it;

(5) to determine the methods, means, and personnel by which such operations are to be conducted;

(6) to prescribe a uniform dress to be worn by letter carriers and other designated employees; and

(7) to take whatever actions may be necessary to carry out its mission in emergency situations.

(Pub. L. 91-375, Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 728; Pub. L. 109-435, title VI, §604(a), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3241.)

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 109-435 substituted “Postal Regulatory Commission” for “Postal Rate Commission”.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Mar. 1, 1971, pursuant to Resolution No. 71-13 of the Board of Governors. See section 15(a) of Pub. L. 91-375, set out as a note preceding section 101 of this title.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS

Pub. L. 109-435, title VII, §706(b), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3246, provided that: “The United States Postal Service shall, as soon as is practicable, take such measures as may be necessary to incorporate the affirmative action and equal opportunity criteria contained in 4313(5) of title 5, United States Code, into the performance appraisals of senior supervisory or managerial employees.”

TRANSFER TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE OF POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Pub. L. 91-375, §8, Aug. 12, 1970, 84 Stat. 783, as amended by Pub. L. 109-435, title X, §1007(a), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3258, provided that:

“(a) Officers and employees of the Post Office Department shall become officers and employees of the United States Postal Service on the effective date of this section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons occupying the positions of Postmaster General, Deputy Postmaster General, Assistant Postmasters General, General Counsel, or Judicial Officer. This section shall not be construed, however, to prohibit the appointment of such persons to positions in the Postal Service.

“(b) For purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, the Postal Service shall, with respect to any individual receiving benefits under such chapter as an officer or employee of the former Post Office Department, have the same authorities and responsibilities as it has with respect to an officer or employee of the Postal Service receiving such benefits.”

[Pub. L. 109-435, title X, §1007(b), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3258, provided that: “This section [amending section 8 of Pub. L. 91-375, set out above] and the amendments made by this section shall be effective as of the