

**(f) Information to be kept confidential**

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

(Pub. L. 107-12, §3, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 20; Pub. L. 109-162, title XI, §1112, Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3103.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a), (b)(4)(C), and (c), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 107-12, May. 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 20, which enacted this chapter and amended section 2214 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15201 of this title and Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-162 substituted “more than 5 individuals, or groups of individuals, as recipients” for “more than 5 recipients”.

**§ 15203. Board personnel matters****(a) Compensation of members**

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), each member of the Board 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 member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Board.

(2) All members of the Board who serve as officers or employees of the United States, a State, or a local government, shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for those services.

**(b) Travel expenses**

The members of the Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of service for the Board.

(Pub. L. 107-12, §4, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 21.)

**§ 15204. Definitions**

In this chapter:

**(1) Public safety officer**

The term “public safety officer” means a person serving a public agency, with or without compensation, as a firefighter, law enforcement officer, or emergency services officer, as determined by the Attorney General. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term “law enforcement officer” includes a person who is a corrections or court officer or a civil defense officer.

**(2) State**

The term “State” means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(Pub. L. 107-12, §5, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 22.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in introductory provisions, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 107-12, May. 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 20, known as the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15201 of this title and Tables.

**§ 15205. Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General such sums as may be necessary to carry out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 107-12, §6, May 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 22.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 107-12, May. 30, 2001, 115 Stat. 20, known as the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15201 of this title and Tables.

**§ 15206. National Medal of Valor Office**

There is established within the Department of Justice a National Medal of Valor Office. The 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.