

fenders who are known or related by blood or marriage to the victim.

(6) Evaluating the adequacy of, and making recommendations regarding, the adequacy of Federal and State laws on domestic violence and the need for a more uniform statutory response to domestic violence.

(7) Evaluating the adequacy of, and making recommendations regarding, the adequacy of current education, prevention, and protective services for victims of such crimes and acts.

(8) Assessing the issuance, formulation, and enforcement of protective orders, whether or not related to a criminal proceeding, and making recommendations for their more effective use in domestic violence and stalking cases.

(9) Assessing the problem of stalking and recommending effective means of response to the problem.

(10) Evaluating the adequacy of, and making recommendations regarding, programs for public awareness and public dissemination of information to prevent such crimes and acts.

(11) Evaluating the treatment of victims of such crimes and acts in Federal, State, and local criminal justice systems, and making recommendations designed to improve such treatment.

(Pub. L. 103-322, title XXVII, §270004, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2092.)

§ 14195. Administrative matters

(a) Chair

The President shall designate a member of the Commission to chair the Commission.

(b) No additional pay or benefits; per diem

Members of the Commission shall receive no pay or benefits by reason of their service on the Commission, but shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5.

(c) Vacancies

Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as initial appointments.

(d) Meetings open to public

The Commission shall be considered to be an agency for the purposes of section 552b of title 5 relating to the requirement that meetings of Federal agencies be open to the public.

(Pub. L. 103-322, title XXVII, §270005, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2094.)

§ 14196. Staff and support services

(a) Director

With the approval of the Commission, the chairperson shall appoint a staff director for the Commission.

(b) Staff

With the approval of the Commission, the staff director may appoint and fix the compensation of staff personnel for the Commission.

(c) Civil service laws

The staff of the Commission shall be appointed without regard to the provisions of title 5 gov-

erning appointments in the competitive service. Staff compensation may be set without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates, but in no event shall any such personnel be compensated at a rate greater than the rate of basic pay for level ES-4 of the Senior Executive Service Schedule under section 5382 of that title. The staff director shall be paid at a rate not to exceed the rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule.

(d) Consultants

With the approval of the Commission, the staff director may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5.

(e) Staff of Federal agencies

Upon the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, personnel of that agency to the Commission to assist in carrying out its duties.

(f) Physical facilities

The Administrator of the General Service Administration shall provide suitable office space for the operation of the Commission. The facilities shall serve as the headquarters of the Commission and shall include all necessary equipment and incidentals required for proper functioning.

(Pub. L. 103-322, title XXVII, §270006, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2094.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Level V of the Executive Schedule, referred to in subsec. (c), is set out in section 5316 of Title 5.

§ 14197. Powers

(a) Hearings

For the purposes of carrying out this subchapter, the Commission may conduct such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence, as the Commission considers appropriate. The Commission may administer oaths before the Commission.

(b) Delegation

Any committee, task force, member, or agent, of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action that the Commission is authorized to take under this subchapter.

(c) Access to information

The Commission may request directly from any Federal agency or entity in the executive or legislative branch such information as is needed to carry out its functions.

(d) Mail

The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other Federal agencies.

(Pub. L. 103-322, title XXVII, §270007, Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2095.)

§ 14198. Report; termination

Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Commission is fully constituted under sec-