

**CHAPTER 503—LAW ENFORCEMENT  
CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY**

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**§ 50301. 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 50313(a) of this title.

**(3) Federal Board members**

The term “Federal Board members” means the members of the Federal Board appointed under section 50313(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 50311 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 50331(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 50323(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 50323(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 50321 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.)

**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 15231 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

SHORT TITLE

For short title of Pub. L. 110-298, which is classified to this chapter, as the “Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008”, see section 1 of Pub. L. 110-298, set out as a Short Title of 2008 Act note under section 10101 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER I—FEDERAL LAW ENFORCE-  
MENT CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAV-  
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**§ 50311. 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.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 15241 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

### § 50312. 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.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 15242 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

### § 50313. 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 50312(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 Enforcement 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 50314 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