

**(2) Prohibition of compensation for government employees**

State and Local Board members who serve as officers or employees of the Federal Government or a State or a local government may not receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of their service on the State and Local Board.

**(3) Travel expenses**

Each State and Local Board member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 110-298, title II, §203, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2991.)

**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 15253 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

**§ 50324. Presentation of State and Local Law Enforcement Badges**

**(a) Presentation by Member of Congress**

A Member of Congress may present a State and Local Law Enforcement Badge to any State and Local Law Enforcement Badge recipient who resides in such Member's congressional district. If both a Senator and Representative choose to present a State and Local Law Enforcement Badge, such Senator and Representative shall make a joint presentation.

**(b) Presentation by Attorney General**

If no Member of Congress chooses to present the State and Local Law Enforcement Badge as described in subsection (a), the Attorney General, or a designee of the Attorney General, shall present such State and Local Law Enforcement Badge.

**(c) Presentation arrangements**

The office of the Member of Congress presenting each State and Local Law Enforcement Badge may make arrangements for the presentation of such State and Local Law Enforcement Badge, and if a Senator and Representative choose to participate jointly as described in subsection (a), the Members shall make joint arrangements. The State and Local Board shall facilitate any such presentation arrangements as requested by the congressional office presenting the State and Local Law Enforcement Badge and shall make arrangements in cases not undertaken by Members of Congress.

(Pub. L. 110-298, title II, §204, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2993.)

**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 15254 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

SUBCHAPTER III—CONGRESSIONAL BADGE OF BRAVERY OFFICE

**§ 50331. Congressional Badge of Bravery Office**

**(a) Establishment**

There is established within the Department of Justice a Congressional Badge of Bravery Office.

**(b) Duties**

The Office shall—

(1) receive nominations from Federal agency heads on behalf of the Federal Board and deliver such nominations to the Federal Board at Federal Board meetings described in section 50313(d)(2) of this title;

(2) receive nominations from State or local agency heads on behalf of the State and Local Board and deliver such nominations to the State and Local Board at State and Local Board meetings described in section 50323(d)(2) of this title; and

(3) provide staff support to the Federal Board and the State and Local Board to carry out the duties described in section 50313(b) and section 50323(b) of this title, respectively.

(Pub. L. 110-298, title III, §301, July 31, 2008, 122 Stat. 2994.)

**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 15261 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

**CHAPTER 505—NATIONAL BLUE ALERT**

Sec.

50501.	Definitions.
50502.	Blue Alert communications network.
50503.	Blue Alert Coordinator; guidelines.

**§ 50501. Definitions**

In this chapter:

**(1) Coordinator**

The term “Coordinator” means the Blue Alert Coordinator of the Department of Justice designated under section 50503(a) of this title.

**(2) Blue Alert**

The term “Blue Alert” means information sent through the network relating to—

(A) the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer in the line of duty;

(B) an officer who is missing in connection with the officer's official duties; or

(C) an imminent and credible threat that an individual intends to cause the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer.

**(3) Blue Alert plan**

The term “Blue Alert plan” means the plan of a State, unit of local government, or Federal agency participating in the network for the dissemination of information received as a Blue Alert.

**(4) Law enforcement officer**

The term “law enforcement officer” shall have the same meaning as in section 10284 of this title.

**(5) Network**

The term “network” means the Blue Alert communications network established by the Attorney General under section 50502 of this title.

**(6) State**

The term “State” means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

(Pub. L. 114-12, §2, May 19, 2015, 129 Stat. 192.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14165 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. 114-12, which is classified to this chapter, as the “Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu National Blue Alert Act of 2015”, see section 1 of Pub. L. 114-12, set out as a Short Title of 2015 Act note under section 10101 of this title.

**§ 50502. Blue Alert communications network**

The Attorney General shall establish a national Blue Alert communications network within the Department of Justice to issue Blue Alerts through the initiation, facilitation, and promotion of Blue Alert plans, in coordination with States, units of local government, law enforcement agencies, and other appropriate entities.

(Pub. L. 114-12, §3, May 19, 2015, 129 Stat. 193.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 14165a of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

**§ 50503. Blue Alert Coordinator; guidelines****(a) Coordination within Department of Justice**

The Attorney General shall assign an existing officer of the Department of Justice to act as the national coordinator of the Blue Alert communications network.

**(b) Duties of the Coordinator**

The Coordinator shall—

(1) provide assistance to States and units of local government that are using Blue Alert plans;

(2) establish voluntary guidelines for States and units of local government to use in developing Blue Alert plans that will promote compatible and integrated Blue Alert plans throughout the United States, including—

(A) a list of the resources necessary to establish a Blue Alert plan;

(B) criteria for evaluating whether a situation warrants issuing a Blue Alert;

(C) guidelines to protect the privacy, dignity, independence, and autonomy of any

law enforcement officer who may be the subject of a Blue Alert and the family of the law enforcement officer;

(D) guidelines that a Blue Alert should only be issued with respect to a law enforcement officer if—

(i) the law enforcement agency involved—

(I) confirms—

(aa) the death or serious injury of the law enforcement officer; or

(bb) the attack on the law enforcement officer and that there is an indication of the death or serious injury of the officer; or

(II) concludes that the law enforcement officer is missing in connection with the officer’s official duties;

(ii) there is an indication of serious injury to or death of the law enforcement officer;

(iii) the suspect involved has not been apprehended; and

(iv) there is sufficient descriptive information of the suspect involved and any relevant vehicle and tag numbers;

(E) guidelines that a Blue Alert should only be issued with respect to a threat to cause death or serious injury to a law enforcement officer if—

(i) a law enforcement agency involved confirms that the threat is imminent and credible;

(ii) at the time of receipt of the threat, the suspect is wanted by a law enforcement agency;

(iii) the suspect involved has not been apprehended; and

(iv) there is sufficient descriptive information of the suspect involved and any relevant vehicle and tag numbers;

(F) guidelines—

(i) that information should be provided to the National Crime Information Center database operated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation under section 534 of title 28, and any relevant crime information repository of the State involved, relating to—

(I) a law enforcement officer who is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty; or

(II) an imminent and credible threat to cause the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer;

(ii) that a Blue Alert should, to the maximum extent practicable (as determined by the Coordinator in consultation with law enforcement agencies of States and units of local governments), be limited to the geographic areas most likely to facilitate the apprehension of the suspect involved or which the suspect could reasonably reach, which should not be limited to State lines;

(iii) for law enforcement agencies of States or units of local government to develop plans to communicate information to neighboring States to provide for seamless communication of a Blue Alert; and