firms desiring to execute continuing guaranties under the FFA. The Office also supervises and administers the public reading room. It administers the National Injury Information Clearinghouse.

[56 FR 30496, July 3, 1991, as amended at 68 FR 57799, Oct. 7, 2003]

# § 1000.17 Office of the Inspector General.

The Office of the Inspector General is an independent office established under the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, 5 U.S.C. appendix, as amended by the Inspector General Act Amendments of 1988. This Office independently initiates, conducts, supervises, and coordinates audits, operations reviews, and investigations of Commission programs, activities, and operations. Reporting only to the Chairman, and under his or her general supervision, the Office also makes recommendations to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within the Commission's programs and operations. The Office receives and investigates complaints or information concerning possible violations of law, rules, or regulations, mismanagement, abuse of authority, and waste of funds. It reviews existing and proposed legislation concerning the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of such legislation on Commission operations.

## § 1000.18 Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Enterprise.

The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Enterprise assures compliance with all laws and regulations relating to equal employment opportunity in accordance with the Equal Employment Act of 1972, 29 CFR part 1613, and section 8(a) of the Small Business Act. The Office reports directly to the Chairman and provides advice to the Chairman and Commission staff on EEO matters and the agency Procurement Preference Program. The Office manages the discrimination complaint process, the Upward Mobility Program, the stay-in-school program, and other special emphasis activities having to do with affirmative action employment practices. The Office makes recommendations to the

Chairman on ways to promote equal opportunity in order to enhance the Commission's EEO posture.

#### § 1000.19 Office of Executive Director.

The Executive Director with the assistance of the Deputy Executive Director, under the broad direction of the Chairman and in accordance with Commission policy, acts as the chief operating manager of the agency, supporting the development of the agency's budget and operating plan before and after Commission approval, and managing the execution of those plans. The Executive Director has direct line authority over the following directorates and offices: the Directorate for Administration, the Directorate for Field Operations, the Office of the Budget, the Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction, the Office of Information and Public Affairs, the Office of Compliance, the Office of Planning and Evaluation, the Office of Human Resources Management, and the Office of Information Services.

[59 FR 66673, Dec. 28, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 26825, May 19, 1995]

# § 1000.20 Office of the Budget.

The Office of the Budget is responsible for overseeing the development of the Commission's budget. The Office, in consultation with other offices and directorates, prepares, for the Commission's approval, the annual budget requests to Congress and the Office of Management and Budget and the operating plans for each fiscal year. It manages the execution of the Commission's budget. The Office recommends to the Office of the Executive Director actions to enhance effectiveness of the Commission's programs and activities.

#### § 1000.21 Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction.

The Office of Hazard Identification and Reduction, under the direction of the Assistant Executive Director for Hazard Identification and Reduction, is responsible for managing the Commission's Hazard Identification and Analysis Program and its Hazard Assessment and Reduction Program. The Office reports to the Executive Director, and has line authority over the Directorates for Epidemiology and Health

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Sciences, Economic Analysis, Engineering Sciences, and Laboratory Sciences. The Office develops strategies for and implements the agency's operating plans for these two hazard programs. This includes the collection and analysis of data to identify hazards and hazard patterns, the implementation of the Commission's safety standards development projects, the coordination of voluntary standards activities and international liaison activities related to consumer product safety, and providing overall direction and evaluation of projects involving hazard analysis, data collection, emerging hazards, mandatory and voluntary standards, petitions, and labeling rules. The Office assures that relevant technical, environmental, economic, and social impacts of projects are comprehensively and objectively presented to the Commission for decision.

[56 FR 30496, July 3, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 1708, Jan. 23, 1996]

#### § 1000.22 Office of Planning and Evaluation.

The Office of Planning and Evaluation reports to the Executive Director and is responsible for the Commission's planning and evaluation activities. It develops integrated short and long range plans for achieving the Commission's goals and objectives. The office is responsible for the development and analysis of both major policy and operational issues. Evaluation studies are conducted to determine how well the Commission fulfills its mission. These studies include impact and process evaluations of Commission programs, projects, functions, and activities. Recommendations are made to the Executive Director for changes to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. Management analyses and special studies are also conducted. These cover, but are not limited to, internal controls, organizational performance, structure, and productivity measurement. Recommendations are made to the Executive Director for improving management efficiency and effectiveness. The Office also coordinates, develops, and issues agencywide directives and manages the Commission's information collection budget and obtains Office of Management and Budget clearance for information collections.

# § 1000.23 Office of Information and Public Affairs.

The Office of Information and Public Affairs, which is managed by the Director of the Office, is responsible for the development, implementation, evaluation of a comprehensive national information and public affairs program designed to promote product safety. This includes responsibility for developing and maintaining relations with a wide range of national groups such as organizations; business consumer groups; trade associations; state and local government entities; labor organizations; medical, legal, scientific and other professional associations; and other Federal health, safety and consumer agencies. The Office also is responsible for implementing the Commission's media relations program nationwide. The Office serves as the Commission's spokesperson to the national print and broadcast media, develops and disseminates the Commission's news releases, and organizes Commission news conferences.

[59 FR 66673, Dec. 28, 1994]

## § 1000.24 Office of Compliance.

The Office of Compliance, which is managed by the Assistant Executive Director for Compliance, conducts or supervises the conduct of compliance and administrative enforcement activity under all administered acts, provides advice and guidance to regulated industries on complying with all administered acts and reviews proposed standards and rules with respect to their enforceability. The Office's responsibility also includes identifying and acting on safety hazards in consumer products already in distribution, promoting industry compliance with existing safety rules, and conducting litigation before an administrative law judge relative to administrative complaints. It directs the enforcement efforts of the field offices and provides program guidance, advice, and case guidance to field offices and participates in the development of standards before their promulgation to assure enforceability of the final product. It enforces the Consumer Product Safety