

(e) Acknowledgment

The agency shall provide in writing to the applicant as soon as reasonably possible—

- (1) confirmation of the agency's receipt of the application under subsection (a); and
- (2) notice of the applicant's rights under this chapter.

(f) Prohibition on multiple concurrent reviews

Only one case review shall be undertaken at any one time with respect to the same cold case murder victim.

(g) Time limit

Not later than 6 months after the receipt of the written application submitted pursuant to subsection (a), the agency shall conclude its case file review and reach a conclusion about whether or not a full reinvestigation under section 60903 of this title is warranted.

(h) Extensions**(1) In general**

The agency may extend the time limit under subsection (g) once for a period of time not to exceed 6 months if the agency makes a finding that the number of case files to be reviewed make it impracticable to comply with such limit without unreasonably taking resources from other law enforcement activities.

(2) Actions subsequent to waiver

For cases for which the time limit in subsection (g) is extended, the agency shall provide notice and an explanation of its reasoning to one designated person who filed the written application pursuant to this section.

(Pub. L. 117-164, §2, Aug. 3, 2022, 136 Stat. 1358.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**SHORT TITLE**

For short title of Pub. L. 117-164, which enacted this chapter, as the Homicide Victims' Families' Rights Act of 2021, see section 1 of Pub. L. 117-164, set out as a Short Title of 2022 Amendment note under section 10101 of this title.

§ 60902. Application

Each agency shall develop a written application to be used for designated persons to request a case file review under section 60901 of this title.

(Pub. L. 117-164, §3, Aug. 3, 2022, 136 Stat. 1359.)

§ 60903. Full reinvestigation**(a) In general**

The agency shall conduct a full reinvestigation of the cold case murder at issue if the review of the case file required by section 60901 of this title concludes that a full reinvestigation of such cold case murder would result in probative investigative leads.

(b) Reinvestigation

A full reinvestigation shall include analyzing all evidence regarding the cold case murder at issue for the purpose of developing probative investigative leads or a likely perpetrator.

(c) Reviewer

A reinvestigation required under subsection (a) shall not be conducted by a person who previously investigated the murder at issue.

(d) Prohibition on multiple concurrent reviews

Only one full reinvestigation shall be undertaken at any one time with respect to the same cold case murder victim.

(Pub. L. 117-164, §4, Aug. 3, 2022, 136 Stat. 1359.)

§ 60904. Consultation and updates**(a) In general**

The agency shall consult with the designated person who filed the written application pursuant to section 60901 of this title and provide him or her with periodic updates during the case file review and full reinvestigation.

(b) Explanation of conclusion

The agency shall meet with the designated person and discuss the evidence to explain to the designated person who filed the written application pursuant to section 60901 of this title its decision whether or not to engage in the full reinvestigation provided for under section 60903 of this title at the conclusion of the case file review.

(Pub. L. 117-164, §5, Aug. 3, 2022, 136 Stat. 1359.)

§ 60905. Subsequent reviews**(a) Case file review**

If a review under subsection (a) case file¹ regarding a cold case murder is conducted and a conclusion is reached not to conduct a full reinvestigation, no additional case file review shall be required to be undertaken under this chapter with respect to that cold case murder for a period of five years, unless there is newly discovered, materially significant evidence. An agency may continue an investigation absent a designated person's application.

(b) Full reinvestigation

If a full reinvestigation of a cold case murder is completed and a suspect is not identified at its conclusion, no additional case file review or full reinvestigation shall be undertaken with regard to that cold case murder for a period of five years beginning on the date of the conclusion of the reinvestigation, unless there is newly discovered, materially significant evidence.

(Pub. L. 117-164, §6, Aug. 3, 2022, 136 Stat. 1359.)

§ 60906. Data collection**(a) In general**

Beginning on the date that is three years after August 3, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Director of the National Institute of Justice shall publish statistics on the number of cold case murders.

(b) Manner of publication

The statistics published pursuant to subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, be disaggregated by the circumstances of the cold case murder, including the classification of the offense, and by agency.

(Pub. L. 117-164, §7, Aug. 3, 2022, 136 Stat. 1360.)

¹ So in original.