



UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
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JOINT STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONERS DANA BAIOTTO AND PETER A. FELDMAN ON THE PASSAGE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 OPERATING PLAN

SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

We are pleased that the Commission approved, by a vote of 2-1, its Operating Plan for the upcoming fiscal year (FY), beginning October 1, 2021. This document directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission's work, advancing the agency's safety mission, prioritizing taxpayer resources, and increasing transparency.

We would like to thank agency staff for their work on this plan. These past two years have posed unprecedented challenges, but the work of the Commission must continue. We look forward to working closely with our incoming colleagues in the future in its implementation.

This plan is a deep and expansive Operating Plan that will be implemented in the coming year. Among other things, this plan advances a number of priorities to protect consumers and strengthen the agency:

27 new port inspectors. This plan adds an additional 27 port inspectors to strengthen our front-line efforts to interdict dangerous products at the border, with a special focus on facilities where low-value eCommerce shipments enter the country. Importantly, this plan ensures that 10 of these new inspectors will be stationed at traditional high-volume ports, consistent with Congress's mandate. This plan also directs the development of an eFiling program to enhance agency targeting capabilities.

Vigorous compliance. This plan significantly strengthens agency enforcement operations. As approved, this plan increases resources for the Office of Compliance's (EXC) field operations team by nearly 30 percent, focusing on improving training, data, and investigatory best practices, and adding 14 new FTEs to support the mission. This plan moves to reinstate the Children's Product Defect Team, which was eliminated in 2018. It also invests in enforcement technology by overhauling internal systems within EXC, including the Regulated Products Case Management System.

Hazard Identification. This plan makes important investments in staff, research, testing capabilities, expanded laboratory facilities, and high-quality data that informs agency decision

making. Among other things, this Operating Plan instructs staff to pursue a mandatory standard on Support Pillows and Nursing Support Products, in addition to important voluntary standards work.

Communications. This plan provides additional resources for the agency's Office of Communications (OCM), increasing its operating budget by nearly 25 percent. This budget increase will allow OCM to maintain a strong internet presence, including traditional social media. This plan also directs important safety campaigns, including those related to emerging hazards, and senior safety.

Improving security and accountability. In FY 2022, because of this plan, CPSC will take steps to address the CPSC Inspector General's recommendations, including those related to the 2019 Data Breach, which have remained open for too long. This plan also establishes security policies to guard against known cyber security risks to safeguard consumer PII, health data, and confidential business information entrusted to CPSC.

Diversity. This plan builds diversity and seeks product safety equity through enhancing recruitment efforts, analyzing workforce data, and developing proactive programs that seek to foster inclusion, equity and diversity. Importantly, this plan also serves vulnerable, diverse, and disenfranchised communities better through targeted communications and outreach.

The approved amendments to the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Plan are available [here](#).

The base text of the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Plan is available [here](#).

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