

(iv) The security force of the Department of General Services; and

(v) The special police of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene who are commissioned police officers.

(2) "Children" means any natural, illegitimate, adopted, or posthumous children or stepchildren of the decedent who are:

(i) Eighteen years of age or under; or

(ii) Over eighteen years of age and incapable of self-support because of physical or mental disability.

(3) "Correctional officer" means a member of a correctional unit who is responsible for the investigation, care, custody, control, or supervision of persons confined to places of incarceration.

(4) "Correctional unit" means any State or county governmental organization which has by statute, ordinance, or court order the responsibility for the care, control, and supervision of inmates in correctional institutions for persons declared to be parolees or for persons placed on probation or suspension of sentence.

(5) "Stepchild" means a child of the surviving spouse who was living with or dependent for support on the decedent at the time of his death.

(b) (1) A death benefit shall be paid to the surviving spouse, children, or ~~designated-beneficiary~~ DEPENDENT PARENTS of any law-enforcement officer of the State or of any political subdivision of the State, any sheriff or deputy sheriff, any correctional officer, or any volunteer or professional firefighter or rescue squad member who is killed or dies in the performance of duties on or after ~~January-1, [1980]~~ 1990 JULY 1, 1989. The amount of the benefit shall be ~~[\$25,000]~~ \$50,000.

(2) This sum shall be in addition to any:

(i) Workmen's compensation benefits; or

(ii) Proceeds of any form of life insurance, regardless of who paid the premiums on the insurance.

(c) The payments hereinabove provided for shall be made out of funds which the Governor may appropriate for that purpose in the State budget.

(d) The Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services may award a death benefit under this section under any