

Commissioners serve staggered 5-year terms, and by law no more than three Commissioners can belong to the same political party.

The Commission has five major operating components: the Divisions of Enforcement, Economic Analysis, and Trading and Markets, and the Offices of the Executive Director and the General Counsel.

Activities

The Commission regulates trading on the 11 U.S. futures exchanges, which offer active futures and options contracts. It also regulates the activities of numerous commodity exchange members, public brokerage houses (futures commission merchants), Commission-registered futures industry salespeople (associated persons), commodity trading advisers, and commodity pool operators. Some off-exchange transactions involving instruments similar in nature to futures contracts also fall under Commission jurisdiction.

The Commission's regulatory and enforcement efforts are designed to

ensure that the futures trading process is fair and that it protects both the rights of customers and the financial integrity of the marketplace. It approves the rules under which an exchange proposes to operate and monitors exchange enforcement of those rules. It reviews the terms of proposed futures contracts, and registers companies and individuals who handle customer funds or give trading advice. The Commission also protects the public by enforcing rules that require that customer funds be kept in bank accounts separate from accounts maintained by firms for their own use, and that such customer accounts be marked to present market value at the close of trading each day.

Large regional offices are maintained in Chicago, IL, and New York, NY, where many of the Nation's futures exchanges are located. Smaller regional offices are located in Kansas City, MO, and Los Angeles, CA. A suboffice of the Kansas City regional office is located in Minneapolis, MN.

For further information, contact the Office of Public Affairs, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, 1155 21st Street NW., Washington, DC 20581. Phone, 202-418-5080.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

*East West Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814
Phone, 301-504-0580. Internet, <http://www.cpsc.gov/>.*

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[For the Consumer Product Safety Commission statement of organization, see the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 16, Part 1000]

The Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public against unreasonable risks of injury from consumer products; assists consumers in evaluating the comparative safety of consumer products; develops uniform safety standards for consumer products and minimizes conflicting State and local regulations; and promotes research and investigation into the causes and prevention of product-related deaths, illnesses, and injuries.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency established by the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2051 *et seq.*). The Commission consists of five Commissioners, appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, one of whom is appointed Chairman.

The Commission is responsible for implementing provisions of the Flammable Fabrics Act (15 U.S.C. 1191), the Poison Prevention Packaging Act of 1970 (15 U.S.C. 1471), the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (15 U.S.C. 1261), and the act of August 2, 1956 (15 U.S.C. 1211), which prohibits the transportation of refrigerators without door safety devices.

Activities

To help protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury associated

with consumer products, the Commission:

- requires manufacturers to report defects in products that could create substantial hazards;
- requires, where appropriate, corrective action with respect to specific substantially hazardous consumer products already in commerce;
- collects information on consumer product-related injuries and maintains a comprehensive Injury Information Clearinghouse;
- conducts research on consumer product hazards;
- encourages and assists in the development of voluntary standards related to the safety of consumer products;
- establishes, where appropriate, mandatory consumer product standards;
- bans, where appropriate, hazardous consumer products; and

—conducts outreach programs for consumers, industry, and local governments.

Offices

The Commission's headquarters is located at East West Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814. Regional offices are located in Chicago, IL; New York, NY; and San Francisco, CA. Field offices are maintained in various cities.

Sources of Information

Consumer Information The Commission operates a toll-free

Consumer Product Safety Hotline, 800-638-CPSC (English and Spanish); and a teletypewriter for the hearing-impaired, 800-638-8270 (or in Maryland only, 800-492-8140).

General Inquiries Information on Commission activities may be obtained from the Office of Information and Public Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207. Phone, 301-504-0580.

Reading Room A public information room is maintained at the Commission headquarters.

For further information, contact the Office of Information and Public Affairs, Consumer Product Safety Commission, East West Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814. Phone, 301-504-0580. Internet, <http://www.cpsc.gov/>.

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