

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 722

By: Stewart

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crime and punishment; providing for certain prohibition on release of public scene specific information; defining terms; stating exception; requiring certain notification; providing penalty; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 839.4 of Title 21, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. No first responder or scene support personnel shall release to the public scene specific information or transmit to a social media site any photographic image or video taken at a collision or crime scene without prior authorization from the investigating agency.

B. As used in this section:

1. "First responder" shall mean a full-time, reserve, or volunteer, state, county, or municipal peace officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, rescue service personnel,

1 emergency manager, medical examiner or employee of a medical  
2 examiner, or wrecker service provider;

3 2. "Investigating agency" shall mean the city, county, or state  
4 agency responsible for investigating and reporting the collision to  
5 the Department of Public Safety or the crime report to the Oklahoma  
6 State Bureau of Investigation; and

7 3. "Scene support personnel" shall include, but not be limited  
8 to, towing or remediation services, funeral homes, crime scene  
9 cleaners, or city, county, and state road maintenance employees.

10 C. The provisions of subsection A of this section shall not  
11 prevent the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation or the Oklahoma  
12 Highway Patrol from transmitting information when a law enforcement  
13 agency requests investigative assistance.

14 D. Within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this act,  
15 any agency or entity employing first responders or scene support  
16 personnel shall notify the employees of the provisions of this act.

17 E. Any person convicted of a violation of this section shall be  
18 guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed One  
19 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail  
20 not to exceed one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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