

CHAPTER 2025-83

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1053

An act relating to the Department of Law Enforcement; repealing ss. 943.031 and 943.042, F.S., relating to the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council and the Violent Crime Investigative Emergency and Drug Control Strategy Implementation Account, respectively; amending s. 943.041, F.S.; changing the name of the Crimes Against Children Criminal Profiling Program to the Child Exploitation and Crimes Against Children Program and expanding the scope of the program; amending s. 943.17, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 943.0313, F.S.; revising the membership of the Domestic Security Oversight Council; revising reporting requirements; amending s. 943.0311, F.S.; revising requirements for a report by the Chief of Domestic Security; amending s. 943.69, F.S.; increasing the maximum annual amount that may be spent for veterinary care of retired police dogs under a program administered through the department; amending ss. 914.25 and 914.27, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Sections 943.031 and 943.042, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 2. Section 943.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.041 Child Exploitation and Crimes Against Children Criminal Profiling Program.—There is created the Child Exploitation and Crimes Against Children Criminal Profiling Program within the department. The program shall perform investigative, intelligence, research, and training activities related to child exploitation and other crimes against children.

Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 943.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.17 Basic recruit, advanced, and career development training programs; participation; cost; evaluation.—The commission shall, by rule, design, implement, maintain, evaluate, and revise entry requirements and job-related curricula and performance standards for basic recruit, advanced, and career development training programs and courses. The rules shall include, but are not limited to, a methodology to assess relevance of the subject matter to the job, student performance, and instructor competency.

(5) The commission, ~~in consultation with the Florida Violent Crime and Drug Control Council,~~ shall establish standards for basic and advanced training programs for law enforcement officers in the subjects of investigating and preventing violent crime. ~~After January 1, 1995,~~ Every basic skills

course required in order for law enforcement officers to obtain initial certification must include training on violent crime prevention and investigations.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (6) of section 943.0313, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

943.0313 Domestic Security Oversight Council.—The Legislature finds that there exists a need to provide executive direction and leadership with respect to terrorism and immigration enforcement incident prevention, preparation, protection, response, and recovery efforts by state and local agencies in this state. In recognition of this need, the Domestic Security Oversight Council is hereby created. The council shall serve as an advisory council pursuant to s. 20.03(7) to provide guidance to the state's regional domestic security task forces and other domestic security working groups and to make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature regarding the expenditure of funds and allocation of resources related to counter-terrorism and cooperating with and providing assistance to the Federal Government in the enforcement of federal immigration laws and domestic security efforts.

(1) MEMBERSHIP.—

(a) The Domestic Security Oversight Council shall consist of the following voting members:

1. The executive director of the Department of Law Enforcement.
2. The director of the Division of Emergency Management.
3. The Attorney General.
4. The Commissioner of Agriculture.
5. The State Surgeon General.
6. The Commissioner of Education.
7. The State Fire Marshal.
8. The adjutant general of the Florida National Guard.
9. The state chief information officer.
10. Each sheriff or chief of police who serves as a co-chair of a regional domestic security task force pursuant to s. 943.0312(1)(b).
11. Each of the department's special agents in charge who serve as a co-chair of a regional domestic security task force.
12. Two representatives of the Florida Fire Chiefs Association.

13. One representative of the Florida Police Chiefs Association.
14. One representative of the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association.
15. One statewide domestic security intelligence representative selected by the chair of the Florida Fusion Center Executive Advisory Board ~~The chair of the Statewide Domestic Security Intelligence Committee.~~
16. One representative of the Florida Hospital Association.
17. One representative of the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.
18. One representative of the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association.
19. One representative of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council.

(6) REPORTS.—The council shall report annually on its activities, on or before December 31 of each calendar year, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairs of the committees having principal jurisdiction over domestic security in the Senate and the House of Representatives. The report shall include information submitted by the Chief of Domestic Security as required under s. 943.0311(4).

Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 943.0311, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.0311 Chief of Domestic Security; duties of the department with respect to domestic security.—

(4) The chief shall report ~~to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 1 of each year~~ suggestions for specific and significant security enhancements of any building, facility, or structure owned or leased by a state agency, state university, or community college or any entity that has conducted an assessment under subsection (6). Such suggestions must be submitted to the Domestic Security Oversight Council for inclusion in the report required under s. 943.0313(6). The chief may ~~use~~ utilize the assessments provided under subsection (6) in making his or her suggestions. The report shall suggest strategies to maximize federal funds in support of building or facility security if such funds are available.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 943.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.69 Care for Retired Police Dogs Program.—

(5) FUNDING.—

(b) Annual disbursements to a former handler or an adopter to reimburse him or her for the cost of the retired police dog's veterinary care may not exceed \$5,000 ~~\$1,500~~ per dog. A former handler or an adopter of a retired police dog may not accumulate unused funds from a current year for use in a future year.

Section 7. Subsection (5) of section 914.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

914.25 Protective services for certain victims and witnesses.—

(5) ~~The lead law enforcement agency that provides protective services, as authorized in this section, may seek reimbursement for its reasonable expenses from the Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee, pursuant to s. 943.031. This section does not prevent any law enforcement agency from providing protective services at the agency's expense beyond the 4-year maximum period established in this section. Any such additional expenditures for protective services are not eligible for the reimbursement provided in this section.~~

Section 8. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 914.27, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

914.27 Confidentiality of victim and witness information.—

(1) Information held by any state or local law enforcement agency, state attorney, the statewide prosecutor, ~~the Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee created pursuant to s. 943.031,~~ or the Department of Law Enforcement which discloses:

(a) The identity or location of a victim or witness who has been identified or certified for protective or relocation services pursuant to s. 914.25;

(b) The identity or location of an immediate family member of a victim or witness who has been identified or certified pursuant to s. 914.25;

(c) Relocation sites, techniques, or procedures utilized or developed as a result of the victim and witness protective services afforded by s. 914.25; or

(d) The identity or relocation site of any victim, witness, or immediate family member of a victim or witness who has made a relocation of permanent residence by reason of the victim's or witness's involvement in the investigation or prosecution giving rise to certification for protective or relocation services pursuant to s. 914.25;

is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Such information may be shared by law enforcement agencies, state attorneys, and the statewide prosecutor to facilitate the protective or relocation services provided pursuant to s. 914.25 and to support the prosecution efforts of the state attorneys and the statewide prosecutor. Any information so shared must remain confidential

and exempt in the hands of any agency or entity to which the information is provided.

(4) The certifying state attorney or statewide prosecutor may state in writing to the Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee established pursuant to s. 943.031 that even though certification for participation in the victim or witness protective services program is about to expire, disclosure of information made confidential and exempt by paragraph (1)(a) or paragraph (1)(b) continues to constitute an unwarranted risk to, or jeopardizes the safety of, victims, witnesses, or family members of such victims or witnesses. Accordingly, The confidential and exempt status of such information shall continue until the certifying state attorney or statewide prosecutor determines that disclosure of such information would not constitute an unwarranted risk to, or jeopardize the safety of, such persons, and provides written notification to that effect to the Victim and Witness Protection Review Committee.

Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor May 22, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 22, 2025.