

CHAPTER 226

AN ACT concerning certain information regarding law enforcement officers and supplementing Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes and Titles 47 and 56 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.2C:20-31.1 Posting of certain information relative to law enforcement officers on the Internet; degree of crime.

1. A person shall not knowingly, with purpose to expose another to harassment or risk of harm to life or property, or in reckless disregard of the probability of such exposure, post or publish on the Internet the home address or unpublished home telephone number of any retired law enforcement officer, law enforcement officer or spouse or child of a law enforcement officer. A reckless violation of this section is a crime of the fourth degree. A purposeful violation of this section is a crime of the third degree.

C.47:1-17 Publishing certain information by governmental agency prohibited.

2. A State or local governmental agency shall not knowingly post or publish on the Internet the home address or unpublished home telephone number of any retired law enforcement officer or law enforcement officer without first obtaining the written permission of that law enforcement officer or retired law enforcement officer.

C.56:8-166.1 Person, business, association prohibited from publishing certain information on the Internet.

3. a. A person, business, or association shall not disclose on the Internet the home address or unpublished home telephone number of a law enforcement officer or retired law enforcement officer under circumstances in which a reasonable person would believe that providing that information would expose another to harassment or risk of harm to life or property.

b. A person, business, or association that violates subsection a. of this section shall be liable to the law enforcement officer, retired law enforcement officer, or any other person residing at the home address of the law enforcement officer or retired law enforcement officer, who may bring a civil action in the Superior Court.

c. The court may award:

(1) actual damages, but not less than liquidated damages computed at the rate of \$1,000 for each violation of this act;

(2) punitive damages upon proof of willful or reckless disregard of the law;

(3) reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred; and

(4) any other preliminary and equitable relief as the court determines to be appropriate.

d. For the purposes of this section, "disclose" shall mean to solicit, sell, manufacture, give, provide, lend, trade, mail, deliver, transfer, publish, distribute, circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit, advertise or offer.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 19, 2016.