

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4566**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED AUGUST 24, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER**

**District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman DePhillips**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes crime of impersonating uniformed professional to further criminal activity.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/24/2020)**

1   **AN ACT** concerning certain crimes and supplementing Title 2C of  
2       the New Jersey Statutes.

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

6  
7       1.   a.   A person is guilty of the crime of impersonating a  
8       uniformed professional to further criminal activity if that person  
9       commits, attempts to commit, or threatens the immediate  
10      commission of a crime under Title 2C of the New Jersey Statutes  
11      while wearing a uniform that falsely purports to be the uniform of a  
12      public or private employee or by driving an unauthorized vehicle  
13      falsely purporting to belong to a company or organization.

14      b.   Impersonating a uniformed professional to further criminal  
15      activity is a crime of the fourth degree if the underlying offense  
16      referred to in subsection a. is a disorderly persons offense or petty  
17      disorderly persons offense. Otherwise, impersonating a uniformed  
18      professional to further criminal activity is a crime one degree higher  
19      than the most serious underlying crime referred to in subsection a.,  
20      except that where the underlying crime is a crime of the first  
21      degree, impersonating a uniformed professional to further criminal  
22      activity is a first-degree crime and the defendant upon conviction  
23      thereof may, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of  
24      subsection a. of N.J.S.2C:43-6, be sentenced to an ordinary term of  
25      imprisonment between 15 years and 30 years.

26      c.   Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.2C:1-8 or any other  
27      provision of law, a conviction for impersonating a uniformed  
28      professional to further criminal activity shall not merge with a  
29      conviction of any of the underlying offenses referred to in  
30      subsection a. of this section, nor shall any conviction for such  
31      underlying offense merge with a conviction for impersonating a  
32      uniformed professional to further criminal activity. The court shall  
33      impose separate sentences upon a conviction for impersonating a  
34      uniformed professional to further criminal activity and a conviction  
35      of any underlying offense.

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37      2.   This act shall take effect immediately.

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40                                   **STATEMENT**

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42      This bill establishes the crime of impersonating a uniformed  
43      professional to further criminal activity. Under the bill, a person  
44      commits the crime of impersonating a uniformed professional to  
45      further criminal activity if that person commits, attempts to commit,  
46      or threatens the immediate commission of a crime under Title 2C of  
47      the New Jersey Statutes while wearing a uniform that falsely

1 purports to be the uniform of a public or private employee or by  
2 driving an unauthorized vehicle falsely purporting to belong to a  
3 company or organization.

4 The crime of impersonating a uniformed professional to further  
5 criminal activity is graded one degree higher than the most serious  
6 underlying offense or crime referred to in subsection a. If the  
7 underlying offense referred to in subsection a. is a disorderly  
8 persons offense or petty disorderly persons offense, then this crime  
9 would be a crime of the fourth degree. If the underlying crime is a  
10 first degree crime, then impersonating a uniformed professional to  
11 further criminal activity is a first-degree crime and the defendant  
12 upon conviction may be sentenced to an ordinary term of  
13 imprisonment between 15 years and 30 years.

14 A conviction for impersonating a uniformed professional to  
15 further criminal activity and a conviction for an underlying offense  
16 would not merge, and the court would impose separate sentences  
17 for the convictions.

18 This legislation was prompted by the killing of U.S. District  
19 Judge Esther Salas' son and the shooting of her husband by a man  
20 wearing a FedEx delivery uniform.