

By the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senator Burgess

591-03477-23

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to victim's right to candor in  
3           criminal proceedings; amending s. 960.001, F.S.;  
4           requiring that a victim be notified that he or she has  
5           the right to be informed of specified information if  
6           contacted by certain persons acting on behalf of a  
7           defendant in a criminal proceeding; providing an  
8           effective date.

9  
10   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12           Section 1. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (1) of  
13           section 960.001, Florida Statutes, to read:

14           960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and  
15           witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.—

16           (1) The Department of Legal Affairs, the state attorneys,  
17           the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile  
18           Justice, the Florida Commission on Offender Review, the State  
19           Courts Administrator and circuit court administrators, the  
20           Department of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department,  
21           police department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in  
22           s. 943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use  
23           of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent  
24           with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the State  
25           Constitution and are designed to implement s. 16(b), Art. I of  
26           the State Constitution and to achieve the following objectives:

27           (v) Victim's right to candor.—Each victim must be notified  
28           that he or she has the right, if contacted to obtain information  
29           relating to a criminal proceeding by an attorney, an

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30 investigator, or any other agent acting on behalf of the  
31 criminal defendant, to be informed of:

32 1. The person's name and employer; and

33 2. The fact that such person is acting on behalf of the  
34 defendant.

35 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.