

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to school safety; amending s. 30.15,
3 F.S.; authorizing public postsecondary institutions to
4 participate in the school guardian program; amending
5 s. 790.06, F.S.; authorizing certain college or
6 university employees, faculty members, and students to
7 openly carry a handgun or carry a concealed weapon or
8 concealed firearm into a college or university
9 facility; amending s. 790.115, F.S.; creating the
10 offense of discharging a weapon or firearm within
11 1,000 feet of a school; providing an exception;
12 providing that a person arrested for certain offenses
13 must be held in custody until brought before the court
14 for admittance to bail; amending s. 921.0022, F.S.;
15 ranking an offense created by the act on the offense
16 severity ranking chart of the Criminal Punishment
17 Code; amending s. 943.082, F.S.; requiring that
18 postsecondary institutions be made aware of the mobile
19 suspicious activity reporting tool in a specified
20 manner; requiring public postsecondary educational
21 institutions to promote the use of such tool; amending
22 s. 1003.25, F.S.; requiring specified educational
23 records for certain students to be transferred to a
24 Florida College System institution or state university
25 under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board

of Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations, respectively; amending s. 1006.07, F.S.; requiring certain trainings to include specified information relating to school safety; creating s. 1006.601, F.S.; defining the term "public postsecondary educational institution"; authorizing such institutions to participate in certain programs; authorizing such institutions to appoint certified school guardians; requiring such institutions to adopt specified emergency response plans; requiring such institutions to provide specified training, post specified information, and adopt threat management processes; authorizing the State Board of Education and the Board of Governors to adopt rules and regulations, respectively; reenacting ss. 402.305(19)(a), 790.013(2), 843.08, 943.03(16), 1001.212(1), (4), and (10), and 1006.12(3)(a), (4)(a), and (7), F.S., relating to licensing standards, child care facilities, carrying of concealed weapons or concealed firearms without a license, false personation, Department of Law Enforcement, Office of Safe Schools, and safe-school officers at each public school, respectively; providing effective dates.

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

51
52 **Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section**
53 **30.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

54 30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

55 (1) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, in person or
56 by deputy, shall:

57 (k) Assist district school boards and charter school
58 governing boards in complying with, or public postsecondary
59 educational institutions, as described in s. 1000.04(3), and
60 private schools or child care facilities, as defined in s.
61 402.302, in exercising options in, s. 1006.12. A sheriff shall,
62 at a minimum, provide access to a Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis,
63 and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to aid in the prevention
64 or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises,
65 as required under this paragraph. Persons certified as school
66 guardians pursuant to this paragraph have no authority to act in
67 any law enforcement capacity except to the extent necessary to
68 prevent or abate an active assailant incident.

69 1.a. If a local school board has voted by a majority to
70 implement a guardian program or has contracted for the use of
71 school security guards to satisfy the requirements of s.
72 1006.12, the sheriff in that county must establish a guardian
73 program to provide training for school guardians or school
74 security guards, pursuant to subparagraph 2., to school
75 district, charter school, public postsecondary educational

76 institution, private school, child care facility, or security
77 agency employees, either directly or through a contract with
78 another sheriff's office that has established a guardian
79 program. The security agency employing a school security guard
80 is responsible for all training and screening-related costs for
81 a school security guard, but such charges may not exceed the
82 actual cost incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

83 b. A public postsecondary educational institution or
84 charter school governing board in a school district that has not
85 voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian program may
86 request the sheriff in the county to establish a guardian
87 program for the purpose of training the public postsecondary
88 educational institution or charter school employees or school
89 security guards consistent with the requirements of subparagraph
90 2. If the county sheriff denies the request, the public
91 postsecondary educational institution or charter school
92 governing board may contract with a sheriff that has established
93 a guardian program to provide such training. The public
94 postsecondary educational institution or charter school
95 governing board must notify the superintendent and the sheriff
96 in the public postsecondary educational institution's or charter
97 school's county of the contract prior to its execution. The
98 security agency employing a school security guard is responsible
99 for all training and screening-related costs for a school
100 security guard, but such charges may not exceed the actual cost

101 incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

102 c. A private school or child care facility in a school
103 district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a
104 guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of
105 the private school or child care facility establish a guardian
106 program for the purpose of training private school employees,
107 child care facility employees, or school security guards. If the
108 county sheriff denies the request, the private school or child
109 care facility may contract with a sheriff from another county
110 who has established a guardian program under subparagraph 2. to
111 provide such training. The private school or child care facility
112 must notify the sheriff in the private school's or child care
113 facility's county of the contract with a sheriff from another
114 county before its execution. The private school, child care
115 facility, or security agency is responsible for all training and
116 screening-related costs for a school guardian program. The
117 sheriff providing such training must ensure that any moneys paid
118 by a private school, child care facility, or security agency are
119 not commingled with any funds provided by the state to the
120 sheriff as reimbursement for screening-related and training-
121 related costs of any school district or charter school employee.

122 d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b.
123 is a standardized statewide curriculum, and each sheriff
124 providing such training shall adhere to the course of
125 instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph. This

subparagraph does not prohibit a sheriff from providing additional training. A school guardian or school security guard who has completed the training program required in subparagraph 2.b. may not be required to attend another sheriff's training program pursuant to that sub-subparagraph unless there has been at least a 1-year break in his or her appointment as a guardian or employment by a security agency as a school security guard in a school.

e. The sheriff conducting the training pursuant to subparagraph 2. for school district, ~~and~~ charter school, or public postsecondary educational institution employees will be reimbursed for screening-related and training-related costs and for providing a one-time stipend of \$500 to each school guardian who participates in the school guardian program.

f. The sheriff may waive the training and screening-related costs for a private school or child care facility for a school guardian program. Funds provided pursuant to subparagraph e. may not be used to subsidize any costs that have been waived by the sheriff. The sheriff may not waive the training and screening-related costs required to be paid by a security agency for initial training or ongoing training of a school security guard.

g. A person who is certified and in good standing under the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, who meets the qualifications established in s. 943.13, and who

151 is otherwise qualified for the position of a school guardian or
152 school security guard may be certified as a school guardian or
153 school security guard by the sheriff without completing the
154 training requirements of sub-subparagraph 2.b. However, a person
155 certified as a school guardian or school security guard under
156 this sub-subparagraph must meet the requirements of sub-
157 subparagraphs 2.c.-e.

158 2. A sheriff who establishes a program shall consult with
159 the Department of Law Enforcement on programmatic guiding
160 principles, practices, and resources, and shall certify as
161 school guardians, without the power of arrest, school employees,
162 as specified in s. 1006.12(3), or shall certify as school
163 security guards those persons employed by a security agency who
164 meet the criteria specified in s. 1006.12(4), and who:

165 a. Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06 or are
166 otherwise eligible to possess or carry a concealed firearm under
167 chapter 790.

168 b. After satisfying the requirements of s. 1006.12(7),
169 complete a 144-hour training program, consisting of 12 hours of
170 training to improve the school guardian's knowledge and skills
171 necessary to respond to and de-escalate incidents on school
172 premises and 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and
173 proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and
174 Training Commission-certified instructors, which must include:

175 (I) Eighty hours of firearms instruction based on the

Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission's Law Enforcement Academy training model, which must include at least 10 percent but no more than 20 percent more rounds fired than associated with academy training. Program participants must achieve an 85 percent pass rate on the firearms training.

(II) Sixteen hours of instruction in precision pistol.

(III) Eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction using state-of-the-art simulator exercises.

(IV) Sixteen hours of instruction in active shooter or assailant scenarios.

(V) Eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics.

(VI) Four hours of instruction in legal issues.

c. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the evaluation to the sheriff's office. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office with mental health and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

d. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s. 112.0455 and the sheriff's office.

e. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual basis.

201
202 The sheriff who conducts the guardian training or waives the
203 training requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g.
204 shall issue a school guardian certificate to persons who meet
205 the requirements of this section to the satisfaction of the
206 sheriff, and shall maintain documentation of weapon and
207 equipment inspections, as well as the training, certification,
208 inspection, and qualification records of each school guardian
209 certified by the sheriff. A person who is certified under this
210 paragraph may serve as a school guardian under s. 1006.12(3)
211 only if he or she is appointed by the applicable school district
212 superintendent, charter school principal, public postsecondary
213 educational institution president, private school head of
214 school, or child care facility owner. A sheriff who conducts the
215 training for a school security guard or waives the training
216 requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g. and
217 determines that the school security guard has met all the
218 requirements of s. 1006.12(4) shall issue a school security
219 guard certificate to persons who meet the requirements of this
220 section to the satisfaction of the sheriff and shall maintain
221 documentation of weapon and equipment inspections, training,
222 certification, and qualification records for each school
223 security guard certified by the sheriff.

224 3.a. Within 30 days after issuing a school guardian or
225 school security guard certificate, the sheriff who issued the

226 certificate must report to the Department of Law Enforcement the
227 name, date of birth, and certification date of the school
228 guardian or school security guard.

229 b. By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, each
230 school district, charter school, employing security agency,
231 public postsecondary educational institution, private school,
232 and child care facility must report in the manner prescribed to
233 the Department of Law Enforcement the name, date of birth, and
234 appointment date of each person appointed as a school guardian
235 or employed as a school security guard. The school district,
236 charter school, employing security agency, public postsecondary
237 educational institution, private school, and child care facility
238 must also report in the manner prescribed to the Department of
239 Law Enforcement the date each school guardian or school security
240 guard separates from his or her appointment as a school guardian
241 or employment as a school security guard in a school.

242 c. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list
243 of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a
244 school security guard in the state. The list must include the
245 name and certification date of each school guardian and school
246 security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school
247 guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the
248 name of the school district, charter school, public
249 postsecondary educational institution, private school, or child
250 care facility in which the school guardian is appointed, or the

251 employing security agency of a school security guard, any
252 information provided pursuant to s. 1006.12(5), and, if
253 applicable, the date such person separated from his or her
254 appointment as a school guardian or the last date a school
255 security guard served in a school as of the last reporting date.
256 The Department of Law Enforcement shall remove from the list any
257 person whose training has expired pursuant to sub-subparagraph
258 1.d.

259 d. Each sheriff shall report on a quarterly basis to the
260 Department of Law Enforcement the schedule for upcoming school
261 guardian trainings, to include guardian trainings for school
262 security guards, including the dates of the training, the
263 training locations, a contact person to register for the
264 training, and the class capacity. If no trainings are scheduled,
265 the sheriff is not required to report to the Department of Law
266 Enforcement. The Department of Law Enforcement shall publish on
267 its website a list of the upcoming school guardian trainings.
268 The Department of Law Enforcement shall update such list
269 quarterly.

270 e. A sheriff who fails to report the information required
271 by this subparagraph may not receive reimbursement from the
272 Department of Education for school guardian trainings. Upon the
273 submission of the required information, a sheriff is deemed
274 eligible for such funding and is authorized to continue to
275 receive reimbursement for school guardian training.

276 f. A school district, charter school, public postsecondary
277 educational institution, private school, child care facility, or
278 employing security agency that fails to report the information
279 required by this subparagraph is prohibited from operating a
280 school guardian program or employing school security guards in
281 the following school year unless the missing information is
282 provided.

283 g. By March 1 and October 1 of each school year, the
284 Department of Law Enforcement shall notify the Department of
285 Education of any sheriff, school district, charter school,
286 public postsecondary educational institution, private school, or
287 child care facility that has not complied with the reporting
288 requirements of this subparagraph.

289 h. The Department of Law Enforcement may adopt rules to
290 implement the requirements of this subparagraph, including
291 requiring additional reporting information only as necessary to
292 uniquely identify each school guardian and school security guard
293 reported.

294 **Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (12) of section**
295 **790.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

296 790.06 License to carry concealed weapon or concealed
297 firearm.—

298 (12) (a) A license issued under this section does not
299 authorize any person to openly carry a handgun or carry a
300 concealed weapon or concealed firearm into:

1. Any place of nuisance as defined in s. 823.05;
2. Any police, sheriff, or highway patrol station;
3. Any detention facility, prison, or jail;
4. Any courthouse;
5. Any courtroom, except that nothing in this section precludes a judge from carrying a concealed weapon or concealed firearm or determining who will carry a concealed weapon or concealed firearm in his or her courtroom;
6. Any polling place;
7. Any meeting of the governing body of a county, public school district, municipality, or special district;
8. Any meeting of the Legislature or a committee thereof;
9. Any school, college, or professional athletic event not related to firearms;
10. Any elementary or secondary school facility or administration building;
11. Any career center;
12. Any portion of an establishment licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, which portion of the establishment is primarily devoted to such purpose;
13. Any college or university facility unless the licensee is:
 - a. A registered student, employee, or faculty member of such college or university and the weapon is a stun gun or

nonlethal electric weapon or device designed solely for defensive purposes and the weapon does not fire a dart or projectile;

b. An employee or faculty member of such college or university who is not a registered student of such college or university; or

c. A registered student of such college or university who is an employee or faculty member of the college or university. This sub-subparagraph applies to a registered student at times during which he or she is performing the duties of his or her position as an employee or faculty member of the college or university.

14. The inside of the passenger terminal and sterile area of any airport, provided that no person shall be prohibited from carrying any legal firearm into the terminal, which firearm is encased for shipment for purposes of checking such firearm as baggage to be lawfully transported on any aircraft; or

15. Any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law.

Section 3. Effective October 1, 2026, paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 790.115, Florida Statutes, is amended and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

790.115 Possessing or discharging weapons or firearms at a school-sponsored event or on school property prohibited; penalties; exceptions.—

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351 (2)

352 (d) A person commits a felony of the second degree,
353 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084,
354 if he or she: ~~who~~

355 1. Discharges any weapon or firearm while in violation of
356 paragraph (a), unless discharged for lawful defense of himself
357 or herself or another or for a lawful purpose; ~~or,~~

358 2. Discharges any weapon or firearm within 1,000 feet of a
359 school, during school hours or during the time of a sanctioned
360 school activity, unless discharged for lawful defense of himself
361 or herself or another or for a lawful purpose. This subparagraph
362 does not apply to the discharge of a weapon or firearm on
363 private real property within 1,000 feet of a school by the owner
364 of such property or by a person whose presence on such property
365 has been authorized, licensed, or invited by the owner ~~commits a~~
366 ~~felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s.~~
367 ~~775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.~~

368 (4) A person arrested for a violation of paragraph (2) (d)
369 must be held in custody until brought before the court for
370 admittance to bail in accordance with chapter 903.

371 **Section 4. Effective October 1, 2026, paragraph (f) of**
372 **subsection (3) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, is amended**
373 **to read:**

374 921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity
375 ranking chart.—

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376 | (3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

377	(f) LEVEL 6
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378

Florida	Felony
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Statute	Degree	Description
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379

316.027(2)(b)	2nd	Leaving the scene of a crash involving serious bodily injury.
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380

316.193(2)(b)	3rd	Felony DUI, 4th or subsequent conviction.
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381

316.1935(4)(a) 2nd Aggravated fleeing or eluding.

382

327.30(5)(a)3. 2nd Vessel accidents involving
 serious bodily injury; leaving
 scene.

383

400.9935(4)(c)	2nd	Operating a clinic, or offering services requiring licensure, without a license.
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384

499.0051(2)	2nd	Knowing forgery of transaction history, transaction
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information, or transaction
statement.

385

499.0051 (3) 2nd Knowing purchase or receipt of
prescription drug from
unauthorized person.

386

499.0051 (4) 2nd Knowing sale or transfer of
prescription drug to
unauthorized person.

387

775.0875 (1) 3rd Taking firearm from law
enforcement officer.

388

784.021 (1) (a) 3rd Aggravated assault; deadly
weapon without intent to kill.

389

784.021 (1) (b) 3rd Aggravated assault; intent to
commit felony.

390

784.041 3rd Felony battery; domestic
battery by strangulation.

391

784.048 (3) 3rd Aggravated stalking; credible
threat.

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392	784.048 (5)	3rd	Aggravated stalking of person under 16.
393	784.07 (2) (c)	2nd	Aggravated assault on law enforcement officer.
394	784.074 (1) (b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on sexually violent predators facility staff.
395	784.08 (2) (b)	2nd	Aggravated assault on a person 65 years of age or older.
396	784.081 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on specified official or employee.
397	784.082 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
398	784.083 (2)	2nd	Aggravated assault on code inspector.
399	787.02 (2)	3rd	False imprisonment; restraining

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with purpose other than those
in s. 787.01.

787.025 (2) (a) 3rd Luring or enticing a child.

790.115 (2) (d) 2nd Discharging firearm or weapon
on school property or within
1,000 feet of a school.

790.161 (2) 2nd Make, possess, or throw
destructive device with intent
to do bodily harm or damage
property.

790.164 (1) 2nd False report concerning bomb,
explosive, weapon of mass
destruction, act of arson or
violence to state property, or
use of firearms in violent
manner.

790.19 2nd Shooting or throwing deadly
missiles into dwellings,
vessels, or vehicles.

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406	794.011 (8) (a)	3rd	Solicitation of minor to participate in sexual activity by custodial adult.
407	794.05 (1)	2nd	Unlawful sexual activity with specified minor.
408	800.04 (5) (d)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation; victim 12 years of age or older but less than 16 years of age; offender less than 18 years.
409	800.04 (6) (b)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious conduct; offender 18 years of age or older.
410	806.031 (2)	2nd	Arson resulting in great bodily harm to firefighter or any other person.
411	810.02 (3) (c)	2nd	Burglary of occupied structure; unarmed; no assault or battery.
	810.145 (8) (b)	2nd	Digital voyeurism; certain minor victims; 2nd or

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subsequent offense.

412

812.014 (2) (b) 1. 2nd Property stolen \$20,000 or
more, but less than \$100,000,
grand theft in 2nd degree.

413

812.014 (2) (c) 5. 3rd Grand theft; third degree;
firearm.

414

812.014 (6) 2nd Theft; property stolen \$3,000
or more; coordination of
others.

415

812.015 (9) (a) 2nd Retail theft; property stolen
\$750 or more; second or
subsequent conviction.

416

812.015 (9) (b) 2nd Retail theft; aggregated
property stolen within 120 days
is \$3,000 or more; coordination
of others.

417

812.015 (9) (d) 2nd Retail theft; multiple thefts
within specified period.

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419	812.015 (9) (e)	2nd	Retail theft; committed with specified number of other persons and use of social media platform.
420	812.13 (2) (c)	2nd	Robbery, no firearm or other weapon (strong-arm robbery).
421	817.4821 (5)	2nd	Possess cloning paraphernalia with intent to create cloned cellular telephones.
422	817.49 (2) (b) 2.	2nd	Willful making of a false report of a crime resulting in death.
423	817.505 (4) (b)	2nd	Patient brokering; 10 or more patients.
424	817.5695 (3) (b)	2nd	Exploitation of person 65 years of age or older, value \$10,000 or more, but less than \$50,000.
	825.102 (1)	3rd	Abuse of an elderly person or disabled adult.

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425	825.102 (3) (c)	3rd	Neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult.
426	825.1025 (3)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled adult.
427	825.103 (3) (c)	3rd	Exploiting an elderly person or disabled adult and property is valued at less than \$10,000.
428	827.03 (2) (c)	3rd	Abuse of a child.
429	827.03 (2) (d)	3rd	Neglect of a child.
430	827.071 (5)	3rd	Possess, control, or intentionally view any photographic material, motion picture, etc., which includes child pornography.
431	828.126 (3)	3rd	Sexual activities involving animals.
432			

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433	836.05	2nd	Threats; extortion.
434	836.10	2nd	Written or electronic threats to kill, do bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or an act of terrorism.
435	843.12	3rd	Aids or assists person to escape.
436	847.011	3rd	Distributing, offering to distribute, or possessing with intent to distribute obscene materials depicting minors.
437	847.012	3rd	Knowingly using a minor in the production of materials harmful to minors.
438	847.0135 (2)	3rd	Facilitates sexual conduct of or with a minor or the visual depiction of such conduct.
	893.131	2nd	Distribution of controlled substances resulting in

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overdose or serious bodily
injury.

439

914.23 2nd Retaliation against a witness,
victim, or informant, with
bodily injury.

440

918.13 (2) (b) 2nd Tampering with or fabricating
physical evidence relating to a
capital felony.

441

944.35 (3) (a) 2. 3rd Committing malicious battery
upon or inflicting cruel or
inhuman treatment on an inmate
or offender on community
supervision, resulting in great
bodily harm.

442

944.40 2nd Escapes.

443

944.46 3rd Harboring, concealing, aiding
escaped prisoners.

444

944.47 (1) (a) 5. 2nd Introduction of contraband
(firearm, weapon, or explosive)

into correctional facility.

951.22(1)(i) 3rd Firearm or weapon introduced
into county detention facility.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 943.082, Florida Statutes, is amended and a new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, to read:

943.082 School Safety Awareness Program.—

(4)(a) Law enforcement dispatch centers, school districts, schools, postsecondary institutions, and other entities identified by the department must be made aware of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool.

(c) Each public postsecondary educational institution, as defined in s. 1000.04(3), shall promote the use of the mobile suspicious activity reporting tool by advertising it on the institution website, by installing it on all mobile devices issued by the institution, and by bookmarking the website on all computer devices maintained by the institution.

Section 6. Subsection (4) is added to section 1003.25, Florida Statutes, and subsection (2) of that section is republished, to read:

1003.25 Procedures for maintenance and transfer of student records.—

(2) The procedure for transferring and maintaining records

of students who transfer from school to school is prescribed by rules of the State Board of Education. The transfer of records must occur within 5 school days. The records must include, if applicable:

(a) Verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns, including any threat assessment report, all corresponding documentation, and any other information required by the Florida-specific behavioral threat assessment instrument pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) which contains the evaluation, intervention, and management of the threat assessment evaluations and intervention services.

(b) Psychological evaluations, including therapeutic treatment plans and therapy or progress notes created or maintained by school district or charter school staff, as appropriate.

(4) When the education records of a student contain the documents described in subsection (2) and the student enrolls in a Florida College System institution or state university, such records must be transferred to his or her institution or university of enrollment. The State Board of Education and the Board of Governors shall adopt rules and regulations, respectively, to establish the procedures for the transfer of a student's threat assessment report pursuant to this subsection.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 1006.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.07 District school board duties relating to student discipline and school safety.—The district school board shall provide for the proper accounting for all students, for the attendance and control of students at school, and for proper attention to health, safety, and other matters relating to the welfare of students, including:

(6) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—Each district school superintendent shall establish policies and procedures for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the assessment of and intervention with individuals whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of the school community.

(a) School safety specialist.—Each district school superintendent shall designate a school safety specialist for the district. The school safety specialist must be a school administrator employed by the school district or a law enforcement officer employed by the sheriff's office located in the school district. Any school safety specialist designated from the sheriff's office must first be authorized and approved by the sheriff employing the law enforcement officer. Any school safety specialist designated from the sheriff's office remains the employee of the office for purposes of compensation, insurance, workers' compensation, and other benefits authorized by law for a law enforcement officer employed by the sheriff's office. The sheriff and the school superintendent may determine by agreement the reimbursement for such costs, or may share the

costs, associated with employment of the law enforcement officer as a school safety specialist. The school safety specialist must earn a certificate of completion of the school safety specialist training provided by the Office of Safe Schools within 1 year after appointment and is responsible for the supervision and oversight for all school safety and security personnel, policies, and procedures in the school district. The school safety specialist, or his or her designee, shall:

1. In conjunction with the district school superintendent, annually review school district policies and procedures for compliance with state law and rules, including the district's timely and accurate submission of school environmental safety incident reports to the department pursuant to s. 1001.212(8). At least quarterly, the school safety specialist must report to the district school superintendent and the district school board any noncompliance by the school district with laws or rules regarding school safety.

2. Provide the necessary training and resources to students and school district staff in matters relating to youth mental health awareness and assistance; emergency procedures, including active shooter training; and school safety and security. Such training for classroom teachers and other members of instructional staff must explain the purpose, importance, and proper execution of school safety protocols and emergency procedures.

542 3. Serve as the school district liaison with local public
543 safety agencies and national, state, and community agencies and
544 organizations in matters of school safety and security.

545 4. In collaboration with the appropriate public safety
546 agencies, as that term is defined in s. 365.171, by October 1 of
547 each year, conduct a school security risk assessment at each
548 public school using the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool
549 developed by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.
550 1006.1493. Based on the assessment findings, the district's
551 school safety specialist shall provide recommendations to the
552 district school superintendent and the district school board
553 which identify strategies and activities that the district
554 school board should implement in order to address the findings
555 and improve school safety and security. Each district school
556 board must receive such findings and the school safety
557 specialist's recommendations at a publicly noticed district
558 school board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to
559 hear the district school board members discuss and take action
560 on the findings and recommendations. Each school safety
561 specialist, through the district school superintendent, shall
562 report such findings and school board action to the Office of
563 Safe Schools within 30 days after the district school board
564 meeting.

565 5. Conduct annual unannounced inspections, using the form
566 adopted by the Office of Safe Schools pursuant to s.

1001.212(13), of all public schools, including charter schools, while school is in session and investigate reports of noncompliance with school safety requirements.

6. Report violations of paragraph (f) by administrative personnel and instructional personnel to the district school superintendent or charter school administrator, as applicable.

Section 8. Section 1006.601, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

1006.601 Student safety.—

(1) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term "public postsecondary educational institution" has the same meaning as in s. 1000.04(3).

(2) SCHOOL GUARDIANS.—Public postsecondary educational institutions are authorized to participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program and may appoint certified school guardians pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k).

(3) SAFETY AND SECURITY BEST PRACTICES.—

(a) Response plans.—Each public postsecondary educational institution shall:

1. Adopt an active assailant response plan, including methods for issuing campus-wide alerts, and annually certify that all faculty, staff, and students have completed active assailant preparedness training. The plan must clearly identify who may issue an emergency alert.

592 2. Adopt, in cooperation with local law enforcement
593 agencies and local government, a family reunification plan to
594 reunite students and employees with their families in the event
595 that an institution is closed or unexpectedly evacuated due to a
596 natural or manmade disaster. This reunification plan must be
597 reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

598 (b) Student mental health.—Each public postsecondary
599 educational institution shall:

600 1. Train faculty to detect and respond to mental health
601 issues as well as connect students who may experience behavioral
602 health issues with appropriate services, both on campus and in
603 the community, including crisis intervention.

604 2. Post on its website and in conspicuous locations at
605 each institution a mental health awareness and suicide
606 prevention sign that identifies ways a person can access help
607 and services. Physical signs must be at least 11 inches by 15
608 inches in size and must be printed in an easily legible font and
609 in at least 32-point type.

610 3. Establish threat management teams whose duties include
611 the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention
612 with students whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of
613 the institution, institution staff, or students. The threat
614 management team must use the statewide behavioral threat
615 management operational process and Florida-specific behavioral
616 threat assessment instrument developed by the Office of Safe

617 Schools pursuant to s. 1001.212(11) or another comparable tool
618 deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the State
619 Board of Education and Board of Governors.

620
621 The Commissioner of Education and the Chancellor of the State
622 University System shall provide guidance on when and how
623 administrators, mental health providers, and other appropriate
624 personnel are legally entitled to share and receive information
625 about individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others,
626 including, but not limited to, the transmission of education
627 records pursuant to s. 1003.25(4).

628 (c) Security risk assessment.—Each public postsecondary
629 educational institution, in collaboration with appropriate
630 public safety agencies, as defined in s. 365.171(3)(d), shall
631 annually conduct a security risk assessment at each campus using
632 the Florida Safe Schools Assessment Tool developed by the Office
633 of Safe Schools pursuant to s. 1006.1493 or another comparable
634 tool deemed appropriate for postsecondary institutions by the
635 State Board of Education and Board of Governors. Subject to an
636 appropriation, the institution may apply for grant funds for
637 security improvements to its campus based on findings in the
638 security risk assessment.

639 (4) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The State Board of Education
640 and the Board of Governors may adopt rules and regulations,
641 respectively, to implement this section.

642 **Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
643 **made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a**
644 **reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (19) of section**
645 **402.305, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

646 402.305 Licensing standards; child care facilities.—

647 (19) SAFE-SCHOOL OFFICERS.—

648 (a) A child care facility may partner with a law
649 enforcement agency or a security agency to establish or assign
650 one or more safe-school officers established in s. 1006.12(1)-
651 (4). The child care facility is responsible for the full cost of
652 implementing any such option, which includes all training costs
653 under the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel
654 Guardian Program under s. 30.15(1)(k).

655 **Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**
656 **made by this act to section 790.06, Florida Statutes, in a**
657 **reference thereto, subsection (2) of section 790.013, Florida**
658 **Statutes, is reenacted to read:**

659 790.013 Carrying of concealed weapons or concealed
660 firearms without a license.—A person who carries a concealed
661 weapon or concealed firearm without a license as authorized
662 under s. 790.01(1)(b):

663 (2) Is subject to s. 790.06(12) in the same manner as a
664 person who is licensed to carry a concealed weapon or concealed
665 firearm.

666 **Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment**

667 **made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a**
668 **reference thereto, section 843.08, Florida Statutes, is**
669 **reenacted to read:**

670 843.08 False personation.—A person who falsely assumes or
671 pretends to be a firefighter, a sheriff, an officer of the
672 Florida Highway Patrol, an officer of the Fish and Wildlife
673 Conservation Commission, an officer of the Department of
674 Environmental Protection, an officer of the Department of
675 Financial Services, any personnel or representative of the
676 Division of Criminal Investigations, an officer of the
677 Department of Corrections, a correctional probation officer, a
678 deputy sheriff, a state attorney or an assistant state attorney,
679 a statewide prosecutor or an assistant statewide prosecutor, a
680 state attorney investigator, a coroner, a police officer, a
681 lottery special agent or lottery investigator, a beverage
682 enforcement agent, a school guardian as described in s.
683 30.15(1)(k), a security officer licensed under chapter 493, any
684 member of the Florida Commission on Offender Review or any
685 administrative aide or supervisor employed by the commission,
686 any personnel or representative of the Department of Law
687 Enforcement, or a federal law enforcement officer as defined in
688 s. 901.1505, and takes upon himself or herself to act as such,
689 or to require any other person to aid or assist him or her in a
690 matter pertaining to the duty of any such officer, commits a
691 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.

775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. However, a person who falsely personates any such officer during the course of the commission of a felony commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. If the commission of the felony results in the death or personal injury of another human being, the person commits a felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. In determining whether a defendant has violated this section, the court or jury may consider any relevant evidence, including, but not limited to, whether the defendant used lights in violation of s. 316.2397 or s. 843.081.

Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (16) of section 943.03, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

943.03 Department of Law Enforcement.—

(16) Upon request, the department shall consult with sheriffs to provide input regarding programmatic guiding principles, practices, and resources in order to assist in the development and implementation of the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program established pursuant to s. 30.15. Such input and guidance may include, but need not be limited to, standards, curriculum, instructional strategies, evaluation, certification, records retention, equipment, and other resource needs.

Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the amendments made by this act to sections 943.082 and 1006.07, Florida Statutes, in references thereto, subsections (1), (4), and (10) of section 1001.212, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

1001.212 Office of Safe Schools.—There is created in the Department of Education the Office of Safe Schools. The office is fully accountable to the Commissioner of Education. The office shall serve as a central repository for best practices, training standards, and compliance oversight in all matters regarding school safety and security, including prevention efforts, intervention efforts, and emergency preparedness planning. The office shall:

(1) Establish and update as necessary a school security risk assessment tool for use by school districts pursuant to s. 1006.07(6). The office shall make the security risk assessment tool available for use by charter schools. The office shall provide annual training to appropriate school district and charter school personnel on the proper assessment of physical site security and completion of the school security risk assessment tool.

(4) Develop and implement a School Safety Specialist Training Program for school safety specialists appointed pursuant to s. 1006.07(6). The office shall develop the training program which shall be based on national and state best

practices on school safety and security and must include active shooter training. The office shall develop training modules in traditional or online formats. A school safety specialist certificate of completion shall be awarded to a school safety specialist who satisfactorily completes the training required by rules of the office.

(10) Disseminate, in consultation with the Department of Law Enforcement, to participating schools awareness and education materials on the proper use of the School Safety Awareness Program developed pursuant to s. 943.082, including the consequences of knowingly submitting false information.

Section 14. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (3), paragraph (a) of subsection (4), and subsection (7) of section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, are reenacted to read:

1006.12 Safe-school officers at each public school.—For the protection and safety of school personnel, property, students, and visitors, each district school board and school district superintendent shall partner with law enforcement agencies or security agencies to establish or assign one or more safe-school officers at each school facility within the district, including charter schools. A district school board must collaborate with charter school governing boards to facilitate charter school access to all safe-school officer

options available under this section. The school district may implement any combination of the options in subsections (1)-(4) to best meet the needs of the school district and charter schools.

(3) SCHOOL GUARDIAN.—

(a) At the school district's or the charter school governing board's discretion, as applicable, pursuant to s. 30.15, a school district or charter school governing board may participate in the Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian Program to meet the requirement of establishing a safe-school officer. The following individuals may serve as a school guardian, in support of school-sanctioned activities for purposes of s. 790.115, upon satisfactory completion of the requirements under s. 30.15(1)(k) and certification by a sheriff:

1. A school district employee or personnel, as defined under s. 1012.01, or a charter school employee, as provided under s. 1002.33(12)(a), who volunteers to serve as a school guardian in addition to his or her official job duties; or

2. An employee of a school district or a charter school who is hired for the specific purpose of serving as a school guardian.

(4) SCHOOL SECURITY GUARD.—A school district or charter school governing board may contract with a security agency as defined in s. 493.6101(18) to employ as a school security guard

an individual who holds a Class "D" and Class "G" license pursuant to chapter 493, provided the following training and contractual conditions are met:

(a) An individual who serves as a school security guard, for purposes of satisfying the requirements of this section, must:

1. Demonstrate completion of 144 hours of required training conducted by a sheriff pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.

2. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the evaluation to the sheriff's office and school district, charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as applicable. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office, school district, charter school governing board, or employing security agency with mental health and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

3. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s. 112.0455 and the sheriff's office, school district, charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as applicable.

4. Be approved to work as a school security guard by the sheriff of each county in which the school security guard will be assigned to a school before commencing work at any school in

817 that county. The sheriff's approval authorizes the security
818 agency to assign the school security guard to any school in the
819 county, and the sheriff's approval is not limited to any
820 particular school.

821 5. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon
822 inspection, and firearm qualification conducted by a sheriff
823 pursuant to s. 30.15(1)(k)2.e. on at least an annual basis and
824 provide documentation to the sheriff's office, school district,
825 charter school governing board, or employing security agency, as
826 applicable.

827 (7) LIMITATIONS.—An individual must satisfy the background
828 screening, psychological evaluation, and drug test requirements
829 and be approved by the sheriff before participating in any
830 training required by s. 30.15(1)(k), which may be conducted only
831 by a sheriff.

832
833 If a district school board, through its adopted policies,
834 procedures, or actions, denies a charter school access to any
835 safe-school officer options pursuant to this section, the school
836 district must assign a school resource officer or school safety
837 officer to the charter school. Under such circumstances, the
838 charter school's share of the costs of the school resource
839 officer or school safety officer may not exceed the safe school
840 allocation funds provided to the charter school pursuant to s.
841 1011.62(12) and shall be retained by the school district.

842 **Section 15.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
843 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.