

**525.200 Assault on a service animal in the first degree -- Definition.**

- (1) A person is guilty of assault on a service animal in the first degree when, without legal justification or lawful authority:
  - (a) He or she intentionally kills or causes serious physical injury to a service animal;
  - (b) He or she intentionally causes physical injury to a service animal by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument; or
  - (c) He or she wantonly causes serious physical injury to a service animal by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, "service animal" has the same meaning as in KRS 525.010, except that "service animal" does not include assistance dogs as in KRS 525.010(6)(i).
- (3) Assault on a service animal in the first degree is a Class D felony.

**Effective:** June 29, 2023

**History:** Amended 2023 Ky. Acts ch. 169, sec. 2, effective June 29, 2023. -- Amended 2017 Ky. Acts ch. 29, sec. 1, effective June 29, 2017. -- Created 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 419, sec. 2, effective July 15, 1998.