

AN ACT relating to operators of taxis, buses, or other passenger vehicles for hire.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 508.025 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A person is guilty of assault in the third degree when the actor:
- (a) Recklessly, with a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, or intentionally causes or attempts to cause physical injury to:
 - 1. A state, county, city, or federal peace officer;
 - 2. An employee of a detention facility, or state residential treatment facility or state staff secure facility for residential treatment which provides for the care, treatment, or detention of a juvenile charged with or adjudicated delinquent because of a public offense or as a youthful offender;
 - 3. An employee of the Department for Community Based Services employed as a social worker to provide direct client services, if the event occurs while the worker is performing job-related duties;
 - 4. Paid or volunteer emergency medical services personnel certified or licensed pursuant to KRS Chapter 311A, if the event occurs while personnel are performing job-related duties;
 - 5. A paid or volunteer member of an organized fire department, if the event occurs while the member is performing job-related duties;
 - 6. Paid or volunteer rescue squad personnel affiliated with the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Military Affairs or a local disaster and emergency services organization pursuant to KRS Chapter 39F, if the event occurs while personnel are performing job-related duties;
 - 7. A probation and parole officer;
 - 8. A transportation officer appointed by a county fiscal court or legislative

body of a consolidated local government, urban-county government, or charter government to transport inmates when the county jail or county correctional facility is closed while the transportation officer is performing job-related duties;

9. A public or private elementary or secondary school or school district classified or certified employee, school bus driver, or other school employee acting in the course and scope of the employee's employment;†
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10. A public or private elementary or secondary school or school district volunteer acting in the course and scope of that person's volunteer service for the school or school district; or

11. An operator or passenger of a taxi, bus, or other passenger vehicle for hire; or

- (b) Being a person confined in a detention facility, or state residential treatment facility or state staff secure facility for residential treatment which provides for the care, treatment, or detention of a juvenile charged with or adjudicated delinquent because of a public offense or as a youthful offender, inflicts physical injury upon or throws or causes feces, or urine, or other bodily fluid to be thrown upon an employee of the facility.
- (2) Assault in the third degree is a Class D felony.
 - ➔Section 2. KRS 508.050 is amended to read as follows:
 - (1) A person is guilty of menacing when he intentionally places another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent physical injury.
 - (2) Menacing is a Class B misdemeanor, **unless the victim of the offense is an operator or passenger of a taxi, bus, or other passenger vehicle for hire, in which case it is a Class A misdemeanor.**

➔Section 3. KRS 525.060 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A person is guilty of disorderly conduct in the second degree when in a public place and with intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or wantonly creating a risk thereof, he:
- (a) Engages in fighting or in violent, tumultuous, or threatening behavior;
 - (b) Makes unreasonable noise;
 - (c) Refuses to obey an official order to disperse issued to maintain public safety in dangerous proximity to a fire, hazard, or other emergency;~~[-or]~~
 - (d) Creates a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act that serves no legitimate purpose; or
 - (e) Intentionally or wantonly throws or projects any object or substance at or near the operator of a taxi, bus, or other passenger vehicle for hire.
- (2) Disorderly conduct in the second degree is a Class B misdemeanor in all instances except for a violation of subsection (1)(e) of this section, which is a Class A misdemeanor.