

1 AN ACT relating to impeding a first responder.

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

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 519 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) As used in this section:

6 (a) "First responder" has the same meaning as in KRS 507.070, and includes a
7 probation or parole officer, university police officer, and airport police
8 officer; and

9 (b) "Harass" means to intentionally engage in a course of conduct directed at a
10 first responder which causes or is intended to cause substantial emotional
11 distress in the first responder and serves no legitimate purpose.

12 (2) A person is guilty of impeding a first responder when, after receiving a verbal
13 warning not to approach from another person he or she knows or reasonably
14 should know is a first responder who is engaged in the lawful performance of his
15 or her duties, the person knowingly violates the verbal warning and approaches
16 or remains within twenty-five (25) feet of the first responder with the intent to:

17 (a) Impede or interfere with the first responder's ability to perform the first
18 responder's duties;

19 (b) Threaten the first responder with physical harm; or

20 (c) Harass the first responder.

21 (3) Impeding a first responder is a:

22 (a) Class B misdemeanor for the first offense;

23 (b) Class A misdemeanor for a second or third offense; and

24 (c) Class D felony for each subsequent offense.