

**SENATE BILL No. 266**

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-16

1 AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating  
2 to domestic violence calls; requiring law enforcement officers to  
3 provide certain notices to victims and conduct a lethality assessment;  
4 amending K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 22-2307 and repealing the existing  
5 section.

6  
7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 22-2307 is hereby amended to read as  
9 follows: 22-2307. (a) All law enforcement agencies in this state shall adopt  
10 written policies regarding domestic violence calls as provided in  
11 subsections (b) ~~and~~, (c) *and* (d). These policies shall be made available to  
12 all officers of such agency.

13 (b) Such written policies shall include, but not be limited to, the  
14 following:

15 (1) A statement directing that when a law enforcement officer  
16 determines that there is probable cause to believe that a crime or offense  
17 involving domestic violence, as defined in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5111,  
18 and amendments thereto, has been committed, the officer shall, without  
19 undue delay, arrest the person for which the officer has probable cause to  
20 believe committed the crime or offense if such person's actions were not  
21 an act of defense of a person or property as provided in K.S.A. 2022 Supp.  
22 21-5222, 21-5223, 21-5225, 21-5230 or 21-5231, and amendments thereto;

23 (2) a statement that nothing shall be construed to require a law  
24 enforcement officer to:

25 (A) Arrest either party involved in an alleged act of domestic  
26 violence when the law enforcement officer determines there is no probable  
27 cause to believe that a crime or offense has been committed; or

28 (B) arrest both parties involved in an alleged act of domestic violence  
29 when both claim to have been victims of such domestic violence;

30 (3) a statement directing that if a law enforcement officer receives  
31 complaints of domestic violence from two or more opposing persons, the  
32 officer shall evaluate each complaint separately to determine if there is  
33 probable cause that each accused person committed a crime or offense and  
34 their actions were not an act of defense of a person or property as provided  
35 in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5222, 21-5223, 21-5225, 21-5230 or 21-5231,  
36 and amendments thereto;

1 (4) a statement defining domestic violence in accordance with K.S.A.  
2 2022 Supp. 21-5111, and amendments thereto;

3 (5) a statement describing the dispatchers' responsibilities;

4 (6) a statement describing the responding officers' responsibilities and  
5 procedures to follow when responding to a domestic violence call and the  
6 suspect is at the scene;

7 (7) a statement regarding procedures when the suspect has left the  
8 scene of the crime;

9 (8) procedures for both misdemeanor and felony cases;

10 (9) procedures for law enforcement officers to follow when handling  
11 domestic violence calls involving court orders, including protection from  
12 abuse orders, restraining orders and a protective order issued by a court of  
13 any state or Indian tribe;

14 (10) a statement that the law enforcement agency shall provide the  
15 following information to victims, in writing:

16 (A) Availability of emergency and medical telephone numbers, if  
17 needed;

18 (B) the law enforcement agency's report number;

19 (C) the address and telephone number of the prosecutor's office the  
20 victim should contact to obtain information about victims' rights pursuant  
21 to K.S.A. 74-7333 and 74-7335, and amendments thereto;

22 (D) the name and address of the crime victims' compensation board  
23 and information about possible compensation benefits;

24 (E) advise the victim that the details of the crime may be made  
25 public;

26 (F) advise the victim of such victims' rights under K.S.A. 74-7333  
27 and 74-7335, and amendments thereto; and

28 (G) advise the victim of known available resources which may assist  
29 the victim; and

30 (11) whether an arrest is made or not, a standard offense report shall  
31 be completed on all such incidents and sent to the Kansas bureau of  
32 investigation.

33 (c) *Such written policies shall provide that when a law enforcement*  
34 *officer determines that a person is a victim of domestic violence, as*  
35 *defined in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5111, and amendments thereto, the officer*  
36 *shall provide the victim with the notice described in this subsection and*  
37 *conduct a lethality assessment as provided in this subsection.*

38 (1) *The notice shall consist of handing the victim or, if the victim is a*  
39 *minor or an incompetent person, a responsible adult, a written statement*  
40 *in substantially the following form:*

41 *"As a victim of domestic violence, you have certain rights. These rights*  
42 *are as follows:*

43 *1. The right to request that charges be pressed against your assailant;*

1       2. *the right to request protection from any harm or threat of harm*  
2 *arising out of your cooperation with law enforcement and prosecution*  
3 *efforts as far as facilities are available and to be provided with*  
4 *information on the level of support available;*

5       3. *the right to be informed of financial assistance and other social*  
6 *services available as a result of being a victim, including information on*  
7 *how to apply for the assistance and services; and*

8       4. *the right to file a petition for a protective order."*

9       (2) *The law enforcement officer who interviews the victim of domestic*  
10 *violence shall assess the potential for danger by asking a series of*  
11 *questions provided on a lethality assessment form. The lethality*  
12 *assessment form shall include, but not be limited to, the following*  
13 *questions:*

14       (A) *Has the person ever used a weapon against the victim or*  
15 *threatened the victim with a weapon?*

16       (B) *Has the person threatened to kill the victim or the children of the*  
17 *victim?*

18       (C) *Does the victim think the person will try to kill the victim?*

19       (D) *Has the person ever tried to choke the victim?*

20       (E) *Is the person violently or constantly jealous, or does the person*  
21 *control most of the daily activities of the victim?*

22       (F) *Has the victim left or separated from the person after living*  
23 *together or being married?*

24       (G) *Is the person unemployed?*

25       (H) *Has the person ever tried to kill himself or herself?*

26       (I) *Does the victim have a child that the person knows is not his or*  
27 *her own child?*

28       (J) *Does the person follow or spy on the victim or leave the victim*  
29 *threatening messages?*

30       (K) *Is there anything else that worries the victim about his or her*  
31 *safety, and if so, what worries the victim?*

32       (3) *Based upon the results of the lethality assessment, the law*  
33 *enforcement agency shall make appropriate referrals to shelters, domestic*  
34 *violence intervention programs and other social services for the victim.*  
35 *The lethality assessment shall be provided to the appropriate prosecuting*  
36 *attorney and the appropriate court for the purposes of setting bond and*  
37 *other possible conditions of release.*

38       (d) *Such written policies shall provide that when an arrest is made for*  
39 *a domestic violence offense as defined in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5111, and*  
40 *amendments thereto, including an arrest for violation of a protection order*  
41 *as defined in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5924, and amendments thereto, the*  
42 *officer shall provide the victim information related to:*

43       (A)(1) *The fact that in some cases the person arrested can be released*

1 from custody in a short amount of time;

2 ~~(B)~~(2) the fact that in some cases a bond condition may be imposed  
3 on the person arrested that prohibits contact with the victim for 72 hours,  
4 and that if the person arrested contacts the victim during that time, the  
5 victim should notify law enforcement immediately; and

6 ~~(C)~~(3) any available services within the jurisdiction to monitor  
7 custody changes of the person being arrested, including, but not limited to,  
8 the Kansas victim information and notification everyday service if  
9 available in such jurisdiction.

10 ~~(d)~~(e) All law enforcement agencies shall provide training to law  
11 enforcement officers about the policies adopted pursuant to this section.

12 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 22-2307 is hereby repealed.

13 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
14 publication in the statute book.