

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3075

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 22, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

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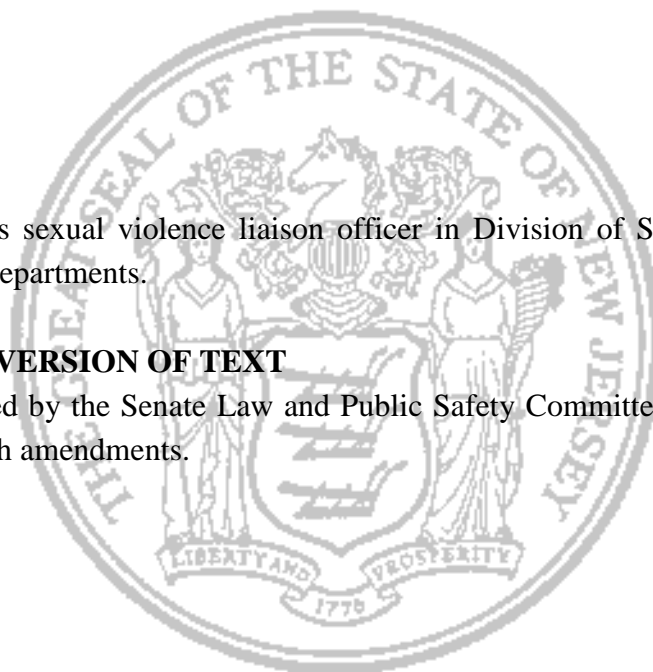
Senators Gill, Brown, Ruiz, Assemblywoman Timberlake, Assemblymen Zwicker, Johnson, Chiaravalloti, Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblyman Holley, Assemblywomen N.Munoz, Downey, Jasey, Swain, Assemblymen Tully, McKeon and Scharfenberger

SYNOPSIS

Establishes sexual violence liaison officer in Division of State Police and local police departments.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Law and Public Safety Committee on December 10, 2020, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/1/2021)

1 AN ACT establishing sexual violence liaison officers in certain
2 police departments and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
3 Statutes and Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. a. The Superintendent of State Police shall designate the
9 Station Intervention Officer as the sexual violence liaison officer for
10 each State Police station.

11 b. The sexual violence liaison officer shall:

12 (1) serve as the station's in-house expert on how to respond to
13 sexual violence cases;

14 (2) act as the primary point-of-contact for each local sexual
15 violence program and county Sexual Assault Response Team ¹**[as]**¹
16 established pursuant section 6 of P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-54) to
17 coordinate an effective community response;

18 (3) when appropriately trained, provide in-house training on sexual
19 violence and support training implementation by the Victim Services
20 Unit;

21 (4) monitor the station's compliance with sexual violence best
22 practices as set forth in the statutory law and Attorney General
23 policies; and

24 (5) serve in any other capacity deemed appropriate by the
25 superintendent.

26 c. A sexual violence liaison officer shall complete specialized
27 sexual violence training as specified by the superintendent.

28 d. A regional investigator of the Victim Services Unit of the
29 Division of State Police shall:

30 (1) be a member of the Victim Services Unit, or its successor;

31 (2) complete specialized sexual violence training as specified by
32 the superintendent; and

33 (3) represent the station at county meetings of the Sexual Assault
34 Response Team.

35 e. A member of the Division of State Police shall be disqualified
36 from serving as a sexual violence liaison officer or regional
37 investigator of the Victim Services Unit if:

38 (1) the member ¹**[has been]** ¹is¹ the subject of an investigation
39 ¹for a complaint charging a violation of the internal rules and
40 regulations established for the conduct of the division¹ regarding
41 sexual violence, sexual misconduct, domestic violence, stalking, or
42 sexual harassment ¹or there are pending criminal charges against the
43 member for any of these offenses¹; or

44 (2) a court has issued a protective or restraining order against the
45 member.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined **thus** is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SLP committee amendments adopted December 10, 2020.

1 f. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the sexual ¹**[assault]**
2 violence¹ liaison officer from simultaneously serving as a domestic
3 violence liaison officer or Megan's Law resource officer.

4

5 2. a. The chief of police or other executive head of a municipal
6 police department and force established pursuant to the provisions of
7 N.J.S.40A:14-118 shall appoint a full-time sworn officer of the
8 department and force to serve as a sexual violence liaison officer.

9 b. The sexual violence liaison officer shall:

10 (1) serve as the department and force in-house expert on how to
11 respond to sexual violence cases;

12 (2) act as the primary point-of-contact for each local sexual
13 violence program and county Sexual Assault Response Team ¹**[as]**¹
14 established pursuant section 6 of P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-54) to
15 coordinate an effective community response;

16 (3) represent the department and force at county meetings of the
17 Sexual Assault Response Team;

18 (4) when appropriately trained, provide in-house training on sexual
19 violence;

20 (5) monitor the department and force's compliance with sexual
21 violence best practices as set forth in the statutory law and Attorney
22 General policies; and

23 (6) serve in any other capacity deemed appropriate by the chief of
24 police or other executive head of the department or force.

25 c. A sexual violence liaison officer shall complete specialized
26 sexual violence training as specified by the chief of police or other
27 executive head of the municipal police department and force.

28 d. An officer of the department or force shall be disqualified from
29 serving as a sexual violence liaison officer if:

30 (1) the officer ¹**[has been]** is¹ the subject of an investigation ¹for a
31 complaint charging a violation of the internal rules and regulations
32 established for the conduct of the department and force¹ regarding
33 sexual violence, sexual misconduct, domestic violence, stalking, or
34 sexual harassment ¹or there are pending criminal charges against the
35 officer for any of these offenses¹; or

36 (2) a court has issued a protective or restraining order against the
37 officer.

38 e. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the sexual ¹**[assault]**
39 violence¹ liaison officer from simultaneously serving as a domestic
40 violence liaison officer or a Megan's Law resource officer.

41 ¹f. Nothing in this section shall preclude a municipal department
42 and force from:

43 (1) appointing more than one sexual violence liaison officer; or

44 (2) appointing the sexual violence liaison officer of another
45 municipal or county department and force as the liaison officer for the
46 department and force provided the liaison officer can adequately

1 perform the duties ¹required¹ of the officer pursuant to subsection b. of
2 this section.¹

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4 3. a. The chief of police or other executive head of a county
5 police department and force established pursuant to the provisions of
6 N.J.S.40A:14-106 through N.J.S.40A:14-117 shall appoint a full-time
7 sworn officer of the department and force to serve as the sexual
8 violence liaison officer.

9 b. The sexual violence liaison officer shall:

10 (1) serve as the department and force in-house expert on how to
11 conduct sexual violence cases;

12 (2) act as the primary point-of-contact for each local sexual
13 violence program and county Sexual Assault Response Team as
14 established pursuant section 6 of P.L.2001, c.81 (C.52:4B-54) to
15 coordinate an effective community response;

16 (3) represent the department and force at county meetings of the
17 Sexual Assault Response Team;

18 (4) when appropriately trained, provide in-house training on sexual
19 violence;

20 (5) monitor the department and force's compliance with sexual
21 violence best practices as set forth in the statutory law and Attorney
22 General policies; and

23 (6) serve in any other capacity deemed appropriate by the chief of
24 police or other executive head of the department or force.

25 c. A sexual violence liaison officer shall complete specialized
26 sexual violence training as specified by the chief of police or other
27 executive head of the county police department and force.

28 d. An officer of the department or force shall be disqualified from
29 serving as a sexual violence liaison officer if:

30 (1) the officer ¹**[has been]** is¹ the subject of an investigation ¹for a
31 complaint charging a violation of the internal rules and regulations
32 established for the conduct of the department and force¹ regarding
33 sexual violence, sexual misconduct, domestic violence, stalking, or
34 sexual harassment ¹or there are pending criminal charges against the
35 officer for any of these offenses¹; or

36 (2) a court has issued a protective or restraining order against the
37 officer.

38 e. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the sexual ¹**[assault]**
39 violence¹ liaison officer from simultaneously serving as a domestic
40 violence liaison officer or a Megan's Law resource officer.

41 ¹f. Nothing in this section shall preclude a county department and
42 force from:

43 (1) appointing more than one sexual violence liaison officer; or

44 (2) appointing the sexual violence liaison officer of another
45 municipal or county department and force as the liaison officer for the
46 department and force provided the liaison officer can adequately

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1 perform the duties of the office pursuant to subsection b. of this
2 section.¹

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4 4. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
5 next following enactment.