

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H3/11/21 H4/1/21
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1680

By: Representatives Richardson, Slape, Dotson
By: Senator B. Davis

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING CRITICAL INCIDENT DEBRIEFING FOR
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING CRITICAL INCIDENT DEBRIEFING
FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 6, Subchapter 7, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-6-702. Critical incident debriefing.

(a) As used in this section, "critical incident" means an event that has a stressful impact sufficient to overwhelm a person's usually effective coping skills, including an event that falls outside the range of ordinary human experience.

(b) A law enforcement agency shall adopt a policy that:

(1) May require a law enforcement officer who has been involved in a critical incident to participate in a debriefing by a mental health professional or a certified peer support member as defined under § 16-40-106; and

(2) Shall require the law enforcement agency to assist a law enforcement officer who has been involved in a critical incident in obtaining additional services that may assist the law enforcement officer in recovering from psychological effects resulting from the critical incident.



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-9-102, concerning definitions used in regards to the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(4) "Critical incident" means the same as defined in § 12-6-702.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 12-9-118(b)(2), concerning policies for a law enforcement agency, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The proposed or enacted law enforcement agency policies, including without limitation policies regarding:

- (A) Use of force;
- (B) Vehicle pursuit;
- (C) Professional conduct of law enforcement officers to be employed by the law enforcement agency; ~~and~~
- (D) Biased-based policing; and
- (E) Critical incident debriefing;

/s/Richardson

APPROVED: 4/19/21