

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 1000 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: S3/20/25

**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 355

By: Senator J. Bryant  
By: Representative Underwood

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF OBSTRUCTING  
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE OF  
OBSTRUCTING GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 5-54-102 is amended to read as follows:

5-54-102. Obstructing governmental operations.

(a) A person commits the offense of obstructing governmental operations if the person:

(1) Knowingly obstructs, impairs, or hinders the performance of any governmental function;

(2) Knowingly refuses to provide information requested by an employee of a governmental agency relating to the investigation of a case brought under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 651 et seq., and is the physical custodian of the child in the case;

(3) Fails to submit to court-ordered scientific testing by a noninvasive procedure to determine the paternity of a child in a case brought under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 651 et seq.; ~~or~~

(4) Falsely identifies himself or herself to a law enforcement officer or a code enforcement officer; or

(5) Having received in person service of a subpoena issued by a judge or a court clerk, knowingly fails to appear to testify at a trial or



court hearing in a criminal matter.

(b)(1) Obstructing governmental operations by using or threatening to use physical force is a Class A misdemeanor.

(2) A second or subsequent offense of obstructing governmental operations under subdivision (a)(4) of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

(3) The offense of obstructing governmental operations under subdivision (a)(5) of this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

(4) Otherwise, obstructing governmental operations is a Class C misdemeanor.

(c) This section does not apply to:

(1) Unlawful flight by a person charged with an offense;  
(2) Refusal to submit to arrest;  
(3) Any means of avoiding compliance with the law not involving affirmative interference with a governmental function unless specifically set forth in this section; or

(4) Obstruction, impairment, or hindrance of what a person reasonably believes is a public servant's unlawful action.

(d)(1) As used in this section, "code enforcement officer" means an individual charged with the duty of enforcing a municipal code, municipal ordinance, or municipal regulation as defined by a municipal code, municipal ordinance, or municipal regulation.

(2) "Code enforcement officer" includes a municipal animal control officer.

*/s/J. Bryant*

**APPROVED: 4/22/25**