

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1599

By: Representative C. Douglas

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND LAWS CONCERNING THE VICTIM
INFORMATION PROVIDED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT IN CASES
INVOLVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; TO PROVIDE FOR THE
CREATION OF "LAURA'S CARD"; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND LAWS CONCERNING THE VICTIM
INFORMATION PROVIDED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT
IN CASES INVOLVING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; AND
TO PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION OF "LAURA'S
CARD".

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-90-1107(a), concerning information provided by law enforcement to a crime victim, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) After initial contact between a victim or a victim's family and a law enforcement agency responsible for investigating a crime, the law enforcement agency shall promptly give ~~in writing to~~ the victim and, if applicable, the victim's family, a preprinted document to be known as "Laura's Card" that clearly states the following:

~~(1)~~(A) An explanation of the victim's rights under this subchapter; and

~~(2)~~(B) Information concerning the availability of:

~~(A)~~(i) Assistance to victims, including medical, housing, counseling, financial, social, legal, and emergency services;

~~(B)~~(ii) Compensation for victims under the Arkansas



Crime Victims Reparations Act, § 16-90-701 et seq., and the name, street address, and telephone number of the agency to contact;

~~(C)(iii)~~ Protection of the victim, including protective court orders; and

~~(D)(iv)~~ Access by the victim and the defendant to public records related to the case.

(2) The law enforcement officer who provides the Laura's Card to a victim is required to provide the law enforcement officer's, badge number, and contact information on Laura's Card.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 16-90-1107, concerning information provided by law enforcement to a crime victim, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) As used in this section, "law enforcement agency" includes without limitation a college or university police department.