
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Crime victim property retrieval fees

- Prohibits a law enforcement agency from charging a victim a property retrieval fee if the property was taken during an investigation.

Sexual assault examination kits access and information

- Permits a victim to request information on the status of the victim's sexual assault examination kit from the appropriate official with custody of the kit and have that information delivered in a format specified by the victim.
- Defines "victim" as a person from whom a sexual assault examination kit was collected.
- Requires that notice of the destruction or disposal of a kit must be delivered to a victim who has requested notice not later than 60 days before the date of the intended destruction or disposal of a kit.
- Permits a victim to request that the victim's sexual assault examination kit or its probative contents be preserved beyond the intended destruction or disposal date for up to 30 years.
- Requires government evidence-retention entities to submit annual reports to the Attorney General regarding sexual assault examination kit inventory.
- Requires the Attorney General to compile the annual reports from government evidence-retention entities into a summary report to be made public and reported to the Governor, Speaker of the House, and Senate President.

Reimbursement for continuing professional training

- Requires that every appointing authority must require each appointed peace officer and trooper to complete a minimum of 24 hours of continuing professional training each year.
- Requires that a minimum of 24 hours of continuing professional training must be reimbursed each year, and that a maximum of 40 hours of continuing professional training may be reimbursed each year.

Crime victim property retrieval fees

(R.C. 2930.11)

The bill prohibits a law enforcement agency responsible for investigating a crime from requiring a victim to pay any charge as a condition of retrieving any property of the victim that was taken in the course of the investigation.

Sexual assault examination kits access and information

(R.C. 109.42, 109.68, 2933.82, and 2933.821)

Under the bill, a victim, defined as a person from whom a sexual assault examination kit was collected, may request the following information from the appropriate official with custody of the kit:

- Information regarding the testing date and results of the kit;
- Whether a DNA profile was obtained from the kit;
- Whether a match was found to that DNA profile in state or federal databases;
- The estimated destruction date of the kit.

The victim may designate the delivery method for this information to be in writing, by email, or by telephone. The appropriate official must notify the victim in the manner of the victim's choosing when there is any change in the status of the case, including if the case has been closed or reopened. A victim may also request notice of the destruction or disposal date of the kit. If a victim requests notice of the destruction or disposal of a kit, that notice must be delivered not later than 60 days before the date of the intended destruction or disposal.

Under the bill, a victim may request that the kit or its probative contents be preserved beyond the intended destruction or disposal date for a period of up to 30 years. Additionally, in providing any of the information that may be requested by the victim as listed above, the appropriate official with custody of the kit must provide the victim with information about the victim's right to apply for an award of reparations pursuant to existing law.

Within 180 days after the bill's effective date, and annually thereafter, all governmental evidence-retention entities that receive, maintain, store, or preserve sexual assault evidence kits must submit a report to the Attorney General containing the following information:

- The total number of all tested and untested sexual assault examination kits in their possession, and for each untested kit whether the sexual assault was reported to law enforcement or whether the victim chose not to file a report with law enforcement.
- If the entity is a medical facility, the date each untested sexual assault examination kit was reported to law enforcement, if applicable, and the date the kit was delivered to the medical facility.
- If the entity is a law enforcement agency, the date each untested sexual assault examination kit was received from a medical facility, the date it was submitted to a crime laboratory, or for any kit not submitted to a crime laboratory, the reason the kit was not submitted.
- If an untested sexual assault examination kit belongs to another jurisdiction, the date that jurisdiction was notified and the date the kit was retrieved by that jurisdiction, if applicable.
- If the entity is a crime laboratory:

- The date each sexual assault examination kit was received from law enforcement and from which agency the kit was received;
- The date the kit was tested, if applicable;
- The date the kit test results were entered into the combined DNA index system (CODIS) or other relevant state or local DNA databases, if applicable, or if a DNA profile has not been created, the reason it was not created;
- For untested kits, the reason the kit has not been tested;
- The total number of kits in possession of the entity for more than 30 days;
- The total number of kits destroyed and the reason for the destruction.

The Attorney General must compile the data from all of the reports into a summary report, including a list of all governmental evidence-retention entities that failed to participate in the report's preparation. The annual summary report must be made public on the Attorney General's website, and submitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the Senate President.

Reimbursement for continuing professional training

(R.C. 109.803)

The bill requires that every appointing authority must require each appointed peace officer and trooper to complete 24 hours of continuing professional training each year. Twenty-four hours is intended to be a minimum requirement, and appointing authorities are encouraged to exceed the minimum. A minimum of 24 hours of continuing professional training must be reimbursed each year and a maximum of 40 hours of continuing professional training may be reimbursed each calendar year.

Under current law, every appointing authority must require each appointed peace officer and trooper to complete up to 24 hours of continuing professional training each year as directed by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission. The Commission must set the required minimum number of hours based on available funding for reimbursement. If no funding for reimbursement is available, no continuing professional training will be required.