CS/CS/HB 233 2023

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the next of kin of deceased minors; 3 providing a short title; amending s. 960.001, F.S.; defining the term "next of kin"; requiring law 4 5 enforcement agencies to provide certain information 6 during the investigation of the death of a minor; 7 providing an exception; providing construction; 8 providing an effective date. 9 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 11 This act may be cited as "Curtis' Law." 12 Section 1. 13 Section 2. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (1) of section 960.001, Florida Statutes, to read: 14 960.001 Guidelines for fair treatment of victims and 15 16 witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems.-The Department of Legal Affairs, the state attorneys, 17 18 the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Florida Commission on Offender Review, the State 19 20 Courts Administrator and circuit court administrators, the 21 Department of Law Enforcement, and every sheriff's department, 22 police department, or other law enforcement agency as defined in

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s. 943.10(4) shall develop and implement guidelines for the use

with the purposes of this act and s. 16(b), Art. I of the State

of their respective agencies, which guidelines are consistent

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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Constitution and are designed to implement s. 16(b), Art. I of the State Constitution and to achieve the following objectives:

- (v) Information concerning an investigation into the death of a minor.—
- 1. For purposes of this paragraph, "next of kin" includes

 "family," "guardian," "next of kin," and "parent" as those terms

 are defined in s. 39.01.
- 2. During the investigation of the death of a minor, the law enforcement agency that initiates or bears the primary responsibility for the investigation must provide the minor's next of kin with all of the following information:
- a. The contact information for the primary contact, if known, for the particular investigation, and if more than one law enforcement agency is involved in the investigation, the contact information for at least one of the secondary law enforcement agencies involved in the investigation.
 - b. The case number for the investigation, if applicable.
- c. A list of the minor's personal effects that were found on or with the minor and information on how the minor's next of kin can collect such personal effects. A law enforcement agency may withhold the information in this sub-subparagraph if providing the information would jeopardize or otherwise interfere with an active investigation.
- d. Information regarding the status of the investigation, at the discretion of the law enforcement agency.

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| | 3. | This | para | agrap | h c | does | not | requi | re a | law | enfor | cemer | nt_ | |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|---------|------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-----|
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| investigation. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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- 4. This paragraph does not require a law enforcement agency to provide investigative records generated during its investigation to a minor's next of kin for inspection.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.