LEGISLATIVE ACTION Senate House Comm: RCS 03/20/2023

The Committee on Criminal Justice (Yarborough) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Present subsections (1) and (2) of section 112.531, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (2) and (3), respectively, and a new subsection (1) and subsection (4) are added to that section, to read:

112.531 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(1) "Brady identification system" means a list or

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identification, in whatever form, of the name or names of law enforcement or correctional officers about whom a prosecuting agency is in possession of impeachment evidence as defined by decision, statute, or rule.

(4) "Prosecuting agency" means the Attorney General or an assistant attorney general, the statewide prosecutor or an assistant statewide prosecutor, a state attorney or an assistant state attorney, a city or county attorney, a special prosecutor, or any other person or entity charged with the prosecution of a criminal case.

Section 2. Subsection (7) is added to section 112.532, Florida Statutes, to read:

- 112.532 Law enforcement officers' and correctional officers' rights.—All law enforcement officers and correctional officers employed by or appointed to a law enforcement agency or a correctional agency shall have the following rights and privileges:
- (7) RIGHTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS RELATING TO A BRADY IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM.-
- (a) A law enforcement officer or correctional officer has all of the rights specified in s. 112.536 relating to the inclusion of the name and information of the officer in a Brady identification system.
- (b) A law enforcement officer or correctional officer may not be discharged, suspended, demoted, or otherwise disciplined, or threatened with discharge, suspension, demotion, or other discipline, by his or her employing agency solely as a result of a prosecuting agency determining that the officer's name and information should be included in a Brady identification system.

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This paragraph does not prohibit an officer's employing agency from discharging, suspending, demoting, or taking other disciplinary action against a law enforcement officer or correctional officer based on the underlying actions of the officer which resulted in his or her inclusion in a Brady identification system. If a collective bargaining agreement applies, the actions taken by the officer's employing agency must conform to the rules and procedures adopted by the collective bargaining agreement.

Section 3. Section 112.536, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 112.536 Requirements for maintaining a Brady identification system.-
- (1) A prosecuting agency is not required to maintain a Brady identification system. A prosecuting agency may determine that its obligations under the Brady decision are better discharged through such procedures as that agency chooses to use.
- (2) A prosecuting agency that maintains a Brady identification system shall adopt written policies that, at a minimum, require all of the following:
- (a) The right of a law enforcement officer or a correctional officer to receive written notice through United States mail or e-mail to the current or last known employing agency of the officer, before or contemporaneously with a prosecuting agency including the name and information of the officer in a Brady identification system, unless a pending case requires immediate disclosure or providing notice would jeopardize a pending investigation.

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- (b) The right of a law enforcement officer or correctional officer to receive written notice before a prosecuting agency includes the name and information of the officer in a Brady identification system.
- (c) The right of a law enforcement officer or correctional officer to request reconsideration of the prosecuting agency's decision to include the name and information of the officer in a Brady identification system and his or her right to submit documents and evidence in support of the request for reconsideration.
- (3) If, after the policy provided in subsection (2) is followed, it is determined that the law enforcement officer or correctional officer in question should not be included in a Brady identification system, the prosecuting agency must send notice to the law enforcement officer or correctional officer and his or her employing agency that he or she has been removed from the Brady identification system.
- (4) If, after the policy provided in subsection (2) is followed, it is determined that the law enforcement officer or correctional officer in question should not be included in a Brady identification system, but his or her name was disclosed in a pending case, the prosecuting agency must take the necessary steps to notify the parties involved in the pending case of the law enforcement officer's or correctional officer's removal from the Brady identification system.
- (5) If a prosecuting agency fails to comply with this section, a law enforcement officer or a correctional officer may petition the court for a writ of mandamus to compel the prosecuting agency to act in accordance with this section. The



scope of such a hearing may not include a judicial review of the evidence or merits of an officer's inclusion in a Brady identification system, but instead must be limited to whether the prosecuting agency acted in accordance with the procedural requirements of this section. This section does not preclude the law enforcement officer or correctional officer from pursuing whatever administrative or judicial remedies are otherwise available to him or her in relation to any other action or remedy outside of this section.

- (6) This section does not:
- (a) Limit the duty of a prosecuting agency to produce Brady evidence in all cases as required by the United States Constitution, the State Constitution, and the Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure and relevant case law;
- (b) Limit or restrict a prosecuting agency's ability to remove the name and information of a law enforcement officer or correctional officer from a Brady identification system if, at any time, the prosecuting agency determines that the name and information of the officer are no longer proper for identification; or
- (c) Create a private cause of action against a prosecuting agency or any employee of a prosecuting agency, other than the writ described in subsection (5).
 - Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

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123 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =========

124 And the title is amended as follows:

> Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:



127 A bill to be entitled 128 An act relating to rights of law enforcement officers 129 and correctional officers; amending s. 112.531, F.S.; 130 defining terms; amending s. 112.532, F.S.; providing 131 rights of law enforcement officers and correctional 132 officers relating to a Brady identification system; 133 prohibiting a law enforcement officer or correctional 134 officer from being discharged, suspended, demoted, or 135 otherwise disciplined for certain reasons; providing 136 construction; requiring the employing agency of a law 137 enforcement officer or correctional officer to conform 138 to certain rules and procedures; creating s. 112.536, 139 F.S.; providing that a prosecuting agency is not 140 required to maintain a Brady identification system; 141 authorizing a prosecuting agency to choose different 142 procedures to discharge its obligations under the 143 Brady decision; requiring a prosecuting agency that 144 maintains a Brady identification system to adopt 145 written policies; providing minimum requirements for 146 such policies; requiring a prosecuting agency to 147 provide certain notices to certain law enforcement officers or correctional officers and their employing 148 149 agency under certain conditions; requiring the 150 prosecuting agency to notify specified parties in a 151 pending case of the removal of the name of a law 152 enforcement officer or a correctional officer from the 153 Brady identification system under certain conditions; 154 authorizing a law enforcement officer or a 155 correctional officer to petition for a writ of



156	mandamus under certain circumstances; providing the
157	scope of the judicial review; providing construction;
158	providing an effective date.