



HB 0197

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to plea agreements; creating s. 921.1435,
F.S.; creating the "Officer Cheryl Seiden Act"; providing
notification with respect to plea agreements; providing a
definition; providing for application; providing an
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 921.1435, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

921.1435 Popular name; plea agreements; application.--

(1) This section shall be known by the popular name the
"Officer Cheryl Seiden Act."

(2) No plea agreement purporting to bind the present or
future action, judgment, or speech of a law enforcement officer
or law enforcement agency at any court hearing, sentencing
hearing, or parole hearing, or with regard to any investigation
shall be proffered to the court without reasonable notice having
first been afforded to the affected officer or duly authorized
representative of the affected law enforcement agency. For the
purposes of this section, the term "law enforcement officer" has
the same meaning as provided in s. 943.10. The legislature
hereby finds that such notice is essential to ensuring the trial
court is fully apprised of all the facts in order to exercise
appropriate discretion in accepting such plea. Failure to
provide such notice as required by this section is not grounds
to withdraw a plea.



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29 (3) This section is not intended to impair any right
30 afforded pursuant to chapter 960 or pursuant to s. 16(b), Art. I
31 of the State Constitution.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.