

By the Committee on Criminal Justice; and Senator Dean

591-02195-13

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to false reports to law enforcement
3 officers; amending s. 837.05, F.S.; providing that it
4 is a third degree felony to knowingly give false
5 information to a law enforcement officer concerning
6 the alleged commission of a crime if the defendant has
7 previously been convicted of such offense and the
8 information is communicated in writing, or, if the
9 information is communicated orally, the information is
10 corroborated in a specified manner; providing an
11 effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Section 837.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to
16 read:

17 837.05 False reports to law enforcement authorities.—

18 (1) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or subsection
19 (2), a person who ~~whoever~~ knowingly gives false information to a
20 ~~any~~ law enforcement officer concerning the alleged commission of
21 any crime, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable
22 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

23 (b) A person who commits a violation of paragraph (a)
24 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
25 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the person has
26 previously been convicted of a violation of paragraph (a) and
27 subparagraph 1. or 2. applies:

28 1. The information the person gave to the law enforcement
29 officer was communicated orally and the officer's account of

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30 that information is corroborated by:

31 (a) An audio recording or audio recording in a video of
32 that information;

33 (b) A written or recorded statement made by the person who
34 gave that information; or

35 (c) Another person who was present when the person gave
36 that information to the officer and heard that information.

37 2. The information the person gave to the law enforcement
38 officer was communicated in writing.

39 (2) A person who ~~Whoever~~ knowingly gives false information
40 to a law enforcement officer concerning the alleged commission
41 of a capital felony, commits a felony of the third degree,
42 punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

43 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.