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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

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Floor: 1/RE/2R

04/24/2025 01:10 PM

Senator Martin moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 836.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

836.12 Threats or harassment.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Administrative assistant" means a court employee
assigned to the office of a general or special magistrate or a
child support enforcement hearing officer.



927950

(b) "Family member" means:

1. An individual related to another individual by blood or marriage; or

2. An individual who stands in loco parentis to another individual.

~~(c)~~ ~~(b)~~ "Judicial assistant" means a court employee assigned to the office of a specific judge or justice responsible for providing administrative, secretarial, and clerical support to the assigned judge or justice.

~~(d)~~ ~~(e)~~ "Law enforcement officer" means:

1. A law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10; or

2. A federal law enforcement officer as defined in s. 901.1505.

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), any person who knowingly and willfully threatens a law enforcement officer, a state attorney, an assistant state attorney, a firefighter, a judge, a justice, a general magistrate, a special magistrate, a child support enforcement hearing officer, an administrative assistant, a judicial assistant, a clerk of the court, clerk personnel, or an elected official, or a family member of any such person, with death or serious bodily harm commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(b) A person who commits a second or subsequent violation of paragraph (a) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(3) Any person who knowingly and willfully harasses a law enforcement officer, a state attorney, an assistant state attorney, a firefighter, a judge, a justice, a general



927950

magistrate, a special magistrate, a child support enforcement hearing officer, an administrative assistant, a judicial assistant, a clerk of the court, clerk personnel, or an elected official, with the intent to intimidate or coerce such a person to perform or refrain from performing a lawful duty, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. Section 918.115, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

918.115 Definitions; ss. 918.12-918.125.—As used in ss. 918.12-918.125, the term:

(1) "Administrative assistant" means a court employee assigned to the office of a specific general or special magistrate or a child support enforcement hearing officer.

(2) "Bodily injury" means a cut, an abrasion, a bruise, a burn, or a disfigurement; physical pain; illness; impairment of the function of a bodily member, an organ, or a mental faculty; or any other injury to the body, regardless of how temporary.

(3) "Court official" means any judge, justice, general magistrate, special magistrate, grand juror, petit juror, clerk of the court, deputy clerk of the court, judicial assistant, administrative assistant, attorney, child support enforcement hearing officer, bailiff, or court deputy.

(4) "Harass" means to engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person which causes substantial emotional distress in that person and serves no legitimate purpose.

(5) "Judicial assistant" means a court employee assigned to the office of a specific judge or justice responsible for providing administrative, secretarial, or clerical support to



927950

the assigned judge or justice.

(6) "Misleading conduct" means any of the following:

(a) Knowingly making a false statement.

(b) Intentionally omitting information from a statement and thereby causing a portion of such statement to be misleading, or intentionally concealing a material fact and thereby creating a false impression by such statement.

(c) With the intent to mislead, knowingly submitting or inviting reliance on a writing or recording that is false, forged, altered, or otherwise lacking in authenticity.

(d) With the intent to mislead, knowingly submitting or inviting reliance on a sample, specimen, map, photograph, boundary mark, or other object that is misleading in a material respect.

(e) Knowingly using a trick, scheme, or device with the intent to mislead.

(7) "Official investigation" means any investigation instituted by a law enforcement agency or prosecuting officer of the state or a political subdivision of the state or by the Commission on Ethics.

(8) "Official proceeding" means any proceeding before a judge or court or a grand jury.

(9) "Physical force" means physical action against another person and includes confinement of a person.

Section 3. Section 918.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

918.12 Tampering with or harassing a court official jurors.—

(1) TAMPERING WITH A COURT OFFICIAL.—



927950

(a) A person who knowingly commits any of the following acts with the intent to cause or induce any court official to obstruct the administration of justice or affect the outcome of an official investigation or official proceeding, commits the crime of tampering with a court official:

1. Uses intimidation or physical force;
2. Threatens any person or attempts to do so;
3. Engages in misleading conduct toward any person; or
4. Offers pecuniary benefit or gain to any person.

(b) A person who violates paragraph (a) commits:

1. A felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the offense level of the affected official investigation or official proceeding is indeterminable.

2. A felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a misdemeanor or noncriminal matter pending in county court.

3. A felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the third degree or noncriminal matter pending in circuit court.

4. A felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the second degree.

5. A felony of the first degree, punishable by a term of



927950

years not exceeding life or as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the first degree or a felony of the first degree punishable by a term of years not exceeding life.

6. A life felony, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a life or capital felony.

(2) HARASSING A COURT OFFICIAL.—

(a) A person who intentionally harasses a court official and thereby hinders, delays, prevents, or dissuades, or attempts to hinder, delay, prevent, or dissuade a court official from performing any of the following acts commits the crime of harassing a court official:

1. Attending an official proceeding;

2. Rendering a fair verdict based solely upon the evidence produced at an official proceeding and upon the law; or

3. Following the rules of juror behavior and deliberation as set forth by the judge.

(b) A person who violates paragraph (a) commits:

1. A misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a misdemeanor or noncriminal matter pending in county court.

2. A felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the offense level of the affected official investigation or official proceeding is



927950

indeterminable.

3. A felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the third degree or any noncriminal matter pending in circuit court.

4. A felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the second degree.

5. A felony of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the first degree.

6. A felony of the first degree, punishable by a term of years not exceeding life or as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the official investigation or official proceeding affected involves the investigation or prosecution of a felony of the first degree punishable by a term of years not exceeding life or a prosecution of a life or capital felony.

(3) APPLICABILITY.—This section does not apply to the actions of an attorney acting in the performance of his or her duties ~~Any person who influences the judgment or decision of any grand or petit juror on any matter, question, cause, or proceeding which may be pending, or which may by law be brought, before him or her as such juror, with intent to obstruct the administration of justice, shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083,~~



927950

~~or s. 775.084.~~

Section 4. Section 918.125, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

918.125 Retaliating against a court official.—

(1) A person who, with the intent to retaliate against a court official for his or her participation in an official investigation or official proceeding, commits any of the following acts commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:

(a) Knowingly engages in any conduct that threatens to cause bodily injury to another person; or

(b) Damages the tangible property of another person or threatens to do so.

(2) If the conduct described in subsection (1) results in bodily injury, such person commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 772.102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

772.102 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

(1) "Criminal activity" means to commit, to attempt to commit, to conspire to commit, or to solicit, coerce, or intimidate another person to commit:

(a) Any crime that is chargeable by indictment or information under the following provisions:

1. Section 210.18, relating to evasion of payment of cigarette taxes.

2. Section 414.39, relating to public assistance fraud.

3. Section 440.105 or s. 440.106, relating to workers'



927950

compensation.

4. Part IV of chapter 501, relating to telemarketing.

5. Chapter 517, relating to securities transactions.

6. Section 550.235 or s. 550.3551, relating to dogracing and horseracing.

7. Chapter 550, relating to jai alai frontons.

8. Chapter 552, relating to the manufacture, distribution, and use of explosives.

9. Chapter 562, relating to beverage law enforcement.

10. Section 624.401, relating to transacting insurance without a certificate of authority, s. 624.437(4)(c)1., relating to operating an unauthorized multiple-employer welfare arrangement, or s. 626.902(1)(b), relating to representing or aiding an unauthorized insurer.

11. Chapter 687, relating to interest and usurious practices.

12. Section 721.08, s. 721.09, or s. 721.13, relating to real estate timeshare plans.

13. Chapter 782, relating to homicide.

14. Chapter 784, relating to assault and battery.

15. Chapter 787, relating to kidnapping or human trafficking.

16. Chapter 790, relating to weapons and firearms.

17. Former s. 796.03, s. 796.04, s. 796.05, or s. 796.07, relating to prostitution.

18. Chapter 806, relating to arson.

19. Section 810.02(2)(c), relating to specified burglary of a dwelling or structure.

20. Chapter 812, relating to theft, robbery, and related



927950

crimes.

21. Chapter 815, relating to computer-related crimes.

22. Chapter 817, relating to fraudulent practices, false pretenses, fraud generally, and credit card crimes.

23. Section 827.071, relating to commercial sexual exploitation of children.

24. Chapter 831, relating to forgery and counterfeiting.

25. Chapter 832, relating to issuance of worthless checks and drafts.

26. Section 836.05, relating to extortion.

27. Chapter 837, relating to perjury.

28. Chapter 838, relating to bribery and misuse of public office.

29. Chapter 843, relating to obstruction of justice.

30. Section 847.011, s. 847.012, s. 847.013, s. 847.06, or s. 847.07, relating to obscene literature and profanity.

31. Section 849.09, s. 849.14, s. 849.15, s. 849.23, or s. 849.25, relating to gambling.

32. Chapter 893, relating to drug abuse prevention and control.

33. Section 914.22 or s. 914.23, relating to witnesses, victims, or informants.

34. Section 918.12, s. 918.125, or s. 918.13, relating to tampering with or harassing court officials, retaliating against court officials, ~~jurors~~ and tampering with evidence.

Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 895.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

895.02 Definitions.—As used in ss. 895.01-895.08, the term:

(8) "Racketeering activity" means to commit, to attempt to



927950

commit, to conspire to commit, or to solicit, coerce, or
intimidate another person to commit:

(a) Any crime that is chargeable by petition, indictment,
or information under the following provisions of the Florida
Statutes:

1. Section 104.155(2), relating to aiding or soliciting a
noncitizen in voting.

2. Section 210.18, relating to evasion of payment of
cigarette taxes.

3. Section 316.1935, relating to fleeing or attempting to
elude a law enforcement officer and aggravated fleeing or
eluding.

4. Chapter 379, relating to the illegal sale, purchase,
collection, harvest, capture, or possession of wild animal life,
freshwater aquatic life, or marine life, and related crimes.

5. Section 403.727(3)(b), relating to environmental
control.

6. Section 409.920 or s. 409.9201, relating to Medicaid
fraud.

7. Section 414.39, relating to public assistance fraud.

8. Section 440.105 or s. 440.106, relating to workers'
compensation.

9. Section 443.071(4), relating to creation of a fictitious
employer scheme to commit reemployment assistance fraud.

10. Section 465.0161, relating to distribution of medicinal
drugs without a permit as an Internet pharmacy.

11. Section 499.0051, relating to crimes involving
contraband, adulterated, or misbranded drugs.

12. Part IV of chapter 501, relating to telemarketing.



927950

- 302 13. Chapter 517, relating to sale of securities and
303 investor protection.
- 304 14. Section 550.235 or s. 550.3551, relating to dogracing
305 and horseracing.
- 306 15. Chapter 550, relating to jai alai frontons.
- 307 16. Section 551.109, relating to slot machine gaming.
- 308 17. Chapter 552, relating to the manufacture, distribution,
309 and use of explosives.
- 310 18. Chapter 560, relating to money transmitters, if the
311 violation is punishable as a felony.
- 312 19. Chapter 562, relating to beverage law enforcement.
- 313 20. Section 624.401, relating to transacting insurance
314 without a certificate of authority, s. 624.437(4)(c)1., relating
315 to operating an unauthorized multiple-employer welfare
316 arrangement, or s. 626.902(1)(b), relating to representing or
317 aiding an unauthorized insurer.
- 318 21. Section 655.50, relating to reports of currency
319 transactions, when such violation is punishable as a felony.
- 320 22. Chapter 687, relating to interest and usurious
321 practices.
- 322 23. Section 721.08, s. 721.09, or s. 721.13, relating to
323 real estate timeshare plans.
- 324 24. Section 775.13(5)(b), relating to registration of
325 persons found to have committed any offense for the purpose of
326 benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of a criminal
327 gang.
- 328 25. Section 777.03, relating to commission of crimes by
329 accessories after the fact.
- 330 26. Chapter 782, relating to homicide.



927950

- 331 27. Chapter 784, relating to assault and battery.
- 332 28. Chapter 787, relating to kidnapping, human smuggling,
333 or human trafficking.
- 334 29. Chapter 790, relating to weapons and firearms.
- 335 30. Chapter 794, relating to sexual battery, but only if
336 such crime was committed with the intent to benefit, promote, or
337 further the interests of a criminal gang, or for the purpose of
338 increasing a criminal gang member's own standing or position
339 within a criminal gang.
- 340 31. Former s. 796.03, former s. 796.035, s. 796.04, s.
341 796.05, or s. 796.07, relating to prostitution.
- 342 32. Chapter 806, relating to arson and criminal mischief.
- 343 33. Chapter 810, relating to burglary and trespass.
- 344 34. Chapter 812, relating to theft, robbery, and related
345 crimes.
- 346 35. Chapter 815, relating to computer-related crimes.
- 347 36. Chapter 817, relating to fraudulent practices, false
348 pretenses, fraud generally, credit card crimes, and patient
349 brokering.
- 350 37. Chapter 825, relating to abuse, neglect, or
351 exploitation of an elderly person or disabled adult.
- 352 38. Section 827.071, relating to commercial sexual
353 exploitation of children.
- 354 39. Section 828.122, relating to fighting or baiting
355 animals.
- 356 40. Chapter 831, relating to forgery and counterfeiting.
- 357 41. Chapter 832, relating to issuance of worthless checks
358 and drafts.
- 359 42. Section 836.05, relating to extortion.



927950

43. Chapter 837, relating to perjury.

44. Chapter 838, relating to bribery and misuse of public office.

45. Chapter 843, relating to obstruction of justice.

46. Section 847.011, s. 847.012, s. 847.013, s. 847.06, or s. 847.07, relating to obscene literature and profanity.

47. Chapter 849, relating to gambling, lottery, gambling or gaming devices, slot machines, or any of the provisions within that chapter.

48. Chapter 874, relating to criminal gangs.

49. Chapter 893, relating to drug abuse prevention and control.

50. Chapter 896, relating to offenses related to financial transactions.

51. Sections 914.22 and 914.23, relating to tampering with or harassing a witness, victim, or informant, and retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant.

52. Sections 918.12, 918.125, and 918.13, relating to tampering with or harassing court official, retaliating against court officials, ~~jurors~~ and tampering with evidence.

Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 921.0022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking chart.—

(3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

(d) LEVEL 4

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
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927950

387

104.155

3rd

Unqualified noncitizen
electors voting; aiding
or soliciting noncitizen
electors in voting.

388

316.1935 (3) (a)

2nd

Driving at high speed or
with wanton disregard
for safety while fleeing
or attempting to elude
law enforcement officer
who is in a patrol
vehicle with siren and
lights activated.

389

499.0051 (1)

3rd

Failure to maintain or
deliver transaction
history, transaction
information, or
transaction statements.

390

499.0051 (5)

2nd

Knowing sale or
delivery, or possession
with intent to sell,
contraband prescription
drugs.

391

517.07 (1)

3rd

Failure to register
securities.



927950

392	517.12 (1)	3rd	Failure of dealer or associated person of a dealer of securities to register.
393	784.031	3rd	Battery by strangulation.
394	784.07 (2) (b)	3rd	Battery of law enforcement officer, firefighter, etc.
395	784.074 (1) (c)	3rd	Battery of sexually violent predators facility staff.
396	784.075	3rd	Battery on detention or commitment facility staff.
397	784.078	3rd	Battery of facility employee by throwing, tossing, or expelling certain fluids or materials.
398	784.08 (2) (c)	3rd	Battery on a person 65 years of age or older.



927950

399	784.081 (3)	3rd	Battery on specified official or employee.
400	784.082 (3)	3rd	Battery by detained person on visitor or other detainee.
401	784.083 (3)	3rd	Battery on code inspector.
402	784.085	3rd	Battery of child by throwing, tossing, projecting, or expelling certain fluids or materials.
403	787.03 (1)	3rd	Interference with custody; wrongly takes minor from appointed guardian.
404	787.04 (2)	3rd	Take, entice, or remove child beyond state limits with criminal intent pending custody proceedings.
405	787.04 (3)	3rd	Carrying child beyond



927950

state lines with
criminal intent to avoid
producing child at
custody hearing or
delivering to designated
person.

406

787.07

3rd

Human smuggling.

407

790.115 (1)

3rd

Exhibiting firearm or
weapon within 1,000 feet
of a school.

408

790.115 (2) (b)

3rd

Possessing electric
weapon or device,
destructive device, or
other weapon on school
property.

409

790.115 (2) (c)

3rd

Possessing firearm on
school property.

410

794.051 (1)

3rd

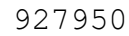
Indecent, lewd, or
lascivious touching of
certain minors.

411

800.04 (7) (c)

3rd

Lewd or lascivious
exhibition; offender
less than 18 years.



33-03863-25



927950

than \$20,000.

419

812.014
(2) (c) 4. &
6.-10.

3rd

Grand theft, 3rd degree;
specified items.

420

812.014 (2) (d) 2.

3rd

Grand theft, 3rd degree;
\$750 or more taken from
dwelling or its
unenclosed curtilage.

421

812.014 (2) (e) 3.

3rd

Petit theft, 1st degree;
less than \$40 taken from
dwelling or its
unenclosed curtilage
with two or more prior
theft convictions.

422

812.0195 (2)

3rd

Dealing in stolen
property by use of the
Internet; property
stolen \$300 or more.

423

817.505 (4) (a)

3rd

Patient brokering.

424

817.563 (1)

3rd

Sell or deliver
substance other than
controlled substance
agreed upon, excluding



927950

s. 893.03(5) drugs.

425

817.568 (2) (a)

3rd

Fraudulent use of
personal identification
information.

426

817.5695 (3) (c)

3rd

Exploitation of person
65 years of age or
older, value less than
\$10,000.

427

817.625 (2) (a)

3rd

Fraudulent use of
scanning device,
skimming device, or
reencoder.

428

817.625 (2) (c)

3rd

Possess, sell, or
deliver skimming device.

429

828.125 (1)

2nd

Kill, maim, or cause
great bodily harm or
permanent breeding
disability to any
registered horse or
cattle.

430

836.14 (2)

3rd

Person who commits theft
of a sexually explicit
image with intent to



927950

promote it.

431

836.14 (3)

3rd

Person who willfully
possesses a sexually
explicit image with
certain knowledge,
intent, and purpose.

432

837.02 (1)

3rd

Perjury in official
proceedings.

433

837.021 (1)

3rd

Make contradictory
statements in official
proceedings.

434

838.022

3rd

Official misconduct.

435

839.13 (2) (a)

3rd

Falsifying records of an
individual in the care
and custody of a state
agency.

436

839.13 (2) (c)

3rd

Falsifying records of
the Department of
Children and Families.

437

843.021

3rd

Possession of a
concealed handcuff key
by a person in custody.



927950

438

843.025	3rd	Deprive law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officer of means of protection or communication.
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439

843.15 (1) (a)	3rd	Failure to appear while on bail for felony (bond estreature or bond jumping).
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440

843.19 (2)	2nd	Injure, disable, or kill police, fire, or SAR canine or police horse.
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441

847.0135 (5) (c)	3rd	Lewd or lascivious exhibition using computer; offender less than 18 years.
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442

870.01 (3)	2nd	Aggravated rioting.
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443

870.01 (5)	2nd	Aggravated inciting a riot.
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444

874.05 (1) (a)	3rd	Encouraging or recruiting another to
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927950

join a criminal gang.

445

893.13 (2) (a) 1.

2nd

Purchase of cocaine (or
other s. 893.03 (1) (a),
(b), or (d), (2) (a),
(2) (b), or (2) (c) 5.
drugs).

446

914.14 (2)

3rd

Witnesses accepting
bribes.

447

914.22 (1)

3rd

Force, threaten, etc.,
witness, victim, or
informant.

448

914.23 (2)

3rd

Retaliation against a
witness, victim, or
informant, no bodily
injury.

449

916.1085
(2) (c) 1.

3rd

Introduction of
specified contraband
into certain DCF
facilities.

450

~~918.12~~

~~3rd~~

~~Tampering with jurors.~~

451

934.215

3rd

Use of two-way
communications device to



927950

facilitate commission of
a crime.

944.47(1)(a)6.

3rd

Introduction of
contraband (cellular
telephone or other
portable communication
device) into
correctional
institution.

951.22(1)(h),
(j) & (k)

3rd

Intoxicating drug,
instrumentality or other
device to aid escape, or
cellular telephone or
other portable
communication device
introduced into county
detention facility.

Section 8. This act shall take effect October 1, 2025.

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to tampering with, harassing, or



927950

retaliating against court officials; amending s.
836.12, F.S.; defining the term "administrative
assistant"; providing criminal penalties for persons
who knowingly and willfully threaten specified court
personnel; providing criminal penalties for persons
who knowingly and willfully harass specified court
personnel with certain intent; creating s. 918.115,
F.S.; defining terms; amending s. 918.12, F.S.;
providing criminal penalties for persons who knowingly
with certain intent tamper with court officials;
providing criminal penalties for persons who
intentionally harass court officials when such
harassment has a specified outcome; providing
applicability; creating s. 918.125, F.S.; providing
criminal penalties for persons who retaliate against
court officials for their participation in official
investigations or proceedings; providing enhanced
criminal penalties if the retaliation results in
bodily injury; amending ss. 772.102, 895.02, and
921.0022, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made
by the act; providing an effective date.