

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to aggravated animal cruelty;
 3 providing a short title; amending s. 921.0024, F.S.;
 4 providing a sentencing multiplier for specified
 5 offenses of aggravated animal cruelty; providing
 6 applicability; providing an effective date.

7
 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9
 10 **Section 1.** This act may be cited as "Dexter's Law."

11 **Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 921.0024, Florida**
 12 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

13 921.0024 Criminal Punishment Code; worksheet computations;
 14 scoresheets.—

15 (1) (a) The Criminal Punishment Code worksheet is used to
 16 compute the subtotal and total sentence points as follows:

17 FLORIDA CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT CODE

18 WORKSHEET

19 OFFENSE SCORE

20

21 Primary Offense

22 Level	Sentence Points		Total
10	116	=

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23	9	92	=
24	8	74	=
25	7	56	=
26	6	36	=
27	5	28	=
28	4	22	=
29	3	16	=
30	2	10	=
31	1	4	=

Total

Additional Offenses

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36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47

Level	Sentence Points		Counts		Total
10	58	x	=
9	46	x	=
8	37	x	=
7	28	x	=
6	18	x	=
5	5.4	x	=
4	3.6	x	=
3	2.4	x	=
2	1.2	x	=
1	0.7	x	=
M	0.2	x	=

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48						
49						Total
50						
51						
52		Victim Injury				
53	Level	Sentence Points		Number		Total
54	2nd degree murder- death	240	x	=
55	Death	120	x	=
56	Severe	40	x	=
57	Moderate	18	x	=
58	Slight	4	x	=
	Sexual penetration	80	x	=

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59

	Sexual					
60	contact	40	x	=
61						
62						Total
63	Primary Offense + Additional Offenses + Victim Injury =					
64	TOTAL OFFENSE SCORE					
65	PRIOR RECORD SCORE					
66	Prior Record					
67						
	Level	Sentence		Number		Total
		Points				
68	10	29	x	=
69	9	23	x	=
70	8	19	x	=
71	7	14	x	=
72						

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73	6	9	x	=
74	5	3.6	x	=
75	4	2.4	x	=
76	3	1.6	x	=
77	2	0.8	x	=
78	1	0.5	x	=
79	M	0.2	x	=

Total

- 81
- 82 TOTAL OFFENSE SCORE.....
- 83 TOTAL PRIOR RECORD SCORE.....
- 84 LEGAL STATUS.....
- 85 COMMUNITY SANCTION VIOLATION.....
- 86 PRIOR SERIOUS FELONY.....
- 87 PRIOR CAPITAL FELONY.....
- 88 FIREARM OR SEMIAUTOMATIC WEAPON.....

89		SUBTOTAL.....
90	PRISON RELEASEE REOFFENDER (no) (yes).....	
91	VIOLENT CAREER CRIMINAL (no) (yes).....	
92	HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER (no) (yes).....	
93	HABITUAL OFFENDER (no) (yes).....	
94	<u>AGGRAVATED ANIMAL CRUELTY (no) (yes) (x multiplier).....</u>	
95	DRUG TRAFFICKER (no) (yes) (x multiplier).....	
96	LAW ENF. PROTECT. (no) (yes) (x multiplier).....	
97	MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT (no) (yes) (x multiplier).....	
98	CRIMINAL GANG OFFENSE (no) (yes) (x multiplier).....	
99	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE PRESENCE OF RELATED CHILD (no) (yes)	
100	(x multiplier).....	
101	ADULT-ON-MINOR SEX OFFENSE (no) (yes) (x multiplier).....	
102	
103		TOTAL SENTENCE POINTS.....

(b) WORKSHEET KEY:

Legal status points are assessed when any form of legal status existed at the time the offender committed an offense before the court for sentencing. Four (4) sentence points are assessed for an offender's legal status.

Community sanction violation points are assessed when a community sanction violation is before the court for sentencing. Six (6) sentence points are assessed for each community sanction

114 violation and each successive community sanction violation,
 115 unless any of the following apply:

116 1. If the community sanction violation includes a new
 117 felony conviction before the sentencing court, twelve (12)
 118 community sanction violation points are assessed for the
 119 violation, and for each successive community sanction violation
 120 involving a new felony conviction.

121 2. If the community sanction violation is committed by a
 122 violent felony offender of special concern as defined in s.
 123 948.06:

124 a. Twelve (12) community sanction violation points are
 125 assessed for the violation and for each successive violation of
 126 felony probation or community control where:

127 I. The violation does not include a new felony conviction;
 128 and

129 II. The community sanction violation is not based solely
 130 on the probationer or offender's failure to pay costs or fines
 131 or make restitution payments.

132 b. Twenty-four (24) community sanction violation points
 133 are assessed for the violation and for each successive violation
 134 of felony probation or community control where the violation
 135 includes a new felony conviction.

136
 137 Multiple counts of community sanction violations before the
 138 sentencing court shall not be a basis for multiplying the

139 assessment of community sanction violation points.

140

141 Prior serious felony points: If the offender has a primary
142 offense or any additional offense ranked in level 8, level 9, or
143 level 10, and one or more prior serious felonies, a single
144 assessment of thirty (30) points shall be added. For purposes of
145 this section, a prior serious felony is an offense in the
146 offender's prior record that is ranked in level 8, level 9, or
147 level 10 under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 and for which the
148 offender is serving a sentence of confinement, supervision, or
149 other sanction or for which the offender's date of release from
150 confinement, supervision, or other sanction, whichever is later,
151 is within 3 years before the date the primary offense or any
152 additional offense was committed.

153

154 Prior capital felony points: If the offender has one or more
155 prior capital felonies in the offender's criminal record, points
156 shall be added to the subtotal sentence points of the offender
157 equal to twice the number of points the offender receives for
158 the primary offense and any additional offense. A prior capital
159 felony in the offender's criminal record is a previous capital
160 felony offense for which the offender has entered a plea of nolo
161 contendere or guilty or has been found guilty; or a felony in
162 another jurisdiction which is a capital felony in that
163 jurisdiction, or would be a capital felony if the offense were

164 committed in this state.

165

166 Possession of a firearm, semiautomatic firearm, or machine gun:

167 If the offender is convicted of committing or attempting to

168 commit any felony other than those enumerated in s. 775.087(2)

169 while having in his or her possession: a firearm as defined in

170 s. 790.001, an additional eighteen (18) sentence points are

171 assessed; or if the offender is convicted of committing or

172 attempting to commit any felony other than those enumerated in

173 s. 775.087(3) while having in his or her possession a

174 semiautomatic firearm as defined in s. 775.087(3) or a machine

175 gun as defined in s. 790.001, an additional twenty-five (25)

176 sentence points are assessed.

177

178 Sentencing multipliers:

179

180 Aggravated Animal Cruelty: If the primary offense is aggravated

181 animal cruelty under s. 828.12(2), which included the knowing

182 and intentional torture or torment of an animal that injured,

183 mutilated, or killed the animal, the subtotal sentence points

184 are multiplied by 1.25. As used in this paragraph, the term

185 "animal" does not include an animal used for agricultural

186 purposes or permitted as captive wildlife as authorized under s.

187 379.303.

188

189 Drug trafficking: If the primary offense is drug trafficking
190 under s. 893.135, the subtotal sentence points are multiplied,
191 at the discretion of the court, for a level 7 or level 8
192 offense, by 1.5. The state attorney may move the sentencing
193 court to reduce or suspend the sentence of a person convicted of
194 a level 7 or level 8 offense, if the offender provides
195 substantial assistance as described in s. 893.135(4).
196

197 Violent offenses committed against specified justice system
198 personnel: If the primary offense is a violation of s.
199 775.0823(2), (3), or (4), the subtotal sentence points are
200 multiplied by 2.5. If the primary offense is a violation of s.
201 775.0823(5), (6), (7), (8), or (9), the subtotal sentence points
202 are multiplied by 2.0. If the primary offense is a violation of
203 s. 784.07(3) or s. 775.0875(1), or s. 775.0823(10) or (11), the
204 subtotal sentence points are multiplied by 1.5.
205

206 Grand theft of a motor vehicle: If the primary offense is grand
207 theft of the third degree involving a motor vehicle and in the
208 offender's prior record, there are three or more grand thefts of
209 the third degree involving a motor vehicle, the subtotal
210 sentence points are multiplied by 1.5.
211

212 Offense related to a criminal gang: If the offender is convicted
213 of the primary offense and committed that offense for the

214 purpose of benefiting, promoting, or furthering the interests of
215 a criminal gang as defined in s. 874.03, the subtotal sentence
216 points are multiplied by 1.5. If applying the multiplier results
217 in the lowest permissible sentence exceeding the statutory
218 maximum sentence for the primary offense under chapter 775, the
219 court may not apply the multiplier and must sentence the
220 defendant to the statutory maximum sentence.

221

222 Domestic violence in the presence of a child: If the offender is
223 convicted of the primary offense and the primary offense is a
224 crime of domestic violence, as defined in s. 741.28, which was
225 committed in the presence of a child under 16 years of age who
226 is a family or household member as defined in s. 741.28(3) with
227 the victim or perpetrator, the subtotal sentence points are
228 multiplied by 1.5.

229

230 Adult-on-minor sex offense: If the offender was 18 years of age
231 or older and the victim was younger than 18 years of age at the
232 time the offender committed the primary offense, and if the
233 primary offense was an offense committed on or after October 1,
234 2014, and is a violation of s. 787.01(2) or s. 787.02(2), if the
235 violation involved a victim who was a minor and, in the course
236 of committing that violation, the defendant committed a sexual
237 battery under chapter 794 or a lewd act under s. 800.04 or s.
238 847.0135(5) against the minor; s. 787.01(3)(a)2. or 3.; s.

239 787.02(3)(a)2. or 3.; s. 794.011, excluding s. 794.011(10); s.
240 800.04; or s. 847.0135(5), the subtotal sentence points are
241 multiplied by 2.0. If applying the multiplier results in the
242 lowest permissible sentence exceeding the statutory maximum
243 sentence for the primary offense under chapter 775, the court
244 may not apply the multiplier and must sentence the defendant to
245 the statutory maximum sentence.

246 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.