

537.051 MENACING BY STALKING.

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OH

Sheffield Lake

Codified Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH

537.051 MENACING BY STALKING.

CHAPTER 537 Offenses Against Persons

537.03 ASSAULT.

(a) No person shall knowingly cause or attempt to cause physical harm to another or to another's unborn.

(b) No person shall recklessly cause serious physical harm to another or to another's unborn.

(c) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of assault, a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the court shall sentence the offender as provided in subsection (c) hereof. If the assault was committed under the circumstances provided in subsection (c)(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) or (9) hereof, assault is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if the offense is committed by a caretaker against a functionally impaired person under the caretaker's care, the assault is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(3) If the offense occurs in or on the grounds of a State correctional institution or an institution of the Department of Youth Services, the victim of the offense is an employee of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction or the Department of Youth Services, and the offense is committed by a person incarcerated in the State correctional institution or by a person institutionalized in the Department of Youth Services Institution pursuant to a commitment to the Department of Youth Services.

(4) If the offense is committed in any of the following circumstances:

A. The offense occurs in or on the grounds of a local correctional facility, the victim of the offense is an employee of the local correctional facility or a probation department or is on the premises of the facility for business purposes or as a visitor, and the offense is committed by a person who is under custody in the facility subsequent to the person's arrest for any crime or delinquent act, subsequent to the person's being charged with or convicted of any crime, or subsequent to the person's being alleged to be or adjudicated a delinquent child.

B. The offense occurs off the grounds of a State correctional institution and off the grounds of an institution of the Department of Youth Services, the victim of the offense is an employee of the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, the Department of Youth Services, or a probation department, the offense occurs during the employee's official work hours and while the employee is engaged in official work responsibilities, and the offense is committed by a person incarcerated in a State correctional institution or institutionalized in the Department of Youth Services who temporarily is outside of the institution for any purpose, by a parolee, by an offender under transitional control, under a community control sanction, or on an escorted visit, by a person under post-release control, or by an offender under any other type of supervision by a government agency.

C. The offense occurs off the grounds of a local correctional facility, the victim of the offense is an employee of the local correctional facility or a probation department, the offense occurs during the employee's official work hours and while the employee is engaged in official work responsibilities, and the offense is committed by a person who is under custody in the facility subsequent to the person's arrest for any crime or delinquent act, subsequent to the person being charged with or convicted of any crime, or subsequent to the person being alleged to be or adjudicated a delinquent child and who temporarily is outside of the facility for any purpose or by a parolee, by an offender under transitional control, under a community control sanction, or on an escorted visit, by a person under post-release control, or by an offender under any other type of supervision by a government agency.

D. The victim of the offense is a school teacher or administrator or a school bus operator, and the offense occurs in a school, on school premises, in a school building, on a school bus or while the victim is outside of school premises or a school bus and is engaged in duties or official responsibilities associated with the victim's employment or position as a school teacher or administrator or a school bus operator, including, but not limited to, driving, accompanying, or chaperoning students at or on class or field trips, athletic events, or other school extracurricular activities or functions outside of school premises.

(5) If the victim of the offense is a peace officer or an investigator of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation, a firefighter, or a person performing emergency medical service, while in the performance of their official duties.

(6) If the victim of the offense is a peace officer or an investigator of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation and if the victim suffered serious physical harm as a result of the commission of the offense.

(7) If the victim of the offense is an officer or employee of a public children services agency or a private child placing agency and the offense relates to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities or duties.

(8) If the victim of the offense is a health care professional of a hospital, a health care worker of a hospital, or a security officer of a hospital whom the offender knows or has reasonable cause to know is a health care professional of a hospital; a health care worker of a hospital, or a security officer of a hospital, if the victim is engaged in the performance of the victim's duties, and if the hospital offers de-escalation or crisis intervention training for such professionals, workers or officers, assault is one of the following:

A. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c)(8)B. of this section, assault committed in the specified circumstances is a misdemeanor of the first degree. Notwithstanding the fine specified in division (A)(2)(b) of Ohio R.C. 2929.28 for a misdemeanor of the first degree, in sentencing the offender under this subsection and if the court decides to impose a fine, the court may impose upon the offender a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

B. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more assault or homicide offenses committed against hospital personnel, assault committed in the specified circumstances is a felony.

(9) If the victim of the offense is a judge, magistrate, prosecutor or court official or employee whom the offender knows or has reasonable cause to know is a judge, magistrate, prosecutor or court official or employee, and if the victim is engaged in the performance of the victim's duties, assault is one of the following:

A. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c)(9)B. of this section, assault committed in the specified circumstances is a misdemeanor of the first degree. In sentencing the offender under

this subsection, if the court decides to impose a fine, notwithstanding the fine specified in division (A)(2)(b) of Ohio R.C. 2929.28 for a misdemeanor of the first degree, the court may impose upon the offender a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

B. If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one or more assault or homicide offenses committed against justice system personnel, assault committed in the specified circumstances is a felony.

(10) If an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to assault when it is a misdemeanor also is convicted of or pleads guilty to a specification as described in Ohio R.C. 2941.1423 that was included in the indictment, count in the indictment or information charging the offense, the court shall sentence the offender to a mandatory jail term as provided in division (G) of Ohio R.C. 2929.24.

(11) A prosecution for a violation of subsections (a) or (b) of this section does not preclude a prosecution for a violation of any other section of the Ohio Revised Code. One or more acts, a series of acts, or a course of behavior that can be prosecuted under subsections (a) or (b) of this section or any other section of the Ohio Revised Code may be prosecuted under subsections (a) or (b) of this section, the other sections of the Ohio Revised Code, or both sections. However, if an offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of subsections (a) or (b) of this section and also is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of Ohio R.C. 2903.22, or any substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, based on the same conduct involving the same victim that was the basis of the violation of subsections (a) or (b) of this section, the offenses are allied offenses of similar import under Ohio R.C. 2941.25.

(d) As used in this section:

(1) "Peace officer" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2935.01.

(2) "Firefighter" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3937.41.

(3) "Emergency medical service" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4765.01.

(4) "Local correctional facility" means a county, multicounty, municipal, municipal-county or multicounty-municipal jail or workhouse. A minimum security jail established under Ohio R.C. 341.23 or 753.21, or another county, multicounty, municipal, municipal-county, or multicounty-municipal facility used for the custody of persons arrested for any crime or delinquent act, persons charged with or convicted of any crime, or persons alleged to be or adjudicated a delinquent child.

(5) "Employee of a local correctional facility" means a person who is an employee of the political subdivision or of one or more of the affiliated political subdivisions that operates the local correctional facility and who operates or assists in the operation of the facility.

(6) "School teacher or administrator" means either of the following:

A. A person who is employed in the public schools of the State under a contract described in Ohio R.C. 3311.77 or 3319.08 in a position in which the person is required to have a certificate issued pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3319.22 to 3319.311.

B. A person who is employed by a nonpublic school for which the Director of Education and Workforce prescribes minimum standards under Ohio R.C. 3301.07 and who is certified in accordance with Ohio R.C. 3301.071.

(7) "Community control sanction" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2929.01.

(8) "Escorted visit" means an escorted visit granted under Ohio R.C. 2967.27.

(9) "Post-release control" and "transitional control" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 2967.01.

(10) "Investigator of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2903.11.

(11) “Health care professional” and “health care worker” have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 2305.234.

(12) “Assault or homicide offense committed against hospital personnel” means a violation of this section or Ohio R.C. 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.041, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13 or 2903.14 committed in circumstances in which all of the following apply:

A. The victim of the offense was a health care professional of a hospital, a health care worker of a hospital or a security officer of a hospital.

B. The offender knew or had reasonable cause to know that the victim was a health care professional of a hospital, a health care worker of a hospital, or a security officer of a hospital;

C. The victim was engaged in the performance of the victim’s duties.

D. The hospital offered de-escalation or crisis intervention training for such professionals, workers or officers.

(13) “De-escalation or crisis intervention training” means de-escalation or crisis intervention training for health care professionals of a hospital, health care workers of a hospital, and security officers of a hospital to facilitate interaction with patients, members of a patient’s family, and visitors, including those with mental impairments.

(14) “Assault or homicide offense committed against justice system personnel” means a violation of this section or of Ohio R.C. 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.041, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13 or 2903.14 committed in circumstances in which the victim of the offense was a judge, magistrate, prosecutor, or court official or employee whom the offender knew or had reasonable cause to know was a judge, magistrate, prosecutor, or court official or employee, and the victim was engaged in the performance of the victim’s duties.

(15) “Court official or employee” means any official or employee of a court created under the constitution or statutes of this State or of a United States court located in this State.

(16) “Judge” means a judge of a court created under the constitution or statutes of this State or of a United States court located in this State.

(17) “Magistrate” means an individual who is appointed by a court of record of this State and who has the powers and may perform the functions specified in Civil Rule 53, Criminal Rule 19, or Juvenile Rule 40, or an individual who is appointed by a United States court located in this State who has similar powers and functions.

(18) “Prosecutor” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2935.01.

(19) A. “Hospital” means, subject to subsection (d)(19)B. of this section, an institution classified as a hospital under Ohio R.C. 3701.01 in which are provided to patients diagnostic, medical, surgical, obstetrical, psychiatric, or rehabilitation care or a hospital operated by a health maintenance organization.

B. “Hospital” does not include any of the following:

1. A facility licensed under Ohio R.C. Chapter 3721, a health care facility operated by the Department of Mental Health or the Department of Developmental Disabilities, a health maintenance organization that does not operate a hospital, or the office of any private, licensed health care professional, whether organized for individual or group practice;

2. An institution for the sick that is operated exclusively for patients who use spiritual means for healing and for whom the acceptance of medical care is inconsistent with their religious beliefs, accredited by a national accrediting organization, exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501 of the “Internal Revenue Code of 1986”, 100 Stat. 2085, 26 U.S.C. 1, as amended, and providing twenty-four-hour nursing care pursuant to the exemption in division (E) of Ohio R.C. 4723.32 from the licensing requirements of Ohio R.C. Chapter 4723.

(20) "Health maintenance organization" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3727.01.

(21) "Emergency service responder" means any law enforcement officer, first responder, emergency medical technician-basic, emergency medical technician-intermediate, emergency medical technician-paramedic, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter.

(22) "Family or household member" means any of the following:

A. Any of the following who is residing or has resided with a person who is employed as an emergency service responder:

1. A spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of a person who is employed as an emergency service responder;

2. A parent, a foster parent, or a child of a person who is employed as an emergency service responder, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a person who is employed as an emergency service responder;

3. A parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of a person who is employed as an emergency service responder, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of a person who is employed as an emergency service responder.

B. The natural parent of any child of whom a person who is employed as an emergency service responder is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent.

(23) "First responder", "emergency medical technician-basic", "emergency medical technician-intermediate" and "emergency medical technician-paramedic" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 4765.01.

(24) "Volunteer firefighter" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 146.01.

(25) "Person living as a spouse" means a person who is living or has lived with a person who is employed as an emergency service responder in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with a person who is employed as an emergency service responder, or who otherwise has cohabited with a person who is employed as an emergency service responder within five years prior to the date of the alleged commission of the act in question.

(26) "Co-worker" means a person who is employed by the organization or entity that is served by a person who is employed as an emergency service responder. (ORC 2903.13)

537.04 NEGLIGENT ASSAULT.

(a) No person shall negligently, by means of a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance as defined in Section 549.01 cause physical harm to another or to another's unborn.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of negligent assault, a misdemeanor of the third degree. (ORC 2903.14)

537.05 AGGRAVATED MENACING.

(a) No person shall knowingly cause another to believe that the offender will cause serious physical harm to the person or property of the other person, the other person's unborn, or a member of the other person's immediate family. In addition to any other basis for the other person's belief that the offender will cause serious physical harm to the person or property of the other person, the other person's unborn, or a member of the other person's immediate family, the other person's belief may be based on words or conduct of the offender that are directed at or identify a corporation, association or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of aggravated menacing. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection (b), aggravated menacing is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the

victim of the offense is an officer or employee of a public children services agency or a private child placing agency and the offense relates to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities or duties, or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense of violence, the victim of that prior offense was an officer or employee of a public children services agency or private child placing agency, and that prior offense related to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities or duties, aggravated menacing is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(c) As used in this section, "organization" includes an entity that is a governmental employer. (ORC 2903.21)

537.051 MENACING BY STALKING.

(a) (1) No person by engaging in a pattern of conduct shall knowingly cause another person to believe that the offender will cause physical harm to the other person or a family or household member of the other person or cause mental distress to the other person or a family or household member of the other person. In addition to any other basis for the other person's belief that the offender will cause physical harm to the other person or the other person's family or household member or mental distress to the other person or the other person's family or household member, the other person's belief or mental distress may be based on words or conduct of the offender that are directed at or identify a corporation, association or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.

(2) No person, through the use of any form of written communication or any electronic method of remotely transferring information, including, but not limited to, any computer, computer network, computer program, computer system or telecommunication device shall post a message or use any intentionally written or verbal graphic gesture with purpose to do either of the following:

- A. Violate subsection (a)(1) of this section;
- B. Urge or incite another to commit a violation of subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(3) No person, with sexual motivation, shall violate subsection (a)(1) or (2) of this section.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of menacing by stalking.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (b)(2) and (3) of this section, menacing by stalking is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(2) Menacing by stalking is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if any of the following applies:

A. The offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of this section or a violation of Section 541.051.

B. In committing the offense under subsection (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section, the offender made a threat of physical harm to or against the victim, or as a result of an offense committed under subsection (a)(2) or (3) of this section, a third person induced by the offender's posted message made a threat of physical harm to or against the victim.

C. In committing the offense under subsection (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section, the offender trespassed on the land or premises where the victim lives, is employed, or attends school, or as a result of an offense committed under subsection (a)(2) or (3) of this section, a third person induced by the offender's posted message trespassed on the land or premises where the victim lives, is employed, or attends school.

D. The victim of the offense is a minor.

E. The offender has a history of violence toward the victim or any other person or a history of other violent acts toward the victim or any other person.

F. While committing the offense under subsection (a)(1) of this section or a violation of subsection (a)(3) of this section is based on conduct in violation of subsection (a)(1) of this section, the offender had a deadly weapon on or about the offender's person or under the offender's control. Subsection (b)(2)F. of this section does not apply in determining the penalty for a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section or a violation of subsection (a)(3) of this section based on conduct in violation of subsection (a)(1) of this section.

G. At the time of the commission of the offense, the offender was the subject of a protection order issued under Ohio R.C. 2903.213 or 2903.214, regardless of whether the person to be protected under the order is the victim of the offense or another person.

H. In committing the offense under subsection (a)(1), (2), or (3) of this section, the offender caused serious physical harm to the premises at which the victim resides, to the real property on which that premises is located, or to any personal property located on that premises, or as a result of an offense committed under subsection (a)(2) of this section, or an offense committed under subsection (a)(3) of this section based on a violation of subsection (a)(2) of this section, a third person induced by the offender's posted message caused serious physical harm to that premises, that real property, or any personal property on that premises.

I. Prior to committing the offense, the offender had been determined to represent a substantial risk of physical harm to others as manifested by evidence of then-recent homicidal or other violent behavior, evidence of then-recent threats that placed another in reasonable fear of violent behavior and serious physical harm, or other evidence of then-present dangerousness.

(3) If the victim of the offense is an officer or employee of a public children services agency or a private child placing agency and the offense relates to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities or duties, or, if the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense of violence, the victim of that prior offense was an officer or employee of a public children services agency or private child placing agency, and that prior offense related to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities, or duties, menacing by stalking is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(c) Ohio R.C. 2919.271 applies in relation to a defendant charged with a violation of this section.

(d) As used in this section:

(1) "Pattern of conduct" means two or more actions or incidents closely related in time, whether or not there has been a prior conviction based on any of those actions or incidents, or two or more actions or incidents closely related in time, whether or not there has been a prior conviction based on any of those actions or incidents, directed at one or more persons employed by or belonging to the same corporation, association, or other organization. Actions or incidents that prevent, obstruct, or delay the performance by a public official, firefighter, rescuer, emergency medical services person, or emergency facility person of any authorized act within the public official's, firefighter's, rescuer's, emergency medical services person's, or emergency facility person's official capacity, or the posting of messages, use of intentionally written or verbal graphic gestures, or receipt of information or data through the use of any form of written communication or an electronic method of remotely transferring information, including, but not limited to, a computer, computer network, computer program, computer system, or telecommunications device, may constitute a "pattern of conduct".

(2) "Mental distress" means any of the following:

- A. Any mental illness or condition that involves some temporary substantial incapacity;
- B. Any mental illness or condition that would normally require psychiatric treatment,

psychological treatment, or other mental health services, whether or not any person requested or received psychiatric treatment, psychological treatment, or other mental health services.

(3) “Emergency medical services person” is the singular of “emergency medical services personnel” as defined in Ohio R.C. 2133.21.

(4) “Emergency facility person” is the singular of “emergency facility personnel” as defined in Ohio R.C. 2909.04.

(5) “Public official” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2921.01.

(6) “Computer”, “computer network”, “computer program”, “computer system” and “telecommunications device” have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 2913.01.

(7) “Post a message” means transferring, sending, posting, publishing, disseminating or otherwise communicating, or attempting to transfer, send, post, publish, disseminate or otherwise communication, any message or information, whether truthful or untruthful, about an individual, and whether done under one’s own name, under the name of another, or while impersonating another.

(8) “Third person” means, in relation to conduct as described in subsection (a)(2) of this section, an individual who is neither the offender nor the victim of the conduct.

(9) “Sexual motivation” has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2971.01.

(10) “Organization” includes an entity that is a governmental employer.

(11) “Family or household member” means any of the following:

A. Any of the following who is residing or has resided with the person against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(1) of this section is committed:

1. A spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the person;

2. A parent, a foster parent, or a child of the person, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to the person;

3. A parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the person, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the person.

B. The natural parent of any child of whom the person against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(1) of this section is committed is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent.

(12) “Person living as a spouse” means a person who is living or has lived with the person against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(1) of this section is committed in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with that person, or who otherwise has cohabited with the person within five years prior to the date of the alleged commission of the act in question.

(e) The Municipality does not need to prove in a prosecution under this section that a person requested or received psychiatric treatment, psychological treatment, or other mental health services in order to show that the person was caused mental distress as described in subsection (d)(2)B. of this section.

(f) (1) This section does not apply to a person solely because the person provided access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person’s control, including having provided capabilities that are incidental to providing access or connection to or from the electronic method of remotely transferring the information, and that do not include the creation of the content of the material that is the subject of the access or connection. In addition, any person providing access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person’s control shall not be liable for any action voluntarily taken in good faith to block the receipt or transmission through its service of any

information that it believes is, or will be sent, in violation of this section.

(2) Subsection (f)(1) of this section does not create an affirmative duty for any person providing access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control to block the receipt or transmission through its service of any information that it believes is, or will be sent, in violation of this section except as otherwise provided by law.

(3) Subsection (f)(1) of this section does not apply to a person who conspires with a person actively involved in the creation or knowing distribution of material in violation of this section or who knowingly advertises the availability of material of that nature. (ORC 2903.211)

537.06 MENACING.

(a) (1) No person shall knowingly cause another to believe that the offender will cause physical harm to the person or property of the other person, the other person's unborn, or a member of the other person's immediate family. In addition to any other basis for the other person's belief that the offender will cause physical harm to the person or property of the other person, the other person's unborn, or a member of the other person's immediate family, the other person's belief may be based on words or conduct of the offender that are directed at or identify a corporation, association or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs.

(2) No person shall knowingly place or attempt to place another in reasonable fear of physical harm or death by displaying a deadly weapon, regardless of whether the deadly weapon displayed is operable or inoperable, if either of the following applies:

A. The other person is an emergency service responder, the person knows or reasonably should know that the other person is an emergency service responder, and it is the person's specific purpose to engage in the specified conduct against an emergency service responder.

B. The other person is a family or household member or co-worker of an emergency service responder, the person knows or reasonably should know that the other person is a family or household member or co-worker of an emergency service responder, and it is the person's specific purpose to engage in the specified conduct against a family or household member or co-worker of an emergency service responder.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of menacing. Except as otherwise provided in this division, menacing is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If the victim of the offense is an officer or employee of a public children services agency or a private child placing agency and the offense relates to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities or duties or if the victim of the offense is an emergency service responder in the performance of the responder's official duties, menacing is one of the following:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a)(2)B. of this section, a misdemeanor of the first degree;

(2) If the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense of violence, the victim of that prior offense was an officer or employee of a public children services agency or private child placing agency or an emergency service responder, and that prior offense related to the officer's or employee's performance or anticipated performance of official responsibilities or duties or to the responder's performance of the responder's official duties, a felony to be prosecuted under appropriate state law.

(c) A prosecution for a violation of subsection (a) of this section does not preclude a prosecution of a violation of any other section of the Ohio Revised Code. One or more acts, a series of acts, or a course of behavior that can be prosecuted under subsection (a) of this section or any other section

of the Ohio Revised Code may be prosecuted under subsection (a) of this section, the other section of the Ohio Revised Code, or both sections. However, if an offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of subsection (a) of this section and also is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of Ohio R.C. 2903.13, or any substantially similar municipal ordinance, based on the same conduct involving the same victim that was the basis of the violation of subsection (a) of this section, the offenses are allied offenses of similar import under Ohio R.C. 2941.25.

(d) As used in this section:

- (1) "Co-worker" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2903.13.
- (2) "Emergency service responder" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2903.13.
- (3) "Family or household member" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 2903.13.
- (4) "Organization" includes an entity that is a governmental employer.

(ORC 2903.22)

537.07 ENDANGERING CHILDREN.

(a) No person, who is the parent, guardian, custodian, person having custody or control, or person in loco parentis of a child under eighteen years of age or a child with a mental or physical disability under twenty-one years of age, shall create a substantial risk to the health or safety of the child, by violating a duty of care, protection or support. It is not a violation of a duty of care, protection or support under this subsection when the parent, guardian, custodian or person having custody or control of a child treats the physical or mental illness or disability of the child by spiritual means through prayer alone, in accordance with the tenets of a recognized religious body.

(b) No person shall abuse a child under eighteen years of age or a child with a mental or physical disability under twenty-one years of age.

(c) (1) No person shall operate a vehicle in violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code when one or more children under eighteen years of age are in the vehicle. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person may be convicted at the same trial or proceeding of a violation of subsection (c) hereof and a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code that constitutes the basis of the charge of the violation of subsection (c) hereof. For purposes of Ohio R.C. 4511.191 to 4511.197 and all related provisions of law, a person arrested for a violation of subsection (c) hereof shall be considered to be under arrest for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, a drug of abuse, or a combination of them or for operating a vehicle with a prohibited concentration of alcohol, a controlled substance, or a metabolite of a controlled substance in the whole blood, blood serum or plasma, breath, or urine.

(2) As used in subsection (c) hereof:

- A. "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 3719.01.
- B. "Vehicle" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 4511.01.

(d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of endangering children.

(1) Whoever violates subsection (a) or (b) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the violation results in serious physical harm to the child involved, or if the offender previously has been convicted of an offense under this section, Ohio R.C. 2919.22 or of any offense involving neglect, abandonment, contributing to the delinquency of or physical abuse of a child, endangering children is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(2) Whoever violates subsection (c) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. Endangering children is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law if either of the following applies:

A. The violation results in serious physical harm to the child involved or the offender previously has been convicted of an offense under Ohio R.C. 2919.22 or any offense involving

neglect, abandonment, contributing to the delinquency of, or physical abuse of a child.

B. The violation results in serious physical harm to the child involved and the offender previously has been convicted of a violation of Ohio R.C. 2919.22(C) or subsection (c) hereof, Ohio R.C. 2903.06, or 2903.08, Section 2903.07 as it existed prior to March 23, 2000, or Ohio R.C. 2903.04 in a case in which the offender was subject to the sanctions described in division (D) of that section.

(3) In addition to any term of imprisonment, fine, or other sentence, penalty, or sanction it imposes upon the offender pursuant to subsection (d)(2) hereof, or pursuant to any other provision of law, the court also may impose upon the offender any of the sanctions provided under Ohio R.C. 2919.22(E)(5)(d).

(e) (1) If a person violates subsection (c) hereof and if, at the time of the violation, there were two or more children under eighteen years of age in the motor vehicle involved in the violation, the offender may be convicted of a violation of subsection (c) hereof for each of the children, but the court may sentence the offender for only one of the violations.

(2) A. If a person is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of subsection (c) hereof but the person is not also convicted of and does not also plead guilty to a separate charge charging the violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code that was the basis of the charge of the violation of subsection (c) hereof, both of the following apply:

1. For purposes of the provisions of the Traffic Code penalty that set forth the penalties and sanctions for a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code, the conviction of or plea of guilty to the violation of subsection (c) hereof shall not constitute a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code.

2. For purposes of any provision of law that refers to a conviction of or plea of guilty to a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code and that is not described in subsection (e)(2)A.1. hereof, the conviction of or plea of guilty to the violation of subsection (c) hereof shall constitute a conviction of or plea of guilty to a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code.

B. If a person is convicted of or pleads guilty to a violation of subsection (c) hereof and the person also is convicted of or pleads guilty to a separate charge charging the violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code that was the basis of the charge of the violation of subsection (c) hereof, the conviction of or plea of guilty to the violation of subsection (c) hereof shall not constitute, for purposes of any provision of law that refers to a conviction of or plea of guilty to a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code, a conviction of or plea of guilty to a violation of Section 333.01(a) of the Traffic Code.

(ORC 2919.22)

537.08 UNLAWFUL RESTRAINT.

(a) No person, without privilege to do so, shall knowingly restrain another of the other person's liberty.

(b) No person, without privilege to do so and with a sexual motivation, shall knowingly restrain another of the other person's liberty.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of unlawful restraint, a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(d) As used in this section, "sexual motivation" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2971.01. (ORC 2905.03)

537.09 COERCION.

(a) No person, with purpose to coerce another into taking or refraining from action concerning which the other person has a legal freedom of choice, shall do any of the following:

- (1) Threaten to commit any offense;
 - (2) Utter or threaten any calumny against any person;
 - (3) Expose or threaten to expose any matter tending to subject any person to hatred, contempt or ridicule, to damage any person's personal or business reputé, or to impair any person's credit;
 - (4) Institute or threaten criminal proceedings against any person;
 - (5) Take or withhold, or threaten to take or withhold official action, or cause or threaten to cause official action to be taken or withheld.
- (b) Subsections (a)(4) and (5) hereof shall not be construed to prohibit a prosecutor or court from doing any of the following in good faith and in the interest of justice:
- (1) Offering or agreeing to grant, or granting immunity from prosecution pursuant to Ohio R.C. 2945.44;
 - (2) In return for a plea of guilty to one or more offenses charged or to one or more other or lesser offenses, or in return for the testimony of the accused in a case to which the accused is not a party, offering or agreeing to dismiss, or dismissing one or more charges pending against an accused, or offering or agreeing to impose, or imposing a certain sentence or modification of sentence;
 - (3) Imposing community control sanction on certain conditions, including without limitation requiring the offender to make restitution or redress to the victim of the offense.
- (c) It is an affirmative defense to a charge under subsection (a)(3), (4) or (5) hereof that the actor's conduct was a reasonable response to the circumstances that occasioned it, and that the actor's purpose was limited to any of the following:
- (1) Compelling another to refrain from misconduct or to desist from further misconduct;
 - (2) Preventing or redressing a wrong or injustice;
 - (3) Preventing another from taking action for which the actor reasonably believed the other person to be disqualified;
 - (4) Compelling another to take action that the actor reasonably believed the other person to be under a duty to take.
- (d) Whoever violates this section is guilty of coercion, a misdemeanor of the second degree.
- (e) As used in this section:
- (1) "Threat" includes a direct threat and a threat by innuendo.
 - (2) "Community control sanction" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2929.01. (ORC 2905.12)

537.10 TELECOMMUNICATION HARASSMENT.

- (a) No person shall knowingly make or cause to be made a telecommunication, or knowingly permit telecommunication to be made from a telecommunications device under the person's control, to another, if the caller does any of the following:
- (1) Makes the telecommunication with purpose to harass, intimidate, or abuse, any person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made, whether or not actual communication takes place between the caller and a recipient;
 - (2) Describes, suggests, requests, or proposes that the caller, the recipient of the telecommunication, or any other person engage in sexual activity, and the recipient or another person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made has requested, in a previous telecommunication or in the immediate telecommunication, that the caller not make a telecommunication to the recipient or to the premises to which the telecommunication is made;
 - (3) During the telecommunication, violates Ohio R.C. 2903.21;

(4) Knowingly states to the recipient of the telecommunication that the caller intends to cause damage to or destroy public or private property, and the recipient, any member of the recipient's family, or any other person who resides at the premises to which the telecommunication is made owns, leases, resides, or works in, will at the time of the destruction or damaging be near or in, has the responsibility of protecting, or insures the property that will be destroyed or damaged;

(5) Knowingly makes the telecommunication to the recipient of the telecommunication, to another person at the premises to which the telecommunication is made, or to those premises, and the recipient or another person at those premises previously has told the caller not to make a telecommunication to those premises or to any person at those premises.

(6) Knowingly makes any comment, request, suggestion, or proposal to the recipient of the telecommunication that is threatening, intimidating, menacing, coercive, or obscene with the intent to abuse, threaten or harass the recipient;

(7) Without a lawful business purpose, knowingly interrupts the telecommunication service of any person;

(8) Without a lawful business purpose, knowingly transmits to any person, regardless of whether the telecommunication is heard in its entirety, any file, document or other communication that prevents that person from using the person's telephone service or electronic communication device;

(9) Knowingly makes any false statement concerning the death, injury, illness, disfigurement, reputation, indecent conduct, or criminal conduct of the recipient of the telecommunication or family or household member of the recipient with purpose to abuse, threaten, intimidate, or harass the recipient;

(10) Knowingly incites another person through a telecommunication or other means to harass or participate in the harassment of a person;

(11) Knowingly alarms the recipient by making a telecommunication without a lawful purpose at an hour or hours known to be inconvenient to the recipient and in an offensive or repetitive manner.

(b) (1) No person shall make or cause to be made a telecommunication, or permit a telecommunication to be made from a telecommunications device under the person's control, with purpose to abuse, threaten, or harass another person.

(2) No person shall knowingly post a text or audio statement or an image on an internet web site or web page for the purpose of abusing, threatening, or harassing another person.

(c) (1) Whoever violates this section is guilty of telecommunication harassment.

(2) A violation of subsections (a)(1), (2), (3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), or (11) or (b) hereof is a misdemeanor of the first degree on a first offense. Each subsequent offense is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(3) Whoever violates subsection (a)(4) hereof is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree for a first offense. For each subsequent offense or if a violation of subsection (a)(4) hereof results in economic harm of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more, a violation of subsection (a)(4) hereof is a felony and shall be prosecuted under appropriate State law.

(d) No cause of action may be asserted in any court of this State against any provider of a telecommunications service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, or information service, or against any officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunication service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, or information service, for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly arises out of the provider's, officer's, employee's, or agent's provision of information,

facilities, or assistance in accordance with the terms of a court order that is issued in relation to the investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this section. A provider of a telecommunications service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, or information service, or an officer, employee, or agent of a telecommunications service, interactive computer service as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, of information service, is immune from any civil or criminal liability for injury, death, or loss to person or property that allegedly arises out of the provider's, officer's, employee's, or agent's provision of information, facilities, or assistance in accordance with the terms of a court order that is issued in relation to the investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this section.

(e) (1) This section does not apply to a person solely because the person provided access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control, including having provided capabilities that are incidental to providing access or connection to or from the electronic method of remotely transferring the information, and that do not include the creation of the content of the material that is the subject of the access or connection. In addition, any person providing access or connection to or from an electric method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control shall not be liable for any action voluntarily taken in good faith to block the receipt or transmission through its service of any information that the person believes is, or will be sent, in violation of this section.

(2) Subsection (e)(1) of this section does not create an affirmative duty for any person providing access or connection to or from an electronic method of remotely transferring information not under that person's control to block the receipt or transmission through its service of any information that it believes is, or will be sent, in violation of this section except as otherwise provided by law.

(3) Subsection (e)(1) of this section does not apply to a person who conspires with a person actively involved in the creation or knowing distribution of material in violation of this section or who knowingly advertises the availability of material of that nature.

(4) A provider or user of an interactive computer service, as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, shall neither be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider, as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code, nor held civilly or criminally liable for the creation or development of information provided by another information content provider, as defined in Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect a person from liability to the extent that the person developed or created any content in violation of this section.

(f) Subsections (a)(5) to (11) and (b)(2) of this section do not apply to a person who, while employed or contracted by a newspaper, magazine, press association, news agency, news wire service, cable channel or cable operator, or radio or television station, is gathering, processing, transmitting, compiling, editing or disseminating information for the general public, within the scope of the person's employment in that capacity or the person's contractual authority in that capacity.

(g) As used in this section:

(1) "Economic harm" means all direct, incidental, and consequential pecuniary harm suffered by a victim as a result of criminal conduct. "Economic harm" includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

A. All wages, salaries, or other compensation lost as a result of the criminal conduct;

B. The cost of all wages, salaries or other compensation paid to employees for time those employees are prevented from working as a result of the criminal conduct;

C. The overhead costs incurred for the time that a business is shut down as a result of the criminal conduct;

D. The loss of value to tangible or intangible property that was damaged as a result of the criminal conduct.

(2) "Caller" means the person described in subsection (a) hereof who makes or causes to be made a telecommunication or who permits a telecommunication to be made from a telecommunications device under that person's control.

(3) "Telecommunication" and "telecommunications device" have the same meanings as in Ohio R.C. 2913.01.

(4) "Sexual activity" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 2907.01.

(5) "Family or household member" means any of the following:

A. Any of the following who is residing or has resided with the recipient of the telecommunication against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(9) of this section is committed:

1. A spouse, a person living as a spouse, or a former spouse of the recipient;

2. A parent, a foster parent, or a child of the recipient, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to the recipient;

3.. A parent or a child of a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the recipient, or another person related by consanguinity or affinity to a spouse, person living as a spouse, or former spouse of the recipient.

B. The natural parent of any child of whom the recipient of the telecommunication against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(9) of this section is committed is the other natural parent or is the putative other natural parent.

(6) "Person living as a spouse" means a person who is living or has lived with the recipient of the telecommunication against whom the act prohibited in subsection (a)(9) of this section is committed in a common law marital relationship, who otherwise is cohabiting with the recipient, or who otherwise has cohabited with the recipient within five years prior to the date of the alleged commission of the act in question.

(7) "Cable operator" has the same meaning as in Ohio R.C. 1332.21.

(h) Nothing in this section prohibits a person from making a telecommunication call to a debtor that is in compliance with the "Fair Debt Collection Practices Act", 91 Stat. 874 (1977), 15 U.S.C. 1692, as amended, or the "Telephone Consumer Protection Act", 105 Stat. 2395 (1991), 47 U.S.C. 227, as amended. (ORC 2917.21)

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Detected legislative history

- Ordinances of Sheffield Lake, OH
- ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE, OHIO
- ORDINANCE NO. 116-84
- ORDINANCES OF SHEFFIELD LAKE
- orderly Conduct and Peace Disturbance
- ORDER
- ordinance, based on the same conduct involving the same victim that was the basis of the violation of subsections (a) or (b) of this section, the offenses are allied offenses of similar imp
- ordance with Ohio R
- ord of this State and who has the powers and may perform the functions specified in Civil Rule 53, Criminal Rule 19, or Juvenile Rule 40, or an individual who is appointed by a United
- amended, and providing twenty-four-hour nursing care pursuant to the exemption in division (E) of Ohio R
- ordnance as defined in Section 549
- ords or conduct of the offender that are directed at or identify a corporation, association or other organization that employs the other person or to which the other person belongs
- order issued under Ohio R
- order is the victim of the offense or another person
- order to show that the person was caused mental distress as described in subsection (d)(2)B
- ordinance, based on the same conduct involving the same victim that was the basis of the violation of subsection (a) of this section, the offenses are allied offenses of similar import unde
- ordance with the tenets of a recognized religious body
- ordance with the terms of a court order that is issued in relation to the investigation or prosecution of an alleged violation of this section
- amended, or the "Telephone Consumer Protection Act", 105 Stat
- amended
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