

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1479

By: Stewart

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to crimes and punishment; defining terms; providing for certain prohibition on release of public scene-specific information; construing provision; requiring certain notification; creating misdemeanor offense; providing penalty; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 839.4 of Title 21, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. As used in this section:

1. "First responder" shall mean a full-time, part-time, reserve, or volunteer, state, county, or municipal peace officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, rescue service personnel, emergency manager, medical examiner or employee of a medical examiner, or wrecker service provider;

2. "Investigating agency" shall mean the municipal, county, or state agency responsible for investigating and reporting a collision to the Department of Public Safety or submitting a crime report to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation; and

1       3. "Scene support personnel" shall include, but not be limited  
2 to, towing or remediation services, funeral homes, crime scene  
3 cleaners, or municipal, county, and state road maintenance  
4 employees.

5       B. 1. No first responder or scene support personnel shall  
6 release to the public any scene-specific information or transmit to  
7 a social media site any photographic image or video taken at a  
8 collision or crime scene without prior authorization from the  
9 investigating agency.

10       2. The provisions of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not  
11 be construed to prevent the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation  
12 or the Oklahoma Highway Patrol from transmitting information when a  
13 law enforcement agency requests investigative assistance.

14       C. Any agency or entity that employs first responders or scene  
15 support personnel shall notify the employees of the provisions of  
16 this act within ninety (90) days of the effective date of this act.

17       D. Any person convicted of a violation of this section shall be  
18 guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed One  
19 Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail  
20 not to exceed sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and  
21 imprisonment.

22       SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.  
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