
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2613 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY SACCONI AND J. McNEILL, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in emergency medical services system,
3 providing for identifying information and electronic devices.

4 This act may be referred to as Gregory's Law.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 8143. Identifying information and electronic devices.

10 (a) General duties.--In accordance with the performance of a
11 law enforcement officer's official duties, the law enforcement
12 officer shall ensure that identifying information and electronic
13 devices which appear to have been on or about an injured person
14 accompanies the person through the transport and arrival of the
15 injured person at the hospital providing treatment. Upon arrival
16 of the person at the hospital, the law enforcement officer shall
17 transfer the identifying information and electronic devices to
18 the appropriate hospital staff for safekeeping.

1 (b) Personal delivery.--If the law enforcement officer
2 determines that the injured person under subsection (a) needs
3 immediate transport to a hospital and there is not sufficient
4 time for the collection of the injured person's identifying
5 information and electronic devices, the law enforcement officer
6 shall personally deliver the identifying information and
7 electronic devices to the hospital treating the injured person
8 within two hours of collection.

9 (c) Conveyance of information.--If there is not sufficient
10 time to personally deliver the identifying information and
11 electronic devices to the hospital treating the injured person
12 within two hours of collection under subsection (b), the law
13 enforcement officer shall contact the hospital immediately and
14 convey the identifying information to the appropriate hospital
15 staff and personally deliver the identifying information and
16 electronic devices to the hospital no later than four hours
17 after the injured person was transported to the hospital.

18 (d) Deceased information.--If the law enforcement officer
19 determines that the injured person under subsection (a) will be
20 imminently deceased or is deceased and the identifying
21 information which appears to have been on or about the injured
22 person has been retained as evidence, the law enforcement
23 officer shall convey any other relevant identifying information
24 to the hospital treating the person within two hours. The
25 deceased person's body may not be transported from the hospital
26 to another location until the body is identified or 72 hours
27 have passed, whichever is earlier. The law enforcement officer
28 shall attempt to identify the person at the hospital bedside,
29 including, but not limited to, through the use of fingerprints
30 and the central repository under 18 Pa.C.S. Ch. 91 (relating to

1 criminal history record information).

2 (e) Notice to family.--Upon determining that the contact
3 information of a member of the injured person's family under
4 subsection (a) is available, the law enforcement officer shall
5 notify the member of the injured person's family of the injured
6 person's hospitalization and request that the member of the
7 injured person's family report to the hospital immediately to
8 confirm the injured person's identity if the injured person is
9 unable to identify himself or herself. A member of the injured
10 person's family may not be prohibited from seeing the injured
11 person upon arrival at the hospital to confirm the injured
12 person's identity under this subsection.

13 (f) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
14 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
15 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 "Electronic device." The term includes, but is not limited
17 to, a cellular telephone, personal digital assistant, pager,
18 computer or any other device used to input, write, send, receive
19 or read text.

20 "Law enforcement officer." A member of the Pennsylvania
21 State Police, an individual employed as a police officer who
22 holds a current certificate under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subch. D
23 (relating to municipal police education and training), a sheriff
24 or a deputy sheriff.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.