

1 AN ACT relating to strangulation.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 508 IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) A person is guilty of strangulation when the person, without consent, wantonly*  
6 *impedes the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of another person by:*

7 *(a) Applying pressure on the throat, neck, or torso of the other person; or*

8 *(b) Blocking the nose or mouth of the other person.*

9 *(2) Unless the conduct is covered under another provision of law providing a greater*  
10 *criminal penalty, strangulation is a Class D felony.*

11 ➔Section 2. KRS 403.720 is amended to read as follows:

12 As used in KRS 403.715 to 403.785:

13 (1) "Domestic violence and abuse" means physical injury, serious physical injury,  
14 stalking, sexual abuse, *strangulation*, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent  
15 physical injury, serious physical injury, sexual abuse, *strangulation*, or assault  
16 between family members or members of an unmarried couple;

17 (2) "Family member" means a spouse, including a former spouse, a grandparent, a  
18 grandchild, a parent, a child, a stepchild, or any other person living in the same  
19 household as a child if the child is the alleged victim;

20 (3) "Foreign protective order" means any judgment, decree, or order of protection  
21 which is entitled to full faith and credit pursuant to 18 U.S.C. sec. 2265 that was  
22 issued on the basis of domestic violence and abuse;

23 (4) "Global positioning monitoring system" means a system that electronically  
24 determines a person's location through a device worn by the person which does not  
25 invade his or her bodily integrity and which transmits the person's latitude and  
26 longitude data to a monitoring entity;

27 (5) "Member of an unmarried couple" means each member of an unmarried couple

1 which allegedly has a child in common, any children of that couple, or a member of  
2 an unmarried couple who are living together or have formerly lived together;

3 (6) "Order of protection" means an emergency protective order or a domestic violence  
4 order and includes a foreign protective order; and

5 (7) "Substantial violation" means criminal conduct which involves actual or threatened  
6 harm to the person, family, or property of an individual protected by an order of  
7 protection.

8 ➔Section 3. KRS 456.010 is amended to read as follows:

9 As used in this chapter:

10 (1) "Dating relationship" means a relationship between individuals who have or have  
11 had a relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. It does not include a casual  
12 acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context. The  
13 following factors may be considered in addition to any other relevant factors in  
14 determining whether the relationship is or was of a romantic or intimate nature:

15 (a) Declarations of romantic interest;

16 (b) The relationship was characterized by the expectation of affection;

17 (c) Attendance at social outings together as a couple;

18 (d) The frequency and type of interaction between the persons, including whether  
19 the persons have been involved together over time and on a continuous basis  
20 during the course of the relationship;

21 (e) The length and recency of the relationship; and

22 (f) Other indications of a substantial connection that would lead a reasonable  
23 person to understand that a dating relationship existed;

24 (2) "Dating violence and abuse" means physical injury, serious physical injury, stalking,  
25 sexual assault, strangulation, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical injury,  
26 serious physical injury, sexual abuse, strangulation, or assault occurring between  
27 persons who are or have been in a dating relationship;

- 1 (3) "Foreign protective order" means any judgment, decree, or order of protection  
2 which is entitled to full faith and credit pursuant to 18 U.S.C. sec. 2265 which was  
3 not issued on the basis of domestic violence and abuse;
- 4 (4) "Global positioning monitoring system" means a system that electronically  
5 determines a person's location through a device worn by the person which does not  
6 invade his or her bodily integrity and which transmits the person's latitude and  
7 longitude data to a monitoring entity;
- 8 (5) "Order of protection" means any interpersonal protective order, including those  
9 issued on a temporary basis, and includes a foreign protective order;
- 10 (6) "Sexual assault" refers to conduct prohibited as any degree of rape, sodomy, or  
11 sexual abuse under KRS Chapter 510 or incest under KRS 530.020;
- 12 (7) "Stalking" refers to conduct prohibited as stalking under KRS 508.140 or 508.150;
- 13 **(8) "Strangulation" refers to conduct prohibited by Section 1 of this Act;** and
- 14 **(9)**~~(8)~~ "Substantial violation" means criminal conduct which involves actual or  
15 threatened harm to the person, family, or property of an individual protected by an  
16 order of protection.
- 17 ➔Section 4. KRS 456.020 is amended to read as follows:
- 18 (1) This chapter shall be interpreted to:
- 19 (a) Allow victims to obtain effective, short-term protection against further  
20 wrongful conduct in order that their lives may be as secure and as  
21 uninterrupted as possible;
- 22 (b) Expand the ability of law enforcement officers to effectively respond to  
23 further wrongful conduct so as to prevent future incidents and to provide  
24 assistance to the victims;
- 25 (c) Provide peace officers with the authority to immediately apprehend and  
26 charge for violation of an order of protection any person whom the officer has  
27 probable cause to believe has violated an order of protection and to provide

- 1 courts with the authority to conduct contempt of court proceedings for these  
2 violations;
- 3 (d) Provide for the collection of data concerning incidents of dating violence and  
4 abuse, sexual assault, strangulation, and stalking in order to develop a  
5 comprehensive analysis of the numbers and causes of such incidents; and
- 6 (e) Supplement and not repeal or supplant any duties, responsibilities, services, or  
7 penalties under KRS Chapters 209, 209A, and 620.
- 8 (2) Nothing in this chapter is intended to trigger the application of the provisions of 18  
9 U.S.C sec. 922(g) as to an interpersonal protective order issued on the basis of the  
10 existence of a current or previous dating relationship.