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C.2C:33-4.2
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P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 303, *approved January 20, 2026*
Senate, No. 3470 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning cyber-harassment, amending and
2 supplementing P.L.2013, c.272, and making an appropriation.
3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:
6
7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2013, c.272 (C.2C:33-4.1) is amended as
8 follows:
9 1. a. A person commits the crime of cyber-harassment if, while
10 making one or more communications in an online capacity via any
11 electronic device or through a social networking site and with the
12 purpose to harass another, the person:
13 (1) threatens to inflict injury or physical harm to any person or
14 the property of any person;
15 (2) knowingly sends, posts, comments, requests, suggests, or
16 proposes any lewd, indecent, or obscene material to or about a
17 person with the intent to emotionally harm a reasonable person or
18 place a reasonable person in fear of physical or emotional harm to
19 his person; or
20 (3) threatens to commit any crime against the person or the
21 person's property.
22 b. Cyber-harassment is a crime of the fourth degree, **[unless]**
23 except that cyber harassment is a crime of the third degree if the
24 person:
25 (1) is 21 years of age or older at the time of the offense and
26 impersonates a minor for the purpose of cyber-harassing a minor**],**
27 in which case it is a crime of the third degree**];**
28 (2) commits the offense against a public servant or any member
29 of a public servant's family.
30 For purposes of this section, "public servant" means any person
31 elected to public office, appointed to, or employed by any public
32 entity in this State, or any subdivision thereof, and shall include any
33 person serving as a judicial officer, as defined in section 1 of
34 P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-1.1), juror, advisor, or consultant,

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.
Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:
¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted January 8, 2026.

1 performing a governmental function, but shall not include
2 witnesses.

3 c. If a minor under the age of 16 is adjudicated delinquent for
4 cyber-harassment, the court may order as a condition of the
5 sentence that the minor, accompanied by a parent or guardian,
6 complete, in a satisfactory manner, one or both of the following:

7 (1) a class or training program intended to reduce the tendency
8 toward cyber-harassment behavior; or

9 (2) a class or training program intended to bring awareness to
10 the dangers associated with cyber-harassment.

11 d. A parent or guardian who fails to comply with a condition
12 imposed by the court pursuant to subsection c. of this section is a
13 disorderly person and shall be fined not more than \$100 for a first
14 offense and not more than \$500 for each subsequent offense.

15 e. The trier of fact may infer that a person acted with a purpose
16 to harass another if the person knows or should have known that
17 any of the person's actions constituting an offense under this section
18 are knowingly directed to or are about a **【judicial officer】** public
19 servant, and there is a nexus between the offense and relates to the
20 performance of the **【judge's】** public servant's public duties. **【For**
21 **the purposes of this subsection, "judicial officer" has the same**
22 **meaning as defined in section 1 of P.L.1995, c.23 (C.47:1A-1.1).】**

23 f. In addition to any other disposition or condition imposed
24 pursuant to this section, a parent or guardian having legal custody
25 of a minor who demonstrates willful or wanton disregard in the
26 exercise of the supervision and control of the conduct of a minor
27 adjudicated delinquent of cyber-harassment pursuant to this section
28 may be liable in a civil action pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2021,
29 c.338 (C.2A:53A-17.1).

30 (cf: P.L.2021, c.338, s.1)

31

32 2. (New section) a. The Attorney General shall ¹**【establish an**
33 **Office of Cyber-Harassment Support in】**, through¹ the Division of
34 Violence Intervention and Victim Assistance in the Department of
35 Law and Public Safety ¹**【. The purpose of the office shall be】** ,
36 undertake such steps as the Attorney General deems appropriate¹ to
37 promote education and awareness of cyber-harassment, provide
38 assistance to victims of cyber-harassment crimes, and promote
39 initiatives and training throughout the State to prevent cyber-
40 harassment, specifically against public servants and their family
41 members.

42 b. ¹**【The office shall be under the supervision of a Director of the**
43 **Office of Cyber-Harassment Support. The Office of Cyber-**
44 **Harassment Support shall manage and oversee all educational,**
45 **awareness, and victim support activities across the State. The**
46 **office's responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to,】** In
47 furtherance of the goals set forth in subsection a. of this section, the

1 Attorney General shall, at a minimum, conduct or effectuate¹ the
2 following tasks¹ :

3 (1) regularly engage with law enforcement, legal professionals,
4 and technology professionals to clearly and comprehensively define
5 cyber-harassment within the context of cyber-harassment crime, as
6 it evolves due to emerging technologies;

7 (2) establish user-friendly and accessible reporting systems to
8 enable cyber-harassment victims to easily report cyber-harassment
9 offenses and seek assistance from relevant authorities;

10 (3) implement educational programs, directed towards both
11 potential cyber-harassment offenders and victims, in order to raise
12 awareness about cyber-harassment and its consequences;

13 (4) collaborate with social media platforms to develop stricter
14 policies to identify and remove harassing content;

15 (5) encourage social media platforms to implement reporting
16 features and provide support to victims to help create a safer online
17 environment;

18 (6) provide support services, counseling, and legal aid to victims
19 of cyber-harassment to help them cope with the emotional and
20 psychological impact of such harassment;

21 (7) coordinate with the Department of Education to offer cyber
22 ethics classes in New Jersey schools that help to promote
23 responsible online behavior and create a culture of respect and
24 empathy online;

25 (8) coordinate with State and local law enforcement agencies to
26 establish or expand specialized units within law enforcement
27 agencies that are dedicated to handling cyber-harassment crimes;
28 and

29 (9) coordinate with State and local law enforcement agencies to
30 enhance comprehensive training programs for law enforcement
31 personnel on cyber-harassment investigation techniques, digital
32 evidence collection, and law enforcement procedures specific to
33 cyber-harassment cases.

34 c. The **1[office]** Attorney General¹ may apply for and accept on
35 behalf of the State any grants from the federal government or any
36 agency thereof, or from any foundation, corporation, association or
37 person, and may comply with the terms, conditions, and limitations
38 thereof, for any of the purposes of **1[the office]** this section¹ . Any
39 money received may be expended by the Division of Violence
40 Intervention and Victims Assistance, subject to any limitations
41 imposed in the grants, to effectuate any of the purposes of **1[the**
42 **office]** this section¹ upon certification by the Director of the
43 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
44 Treasury.

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46 3. (New section) The Attorney General, pursuant to the
47 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et

1 seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the
2 purposes of this act.

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4 4. (New section) There is appropriated from the General Fund
5 to the Department of Law and Public Safety such funds as shall be
6 necessary for the implementation of this act, as certified by the
7 Attorney General and subject to the approval of the Director of the
8 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
9 Treasury.

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11 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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16 Upgrades cyber-harassment of public servant or family member
17 to third degree crime; requires Attorney General to establish cyber-
18 harassment prevention initiatives; appropriates funds.