

P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 342, *approved January 20, 2026*
Assembly Committee Substitute for
Assembly, No. 1921

1 AN ACT concerning bias incident investigation standards and
2 supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. As used in this section, “bias incident” means any
8 suspected or confirmed violation of paragraph (1) or (2) of
9 subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2001, c.443 (C.2C:16-1).
10 b. The Attorney General shall maintain and periodically review
11 the guidelines on bias incident investigation standards, and revise
12 the guidelines as need may require.
13 c. The guidelines on bias incident investigation standards shall,
14 at a minimum:
15 (1) require county and municipal law enforcement agencies to
16 report all confirmed or suspected bias incidents through the
17 Electronic Uniform Crime Reporting system as soon as practicable,
18 but not more than 24 hours after the initial law enforcement
19 response;
20 (2) require county and municipal law enforcement agencies to
21 immediately notify the Attorney General and the county prosecutor
22 when the suspected or confirmed bias incident involves
23 circumstances to be determined by the Attorney General, which
24 may include, but not be limited to: homicide, aggravated sexual
25 assault, sexual assault, aggravated assault, or arson; an organized
26 hate group as the perpetrator; or a potential to generate large-scale
27 public unrest;
28 (3) require county prosecutors to promptly notify the Attorney
29 General when they intend to file an accusation or seek an
30 indictment alleging bias intimidation;
31 (4) set forth procedures for the initial and follow-up
32 investigations of a reported bias incident, including the
33 responsibilities of an investigator or a supervisor upon arrival at the
34 scene;
35 (5) establish criteria for law enforcement officers to apply in
36 confirming a bias incident;
37 (6) establish requirements for providing instant notification,
38 through means that the Attorney General deems appropriate, to the
39 Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, the Division of
40 State Police, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the bias crime
41 officers of each county prosecutor’s office;

1 (7) ensure that a victim of a bias incident receives appropriate
2 information and referral to the Division on Civil Rights when the
3 incident involves a suspected or confirmed violation of the “Law
4 Against Discrimination,” P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.); and

5 (8) include provisions for appropriate training and continuing
6 education for law enforcement officers on detecting and reporting
7 bias incidents and investigating and prosecuting bias crimes.

8 d. The Attorney General shall ensure that the chief or director
9 of every county and municipal law enforcement agency, every
10 municipal and county prosecutor, and the Superintendent of State
11 Police are provided with prompt notice of any revisions to the
12 guidelines on bias incident investigation standards.

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14 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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Concerns AG guidelines on bias incident investigation standards.