

STATE OF NEW YORK

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IN ASSEMBLY

April 24, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. O'PHARROW -- read once and referred to the
Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the public officers law, the penal law and the civil rights law, in relation to prohibiting the disclosure and publication of the home address, personal telephone numbers, personal email addresses, or social media handles of any active or former New York state, New York city or local municipal emergency first responder, a judge of any court of law of this state, or a New York state, county or municipal prosecutor

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 89 of the public officers law is amended by adding
2 a new subdivision 7-a to read as follows:

3 7-a. (a) Nothing in this article shall permit the disclosure or publi-
4 cation of the home address, personal telephone numbers, personal email
5 addresses, or personal social media handles of any active or former New
6 York state, New York city or local municipal emergency first responder,
7 a judge of any court of law of this state, or a New York state, county
8 or municipal prosecutor.

9 (b) "First responder" or "New York state, New York city, or local
10 municipal emergency first responder" shall mean a police officer, peace
11 officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, paramedic, or other
12 emergency medical services provider engaged in the lawful performance of
13 their official duties.

14 § 2. The penal law is amended by adding two new sections 250.61 and
15 250.62 to read as follows:

16 § 250.61 Unlawful disclosure of the home address, personal telephone
17 numbers, personal email addresses or personal social media
18 handles of any active or former New York state, New York city
19 or local municipal emergency first responder, a judge of any
20 court of law of this state, or a New York state, county or
21 municipal prosecutor in the second degree.

22 For the purposes of this section, "first responder" or "New York
23 state, New York city or local municipal emergency first responder" shall

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 mean a police officer, peace officer, firefighter, emergency medical
2 technician, paramedic, or other emergency medical services provider
3 engaged in the lawful performance of their official duties.

4 A person shall not knowingly, with reckless disregard for the proba-
5 bility of exposure of another to harassment or risk of harm to life or
6 property, disclose or post or publish in any way including on the inter-
7 net the home address, personal telephone numbers, personal email
8 addresses or personal social media handles of any active or former New
9 York state, New York city or local municipal emergency first responder,
10 a judge of any court of law of this state, or a state, county or municip-
11 al prosecutor.

12 Unlawful disclosure of the home address, personal telephone numbers,
13 personal email addresses or personal social media handles of any active
14 or former New York state, New York city or local municipal emergency
15 first responder, a judge of any court of law of this state, or a New
16 York state, county or municipal prosecutor in the second degree is a
17 class A misdemeanor.

18 § 250.62 Unlawful disclosure of the home address, personal telephone
19 numbers, personal email addresses, or personal social media
20 handles of any active or former New York state, New York city
21 or local municipal emergency first responder, a judge of any
22 court of law of this state, or a New York state, county or
23 municipal prosecutor, or the spouse or child thereof in the
24 first degree.

25 For the purposes of this section, "first responder" or "New York
26 state, New York city or local municipal emergency first responder" shall
27 mean a police officer, peace officer, firefighter, emergency medical
28 technician, paramedic, or other emergency medical services provider
29 engaged in the lawful performance of their official duties.

30 A person shall not knowingly, with intent to expose another to harass-
31 ment or risk of harm to life or property, disclose, post or publish in
32 any way including on the internet the home address, personal telephone
33 numbers, personal email addresses, or personal social media handles of
34 any active or former New York state, New York city or local municipal
35 emergency first responder, a judge of any court of law of this state, or
36 a New York state, county or municipal prosecutor, or the spouse or child
37 thereof.

38 Unlawful disclosure of the home address, personal telephone numbers,
39 personal email addresses, or personal social media handles of any active
40 or former New York state, New York city or local municipal emergency
41 first responder, a judge of any court of law of this state, or a New
42 York state, county or municipal prosecutor, or the spouse or child ther-
43 eof in the first degree is a class E felony.

44 § 3. The civil rights law is amended by adding a new section 50-h to
45 read as follows:

46 § 50-h. Disclosure of the home address, personal telephone numbers,
47 personal email addresses, or personal social media handles of any active
48 or former New York state, New York city or local municipal emergency
49 first responder, a judge of any court of law of this state, or a New
50 York state, county or municipal prosecutor is prohibited. 1. For the
51 purposes of this section:

52 (a) "First responder" or "New York state, New York city or local
53 municipal emergency first responder" shall mean a police officer, peace
54 officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, paramedic, or other
55 emergency medical services provider engaged in the lawful performance of
56 official duties.

1 (b) "Disclose" shall mean to solicit, sell, manufacture, give,
2 provide, lend, trade, mail, deliver, transfer, publish, distribute,
3 circulate, disseminate, present, exhibit, advertise or offer.

4 2. No person, business, or association shall disclose or post or
5 publish in any way including on the internet the home address, personal
6 telephone numbers, personal email addresses, or personal social media
7 handles of an active or former New York state, New York city or local
8 municipal emergency first responder, a judge of any court of law of this
9 state, or a New York state, county or municipal prosecutor or spouse or
10 child thereof under circumstances in which a reasonable person would
11 believe that providing that information would expose another to harass-
12 ment or risk of harm to life or property.

13 3. A person, business, or association that violates subdivision two of
14 this section shall be liable to the active or former New York state, New
15 York city or local municipal emergency first responder, judge of any
16 court of law of this state, or state, county or municipal prosecutor,
17 the spouse or child thereof, or any other person residing at the home
18 address of such individual, who may bring a civil action in the supreme
19 court.

20 4. The court may award:

21 (a) actual damages, but not less than liquidated damages computed at
22 the rate of one thousand dollars for each violation of this section;

23 (b) punitive damages upon proof of willful or reckless disregard of
24 the law;

25 (c) reasonable attorneys' fees and other litigation costs reasonably
26 incurred; and

27 (d) any other preliminary and equitable relief as the court determines
28 to be appropriate.

29 § 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
30 have become a law.