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COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session

1992

Bill No. _____ CB-83-

1992

Chapter No.

68

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Del
Giudice

Introduced by Council Members Del Giudice, Mills,
Bell,

Castaldi, Casula and
Pemberton

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction September 29,
1992

BILL

AN ACT concerning

Harassment and Stalking

FOR the purpose of prohibiting repeated harassment and stalking
of a person and providing penalties for violation.

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 14. MORALS AND CONDUCT.

Sections 14-167,
14-168, and
14-169,
The Prince George's County Code
(1991 Edition).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Sections 14-167, 14-168, and 14-169 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby added:

SUBTITLE 14. MORALS AND CONDUCT.

DIVISION 13. HARASSMENT AND STALKING.

Sec. 14-167. Definitions.

(a) For purposes of this Division:

(1) **Course of conduct** means a persistent pattern of conduct, composed of two or more acts over a period of time, however short that evidences a continuity of purpose. Course of conduct does not include constitutionally protected activity.

(2) **Credible threat** means an expressed or implied threat against the life of another person or to cause bodily injury to another person which is made with the intent and the apparent ability to carry out the threat so as to cause the person who is the target of the threat to reasonably fear for his or her safety or for the safety of another person or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

(3) **Harass** means to engage in a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which serves no legitimate purpose and which would seriously alarm, annoy, or intimidate the person. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress.

(4) **Stalk** means to engage in an intentional course of conduct directed at a specific person which serves no legitimate purpose and which would seriously alarm, annoy, intimidate, or harass the person. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress.

Sec. 14-168. Unlawful Acts.

(a) A person who willfully follows, stalks, or harasses another person and who makes a credible threat against the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 14-169. Penalty.

(a) Each violation of this Division shall be punishable upon conviction by imprisonment not to exceed six months or a fine of One Thousand Dollars, or both.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 20th day of October, 1992.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:

Richard J. Castaldi
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Acting Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____

BY:

Parris N. Glendening
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.