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**GOVERNMENT CODE - GOV**

**TITLE 1. GENERAL [100 - 7931.000]** ( Title 1 enacted by Stats. 1943, Ch. 134. )

**DIVISION 10. ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS [7920.000 - 7931.000]** ( Division 10 added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. )

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**PART 5. SPECIFIC TYPES OF PUBLIC RECORDS [7923.600 - 7929.610]** ( Part 5 added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. )

2. )

**CHAPTER 14. Public Employee or Official [7928.000 - 7928.410]** ( Chapter 14 added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. )

**ARTICLE 3. Online Posting or Sale of Personal Information of Elected or Appointed Official [7928.200 - 7928.230]** ( Article 3 added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. )

**7928.200.** (a) Nothing in this article is intended to preclude punishment instead under Section 69, 76, or 422 of the Penal Code, or any other law.

(b) An interactive computer service or access software provider, as defined in Section 230(f) of Title 47 of the United States Code, shall not be liable under this article unless the service or provider intends to abet or cause imminent great bodily harm that is likely to occur or threatens to cause imminent great bodily harm to an elected or appointed official.

(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. (AB 473) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 7931.000.)

**7928.205.** (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 7922.545, no state or local agency shall publicly post the home address, telephone number, or both the name and assessor parcel number associated with the home address of any elected or appointed official on the internet without first obtaining the written permission of that individual.

(b) For purposes of this section, "publicly post" means to intentionally communicate or otherwise make available the information described in subdivision (a) on the internet in an unrestricted and publicly available manner.

(c) This section does not prohibit a state or local agency from publicly posting a legally required notice or publication of an elected or appointed official on the internet.

(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 551, Sec. 2. (AB 1785) Effective January 1, 2025.)

**7928.210.** (a) No person shall knowingly post the home address or telephone number of any elected or appointed official, or of the official's residing spouse or child, on the internet knowing that person is an elected or appointed official and intending to cause imminent great bodily harm that is likely to occur or threatening to cause imminent great bodily harm to that individual.

(b) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

(c) A violation of this section that leads to the bodily injury of the official, or the official's residing spouse or child, is a misdemeanor or a felony.

(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. (AB 473) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 7931.000.)

**7928.215.** (a) For purposes of this section, "publicly post" or "publicly display" means to intentionally communicate or otherwise make available to the general public.

(b) No person, business, or association shall publicly post or publicly display on the internet the home address or telephone number of any elected or appointed official if that official has, either directly or through an agent designated under Section 7928.220, made a written demand of that person, business, or association to not disclose the official's home address or telephone number.

(c) A written demand made under this section by a state constitutional officer, a mayor, or a Member of the Legislature, a city council, or a board of supervisors shall include a statement describing a threat or fear for the safety of that official or of any person residing at the official's home address.

(d) A written demand made under this section by an elected official shall be effective for four years, regardless of whether the official's term has expired before the end of the four-year period.

(e) (1) A person, business, or association that receives the written demand of an elected or appointed official pursuant to this section shall remove the official's home address or telephone number from public display on the internet, including information provided to cellular telephone applications, within 48 hours of delivery of the written demand, and shall continue to ensure that this information is not reposted on the same internet website, subsidiary site, or any other internet website maintained by the recipient of the written demand.

(2) After receiving the elected or appointed official's written demand, the person, business, or association shall not transfer the appointed or elected official's home address or telephone number to any other person, business, or association through any other medium.

(3) Paragraph (2) does not prohibit a telephone corporation, as defined in Section 234 of the Public Utilities Code, or its affiliate, from transferring the elected or appointed official's home address or telephone number to any person, business, or association, if the transfer is authorized by federal or state law, regulation, order, or tariff, or necessary in the event of an emergency, or to collect a debt owed by the elected or appointed official to the telephone corporation or its affiliate.

*(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. (AB 473) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 7931.000.)*

**7928.220.** (a) An elected or appointed official may designate in writing the official's employer, a related governmental entity, or any voluntary professional association of similar officials to act, on behalf of that official, as that official's agent with regard to making a written demand pursuant to this article.

(b) An appointed official who is a district attorney, a deputy district attorney, or a peace officer, as defined in Sections 830 to 830.65, inclusive, of the Penal Code, may also designate the official's recognized collective bargaining representative to make a written demand on the official's behalf pursuant to this article.

(c) A written demand made by an agent pursuant to Section 7928.215 shall include a statement describing a threat or fear for the safety of that official or of any person residing at the official's home address.

*(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. (AB 473) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 7931.000.)*

**7928.225.** (a) An official whose home address or telephone number is made public as a result of a violation of Section 7928.215 may bring an action seeking injunctive or declarative relief in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) If a court finds that a violation has occurred, it may grant injunctive or declarative relief and shall award the official court costs and reasonable attorney's fees.

(c) A fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000) may be imposed for a violation of the court's order for an injunction or declarative relief obtained pursuant to this section.

*(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. (AB 473) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 7931.000.)*

**7928.230.** (a) No person, business, or association shall solicit, sell, or trade on the internet the home address or telephone number of an elected or appointed official with the intent to cause imminent great bodily harm to the official or to any person residing at the official's home address.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, an official whose home address or telephone number is solicited, sold, or traded in violation of subdivision (a) may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) If a jury or court finds that a violation has occurred, it shall award damages to that official in an amount up to a maximum of three times the actual damages but in no case less than four thousand dollars (\$4,000).

*(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 614, Sec. 2. (AB 473) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 7931.000.)*