



Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

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Subject: Anti-Reproductive-Rights Crime in California

Senate Bill 780, effective January 1, 2002, enacted two laws: the California Freedom of Access to Clinic and Church Entrances (or California FACE) Act, and the Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act. The Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act added Penal Code (PC) §13775 through §13779 which require the Attorney General to collect and analyze information relating to anti-reproductive-rights crime (ARRC).

This bulletin provides information and a link to resources to help law enforcement agencies comply with the ARRC reporting requirements.

Penal Code §13776(a) defines an ARRC as “a crime committed partly or wholly because the victim is a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant, or a crime that is partly or wholly intended to intimidate the victim, any other person or entity, or any class of persons or entities from becoming or remaining a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant. ‘Anti-reproductive-rights crime’ includes, but is not limited to, a violation of subdivision (a) or (c) of Section 423.2.” Section 423.1 defines the terms used in this definition.

In 2006, the Attorney General reported receiving only four anti-reproductive rights crimes reports (five fewer than in 2005). Subject matter experts have put forth evidence that there were more crimes than represented in the Attorney General’s report for 2006. Reporting (and report writing) of ARRCs is critical; full documentation of an event will provide accurate statewide statistical information.

Victim and witness perceptions are the first item, although not the only item, that dispatchers and officers should consider in determining whether a reported crime is an ARRC. An increased awareness of the California FACE Act (PC §423.1 – 423.6), as well as local court orders and ordinances, will assist law enforcement agencies in making this determination and enhance the safety of people and property.

To assist in meeting the intent of the legislation and to improve the reporting efforts of law enforcement agencies, POST is updating the “Anti-Reproductive-Rights Crimes” telecourse (originally aired in 2003) and expects to distribute it during spring 2008.

ARRC reports for the Attorney General's Office are due by the tenth working day of each month. Reporting may be accomplished electronically via the Electronic-Crime and Arrest Reporting System (E-CARS) Plus, or manually by submitting BCIA 8370 and 8371 forms. For assistance in reporting anti-reproductive-rights crimes, law enforcement agencies should contact the California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center at 916.227.3515 or the California Law Enforcement Web (CLEW) at <http://clew.doj.ca.gov>.

Please direct any ARRC-related questions to Senior Consultant Kate Singer at 916.227.4829 or kate.singer@post.ca.gov.

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