

HOUSE BILL 2215

By Casada

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 86; Title 29; Title 63, Chapter 6 and Title 68, Chapter 140, relative to immunity in responding to emergency calls.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as "Jaclyn's Law".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 29, Chapter 34, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

29-34-208.

(a) As used in this section, "first responder" means a law-enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical services personnel or other person who responds to calls for emergency medical assistance from a 911 call.

(b) A first responder and the responder's supervisor, agency, employer or supervising entity is immune from civil or criminal liability resulting from a forcible entry of a home, business or other structure if the first responder:

(1) Is responding to a documented 911 call for emergency medical assistance;

(2) Has made reasonable efforts to summon an occupant of the home, business, or structure by knocking or otherwise notifying the occupant of the first responder's presence;

(3) Has not received a response from an occupant within a reasonable period of time after making reasonable efforts pursuant to subdivision (b)(2); and

(4) Has a good faith belief that it is necessary to make a forcible entry for the purposes of rendering emergency medical assistance or preventing imminent bodily harm.

(c) Nothing in this section shall affect the standard of care a first responder must employ when rendering aid after gaining entry.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.