

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2021 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 2195**

BY DELEGATE SYPOLT

[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;

reported March 18, 2021]



1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17C-4-7 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
2 to motor vehicle crash reports; requiring the investigating law-enforcement officer, within  
3 48 hours of a motor vehicle crash, to share the owner/operator and insurance information  
4 for all the involved parties with all the other involved parties and/or their insurance agents.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 4. ACCIDENTS.**

**§17C-4-7. Reports of crashes.**

1 (a) Every law-enforcement officer who, in the regular course of duty, investigates a motor  
2 vehicle crash occurring on the public streets or highways of this state resulting in bodily injury to  
3 or death of any person or total property damage to an apparent extent of \$1,000 or more shall,  
4 either at the time of and at the scene of the crash or thereafter by interviewing participants or  
5 witnesses, within 24 hours after completing such investigation, prepare report of such crash either  
6 electronically or in writing.

7 (b) The investigating law-enforcement officer shall, within 48 hours of a motor vehicle  
8 crash, make available the owner/operator and insurance information for all the involved parties to  
9 all the other involved parties and/or their insurance agents. This information shall be made  
10 available, at no cost, whether or not the accident report has been completed.

11 ~~(b)~~ (c) The investigating law-enforcement officer shall submit the report electronically or in  
12 writing within 24 hours after completing the investigation to the Division of Highways in the form  
13 and manner approved by the Commissioner of Highways, the Superintendent of the West Virginia  
14 State Police and the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Division of Highways shall supply  
15 electronic or paper copies of such form to police departments, sheriffs and other appropriate law-  
16 enforcement agencies.

17 ~~(c)~~ (d) ~~In the event that~~ If the investigating law-enforcement officer cannot complete the  
18 investigation within 10 days of the crash, he or she shall submit a preliminary report of the crash

- 19 to the Division of Highways on the 10th day after the crash and submit the final report within 24  
20 hours of completion of the investigation pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

NOTE: The bill requires the law-enforcement officer, within 24 hours of a motor vehicle crash, to share the owner/operator and insurance information for all the involved parties with all the other involved parties and/or their insurance agents.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.