

HB 1207 -- OFFICER-INVOLVED DEATHS

SPONSOR: Dogan

This bill requires each law enforcement agency to have a written policy regarding the investigation of officer-involved deaths. The written policy must:

(1) Require an investigation conducted by at least two investigators, one of whom is the lead investigator and neither of whom is employed by a law enforcement agency that employs a law enforcement officer involved in the officer-involved death;

(2) Require, in the case of a traffic-related death, the investigation to use a crash reconstruction unit from a law enforcement agency that does not employ a law enforcement officer involved in the officer-involved death being investigated. However, any state law enforcement agency may allow an investigation involving a law enforcement officer employed by that agency to use a crash reconstruction unit from the same state law enforcement agency; and

(3) Allow an internal investigation into the officer-involved death if the internal investigation does not interfere with the investigation required under these provisions.

The investigators conducting an investigation must provide a complete report, in an expeditious manner, to the prosecutor of the county or city not within a county in which the officer-involved death occurred. If the prosecutor determines there is no basis to prosecute the law enforcement officer involved in the officer-involved death, the investigators conducting the investigation must release a report of their findings.