

By: Fletcher

H.B. No. 343

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the reporting and recording of a motor vehicle accident
3 involving an official vehicle driven by a peace officer,
4 firefighter, or an emergency medical services employee in the
5 course of official duties.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Section 521.042(c), Transportation Code, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 (c) The record of a license holder who is employed as a peace
10 officer, fire fighter, or emergency medical services employee of
11 this state, a political subdivision of this state, or a special
12 purpose district may not include information relating to a traffic
13 accident that occurs [~~during an emergency~~] while the peace officer,
14 fire fighter, or emergency medical services employee is driving an
15 official vehicle in the course and scope of the license holder's
16 official duties if:

17 (1) the traffic accident resulted in damages to
18 property of less than \$1,000; or

19 (2) an investigation of the accident by a peace
20 officer, other than a peace officer involved in the accident,
21 determines that the peace officer, fire fighter, or emergency
22 medical services employee involved in the accident was not at
23 fault.

24 SECTION 2. Section 550.064(b), Transportation Code, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (b) An accident report form prepared by the department must:

3 (1) require sufficiently detailed information to
4 disclose the cause and conditions of and the persons and vehicles
5 involved in an accident if the form is for the report to be made by a
6 person involved in or investigating the accident;

7 (2) include a way to designate and identify a peace
8 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services employee who
9 [~~during an emergency~~] is involved in an accident while driving a law
10 enforcement vehicle, fire department vehicle, or emergency medical
11 services vehicle while performing the person's duties;

12 (3) require a statement by a person described by
13 Subdivision (2) as to the nature of the accident [~~emergency~~]; and

14 (4) include a way to designate whether an individual
15 involved in an accident wants to be contacted by a person seeking to
16 obtain employment as a professional described by Section 38.01(12),
17 Penal Code.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.