

By: Ward Johnson

H.B. No. 3343

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the duties of peace officers investigating a family
3 violence allegation or responding to a disturbance call that may
4 involve family violence.

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

6 SECTION 1. Article 5.04, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
7 amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

8 (c) A peace officer who investigates a family violence
9 allegation or responds to a disturbance call that may involve
10 family violence shall, to the extent practicable under the
11 circumstances, physically separate the individuals at the scene and
12 conduct an interview of the potential victim in a manner that
13 prevents the suspect from intimidating the victim while the victim
14 is providing statements and other evidence to the investigating
15 peace officer, including, as practicable, by:

16 (1) preventing the suspect from being able to make eye
17 contact with the victim or make any other nonverbal communication
18 to the victim;

19 (2) placing the suspect and victim into separate
20 rooms, if both are detained indoors; and

21 (3) preventing the suspect from making verbal
22 communications to the victim by:

23 (A) placing the suspect at a distance from the
24 victim at which speech is not likely to be overheard or

1 intelligible; or

2 (B) using physical barriers.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.