

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1563.1(A)(16) and to enact R.S. 14:51.1 and 62.9 and R.S.  
3 40:1563.1(A)(17), relative to the crimes of arson and burglary; to provide relative  
4 to injury to persons; to provide relative to injury to firefighters, law enforcement  
5 officers, and first responders; to provide for the crime of simple burglary of a law  
6 enforcement or emergency vehicle; to provide definitions; to provide for authority  
7 to make arrests; to provide penalties and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 14:51.1 and 62.9 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 **§51.1. Injury by arson**

11 **A. Injury by arson is the intentional damaging by any explosive**  
12 **substance or the setting fire to any structure, watercraft, or other movable**  
13 **belonging to another if either of the following occurs:**

14 **(1) Any person suffers great bodily harm, permanent disability, or**  
15 **disfigurement as a result of the fire or explosion.**

16 **(2) A firefighter, law enforcement officer or first responder who is**  
17 **present at the scene and acting in the line of duty is injured as a result of the fire**  
18 **or explosion.**

19 **B. Whoever commits the crime of injury by arson shall be imprisoned**  
20 **at hard labor for not less than six nor more than twenty years, and shall be**

1 fined not more than twenty-five thousand dollars. Two years of such  
2 imprisonment at hard labor shall be without benefit of parole, probation, or  
3 suspension of sentence.

4 \* \* \*

5 §62.9. Simple burglary of a law enforcement or emergency vehicle

6 A. Simple burglary of a law enforcement or emergency vehicle is the  
7 unauthorized entering of any law enforcement or emergency vehicle with the  
8 intent to commit a felony or any theft therein.

9 B. For the purposes of this Section, "law enforcement or emergency  
10 vehicle" means a marked vehicle with fully visual and audible warning signals  
11 operated by a fire department, a state, parish, or municipal police department,  
12 a sheriff's office, or such ambulances and emergency medical response vehicles  
13 certified by the Department of Health and Hospitals that are operated by  
14 certified ambulance services, and emergency vehicles of municipal departments  
15 or public service corporations as are designated or authorized by the secretary  
16 of the Department of Transportation and Development, or by the chief of police  
17 of any incorporated municipality.

18 C. Whoever commits the crime of simple burglary of a law enforcement  
19 or emergency vehicle shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars,  
20 imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than twenty years, or both.

21 Section 2. R.S. 40:1563.1(A)(16) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
22 40:1563.1(A)(17) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

23 §1563.1. Authority to make arrests and carry firearms; arson task force

24 A. The fire marshal, the first assistant fire marshal, each deputy fire marshal,  
25 certified local authorities, and state or municipal arson investigators, while engaged  
26 in the performance of their duties as such, shall have the authority to investigate and  
27 cause the arrest of individuals suspected of having violated the following criminal  
28 laws:

29 \* \* \*

30 (16) R.S. 14.51.1, injury by arson.

