1	HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION
2	STATE OF OKLAHOMA
3	1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)
4	ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 968 By: Haste and Bergstrom of the
5	Senate
6	and
7	Dills of the House
8	
9	
10	An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Records Act; amending 51 O.S. 2011, Section 24A.8, as last amended
11	by Section 2, Chapter 370, O.S.L. 2015 (51 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 24A.8), which relates to disclosure of
12	law enforcement records; prohibiting disclosure of certain audio or video recordings; authorizing
13	viewing of certain recordings under certain circumstances; defining term; construing provisions;
14	and providing an effective date.
15	
16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
17	SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 51 O.S. 2011, Section 24A.8, as
18	last amended by Section 2, Chapter 370, O.S.L. 2015 (51 O.S. Supp.
19	2020, Section 24A.8), is amended to read as follows:
20	Section 24A.8. A. Law enforcement agencies shall make
21	available for public inspection and copying, if kept, the following
22	records:
23	
24	

An arrestee description, including the name, date of birth,
 address, race, sex, physical description, and occupation of the
 arrestee;

4 2. Facts concerning the arrest, including the cause of arrest5 and the name of the arresting officer;

3. A chronological list of all incidents, including initial
offense report information showing the offense, date, time, general
location, officer, and a brief summary of what occurred;

9 4. Radio logs, including a chronological listing of the calls10 dispatched;

11 5. Conviction information, including the name of any person 12 convicted of a criminal offense;

13 6. Disposition of all warrants, including orders signed by a
14 judge of any court commanding a law enforcement officer to arrest a
15 particular person;

16 7. A crime summary, including an agency summary of crimes 17 reported and public calls for service by classification or nature 18 and number;

19 8. Jail registers, including jail blotter data or jail booking 20 information recorded on persons at the time of incarceration showing 21 the name of each prisoner with the date and cause of commitment, the 22 authority committing the prisoner, whether committed for a criminal 23 offense, a description of the prisoner, and the date or manner of 24 discharge or escape of the prisoner;

Page 2

9. Audio and video recordings from recording equipment attached
 to law enforcement vehicles or associated audio recordings from
 recording equipment on the person of a law enforcement officer;
 provided, the law enforcement agency may, before releasing any audio
 or video recording provided for in this paragraph, redact or obscure
 specific portions of the recording which:

- a. depict the death of a person or a dead body, unless
 the death was effected by a law enforcement officer,
- 9 b. depict nudity,
- c. would identify minors under the age of sixteen (16)
 years or would undermine any requirement to keep
 certain juvenile records confidential as provided for
 in Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- 14 d. depict acts of severe violence resulting in great
 15 bodily injury, as defined in Section 11-904 of Title
 16 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, against persons that are
 17 clearly visible, unless the act of severe violence was
 18 effected by a law enforcement officer,
- e. depict great bodily injury, as defined in Section 11904 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, unless the
 great bodily injury was effected by a law enforcement
 officer,

f. include personal medical information that is notalready public,

- 1g. would undermine the assertion of a privilege provided2in Section 1-109 or Section 3-428 of Title 43A of the3Oklahoma Statutes for detention or transportation for4mental health evaluation or treatment or drug or5alcohol detoxification purposes,
- h. include personal information other than the name or
 license plate number of a person not arrested, cited,
 charged or issued a written warning. Such personal
 information shall include any government-issued
 identification number, date of birth, address or
 financial information, or
- 12 i. reveal the identity of law enforcement officers who 13 have become subject to internal investigation by the law enforcement agency as a result of an event 14 15 depicted in the recording. The option to protect the identity of a law enforcement officer shall not be 16 available to the law enforcement agency after the law 17 enforcement agency has concluded the investigation and 18 rendered a decision as to final disciplinary action. 19 At such time when an investigation has concluded and 20 the law enforcement agency has rendered its decision 21 as to final disciplinary action, the portions of the 22 recordings previously withheld as provided for in this 23 subparagraph shall be available for public inspection 24

1		and	copying. The audio and video recordings withheld
2		as p	rovided for in this subparagraph shall be
		_	
3		avai	lable for public inspection and copying before the
4		conc	lusion of the investigation if the investigation
5		last	s for an unreasonable amount of time; and
6	10. a.	Audi	o and video recordings from recording equipment
7		atta	ched to the person of a law enforcement officer
8		that	depict:
9		(1)	the use of any physical force or violence by a
10			law enforcement officer,
11		(2)	pursuits of any kind,
12		(3)	traffic stops,
13		(4)	any person being arrested, cited, charged or
14			issued a written warning,
15		(5)	events that directly led to any person being
16			arrested, cited, charged or receiving a written
17			warning,
18		(6)	detentions of any length for the purpose of
19			investigation,
20		(7)	any exercise of authority by a law enforcement
21			officer that deprives a citizen of his or her
22			liberty,
23			
24			

- (8) actions by a law enforcement officer that have
 become the cause of an investigation or charges
 being filed,
- 4 (9) recordings in the public interest that may
 5 materially aid a determination of whether law
 6 enforcement officers are appropriately performing
 7 their duties as public servants, or
 - (10) any contextual events occurring before or after the events depicted in divisions (1) through (9) of this subparagraph.
- b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph a of
 this paragraph, the law enforcement agency may, before
 releasing any audio or video recording provided for in
 this paragraph, redact or obscure specific portions of
 the recording that:
- 16 (1) depict the death of a person or a dead body,
 17 unless the death was effected by a law
 18 enforcement officer,
- 19 (2) depict nudity,

8

9

10

20 (3) would identify minors under the age of sixteen
21 (16) years or would undermine any requirement to
22 keep certain juvenile records confidential as
23 provided for in Title 10A of the Oklahoma
24 Statutes,

- (4) depict acts of severe violence resulting in great
 bodily injury, as defined in Section 11-904 of
 Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, against
 persons that are clearly visible, unless the act
 of severe violence was effected by a law
 enforcement officer,
- 7 (5) depict great bodily injury, as defined in Section
 8 11-904 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 9 unless the great bodily injury was effected by a
 10 law enforcement officer,
- (6) include personal medical information that is not
 already public,
 - (7) undermine the assertion of a privilege as provided in Section 1-109 or Section 3-428 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes for detention or transportation for mental health evaluation or treatment or drug or alcohol detoxification purposes,
 - (8) identify alleged victims of sex crimes or domestic violence,
- (9) identify any person who provides information to
 law enforcement or the information provided by
 that person when that person requests anonymity
 or where disclosure of the identity of the person

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

- 1or the information provided could reasonably be2expected to threaten or endanger the physical3safety or property of the person or the physical4safety or property of others,
 - (10) undermine the assertion of a privilege to keep the identity of an informer confidential as provided for in Section 2510 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- 9 (11) include personal information other than the name 10 or license plate number of a person not 11 officially arrested, cited, charged or issued a 12 written warning. Such personal information shall 13 include any government-issued identification 14 number, date of birth, address or financial 15 information,
 - (12) include information that would materially compromise an ongoing criminal investigation or ongoing criminal prosecution, provided that:
- (a) ten (10) days following the formal arraignment or initial appearance, whichever occurs first, of a person charged in the case in question, the recording shall be made available for public inspection and copying with no redaction of the portions

5

6

7

8

16

17

that were temporarily withheld by reliance on this division. Provided, before potential release of a recording as provided for in this subdivision, the prosecutor or legal representative of the person charged may request from the appropriate district court an extension of time during which the recording may be withheld under the provisions of this division. When a request for an extension of time has been filed with the court, the recording in question may be withheld until the court has issued a ruling. Such requests for an extension of the time during which the recording may be withheld may be made on the grounds that release of the recording will materially compromise an ongoing criminal investigation or criminal prosecution or on the grounds that release of the recording will materially compromise the right of an accused to a fair trial that has yet to begin. Courts considering such requests shall conduct a hearing and consider whether the interests of the public outweigh the

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

1 interests asserted by the parties. In 2 response to such requests, the court shall 3 order that the recording be made available for public inspection and copying with no 4 5 redaction of the portions that were temporarily withheld by reliance on this 6 division or order an extension of time 7 during which the recording may be withheld 8 9 under the provisions of this division. Provided further, each such time extension 10 shall only be ordered by the court for an 11 additional six-month period of time or less 12 13 and cumulative time extensions shall not add up to more than eighteen (18) months, or 14 in the event that one hundred twenty (120) 15 (b) days expire from the date of the events 16 17 depicted in the recording without any person being criminally charged in the case in 18 question and release of a recording or 19 20 portions of a recording have been denied on the grounds provided for in this division, 21 an appeal of such denial may be made to the 22 23 appropriate district court. In situations where one hundred twenty (120) days have 24

expired since the creation of the recording, criminal charges have not been filed against a person and the recording is being withheld on the grounds provided for in this division, courts considering appeals to the use of the provisions of this division for temporarily withholding a recording shall conduct a hearing and consider whether the interests of the public outweigh the interests of the parties protected by this division. In response to such appeals, the district court shall order that the recording be made available for public inspection and copying with no redaction of the portions that were temporarily withheld by reliance on this division or order an extension of time during which the recording may be withheld under the provisions of this division. An order granting an extension of time shall be applicable to the recording against all appellants for the duration of the extension. Provided, each such time extension shall only be ordered by the district court for an additional twelve-

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

1 month period of time or less and cumulative 2 time extensions shall not add up to more 3 than three (3) years. Provided, charges being filed against a person in the case in 4 5 question automatically cancels any extension of time. A new request for an extension of 6 7 time following an arraignment or initial appearance may be requested by the parties 8 9 on the grounds and under the terms provided for in subdivision (a) of this division. 10 11 The options presented in this division to 12 potentially withhold a recording or portions of a 13 recording on the grounds provided for in this division shall expire in totality four (4) years 14 after the recording was made at which time all 15 recordings previously withheld on the grounds 16 17 provided for in this division shall be made available for public inspection and copying, or 18 reveal the identity of law enforcement officers 19 (13)20 who have become subject to internal investigation by the law enforcement agency as a result of an 21 event depicted in the recording. The option to 22 23 protect the identity of a law enforcement officer shall not be available to the law enforcement 24

1 agency after the law enforcement agency has 2 concluded the investigation and rendered a 3 decision as to final disciplinary action. At such time when an investigation has concluded and 4 5 the law enforcement agency has rendered its decision as to final disciplinary action, the 6 7 portions of the recordings previously withheld as provided for in this division shall be available 8 9 for public inspection and copying. The audio and 10 video recordings withheld on the grounds provided for in this division shall be available for 11 12 public inspection and copying before the 13 conclusion of the investigation if the investigation lasts for an unreasonable amount of 14 time. 15

16 Β. 1. Except for the records listed in subsection A of this section and those made open by other state or local laws, law 17 enforcement agencies may deny access to law enforcement records 18 except where a court finds that the public interest or the interest 19 of an individual outweighs the reason for denial. The provisions of 20 this section shall not operate to deny access to law enforcement 21 records if such records have been previously made available to the 22 public as provided in the Oklahoma Open Records Act or as otherwise 23 24 provided by law.

1	<u>2.</u>	<u>a.</u>	A law enforcement agency shall deny access to any
2			audio or video recording that depicts the death of a
3			law enforcement officer who was acting in the course
4			of his or her official duties including any related
5			acts or events immediately preceding or subsequent to
6			the acts or events that caused or otherwise relate to
7			the death, except where a court finds that the public
8			interest or the interest of an individual outweighs
9			the reason for denial. Provided, however, a law
10			enforcement agency may allow a family member of the
11			deceased law enforcement officer to hear or view such
12			audio or video recording under protocols established
13			by the law enforcement agency. For the purposes of
14			this subparagraph, "family member" means a spouse,
15			adult child, parent or sibling of the deceased law
16			enforcement officer.
17		<u>b.</u>	Nothing in subparagraph a of this paragraph shall be
18			construed to prohibit the prosecution and defense
19			counsel from access to such audio or video recordings
20			or the use of such recordings as evidence in a legal
21			proceeding.
22	С.	Nothi	ng contained in this section imposes any new
23	recordke	eeping	g requirements. Law enforcement records shall be kept
24	for as I	Long a	as is now or may hereafter be specified by law. Absent

24 for as long as is now or may hereafter be specified by 1

a legal requirement for the keeping of a law enforcement record for
 a specific time period, law enforcement agencies shall maintain
 their records for so long as needed for administrative purposes.

D. Registration files maintained by the Department of
Corrections pursuant to the provisions of the Sex Offenders
Registration Act shall be made available for public inspection in a
manner to be determined by the Department.

Ε. The Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training 8 9 (C.L.E.E.T.) shall keep confidential all records it maintains 10 pursuant to Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and 11 deny release of records relating to any employed or certified full-12 time officer, reserve officer, retired officer or other person; teacher lesson plans, tests and other teaching materials; and 13 personal communications concerning individual students except under 14 the following circumstances: 15

16 1. To verify the current certification status of any peace 17 officer;

As may be required to perform the duties imposed by Section
 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3. To provide to any peace officer copies of the records ofthat peace officer upon submitting a written request;

4. To provide, upon written request, to any law enforcement
agency conducting an official investigation, copies of the records
of any peace officer who is the subject of such investigation;

1 5. To provide final orders of administrative proceedings where 2 an adverse action was taken against a peace officer; and Pursuant to an order of the district court of the State of 3 6. Oklahoma. 4 5 F. The Department of Public Safety shall keep confidential: 1. All records it maintains pursuant to its authority under 6 7 Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes relating to the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Division, the Communications Division, and other divisions of 8 9 the Department relating to: 10 training, lesson plans, teaching materials, tests τ and a. 11 test results, 12 b. policies, procedures, and operations, any of which are of a tactical nature, and 13 the following information from radio logs: 14 с. 15 telephone numbers, (1)addresses other than the location of incidents to 16 (2) which officers are dispatched, and 17 personal information which is contrary to the 18 (3) provisions of the Driver's Privacy Protection 19 Act, 18 United States Code, Sections 2721 through 20 2725; and 21 2. For the purpose of preventing identity theft and invasion of 22 law enforcement computer systems, except as provided in Title 47 of 23 the Oklahoma Statutes, all driving records. 24

1	SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.
2	
3	COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT, dated 04/01/2021 - DO PASS.
4	01/01/2021 D0 1100.
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	