



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 144 [2017 Senate Bill 704]	Changes to Address Confidentiality Program
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2017 Wisconsin Act 144 makes certain changes to the address confidentiality program created by 2015 Wisconsin Act 356. Generally, victims that meet certain eligibility criteria may participate in the program. Under the program, the Department of Justice (DOJ) assigns an alternative address to program participants, and DOJ forwards all mail received at the assigned address to the program participant's actual address.

Generally, Act 144 makes the following changes to the program:

- Expands the definition of a program participant's "actual address" to include any portion of the address.
- Clarifies that DOJ may disenroll a program participant if the person fails to update his or her information, or if DOJ determines that the person no longer meets the program's eligibility requirements.
- Authorizes DOJ to promulgate rules to allow a program participant to consent to a disclosure of his or her actual address by DOJ or other entities when necessary to qualify for certain public assistance benefits or real property transactions.
- Allows a limited liability company (LLC) to list DOJ as the LLC's registered agent and registered office, if a program participant is the sole member of the LLC. In such circumstances, DOJ must forward any service of process, notice, or demand to the program participant's actual address, if received.
- Provides that a person who intentionally releases information in violation of the laws governing the program is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Effective date: March 30, 2018

Prepared by: Amber Otis, Staff Attorney

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.