



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 309
[2017 Senate Bill 55]

**Mandatory Period of
Confinement for Certain Crimes**

Under prior law, if a person had one or more convictions for a serious violent crime or a crime punishable by life imprisonment and subsequently committed a serious violent crime, the court was required to impose a bifurcated sentence that included a mandatory minimum period of confinement of three years and six months. Prior law defined “serious violent crime,” for these purposes, to mean felony murder or second-degree intentional homicide.

2017 Wisconsin Act 309 increases this mandatory minimum period of confinement to five years, and adds the following crimes to the definition of “serious violent crime” for the purposes of the mandatory minimum period of confinement:

- First- or second-degree reckless homicide.
- Homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle or firearm.
- Aggravated battery.
- Mayhem.
- Taking hostages.
- Kidnapping.
- Causing death or great bodily harm or creating a high probability of great bodily harm by tampering with household products.
- Arson of buildings or damage by explosives.
- Carjacking.
- Armed robbery.
- Robbery of a financial institution.

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>.

- Physical abuse of a child causing great bodily harm or repeated acts of physical abuse of a child.
- Child trafficking.
- Abduction of another's child by force or threat of imminent force.

Effective date: The Act first applies to crimes committed on April 18, 2018, but does not preclude the counting of offenses as prior offenses for the purposes of sentencing.

Prepared by: David Moore, Senior Staff Attorney

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