



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 103
[2015 Assembly Bill 308]

Forcibly Entering a Vehicle

2015 Wisconsin Act 103 provides that a person is immune from civil liability for property damage or injury that results from his or her forcible entry into a vehicle if a person or domestic animal was present in the vehicle and the actor had a good faith belief that the person or animal was in imminent danger of suffering bodily harm unless he or she exited or was removed from the vehicle.

Under the Act, the immunity applies if the actor: (1) determined that the vehicle was locked and that forcible entry was necessary to enable the actor to enter the vehicle or to enable the person or animal to be removed from or exit the vehicle; (2) dialed “911” or otherwise contacted law enforcement, emergency medical services (EMS), or animal control before he or she forcibly entered the vehicle; (3) remained with the person or animal until a law enforcement officer, EMS provider, animal control officer, or other first responder arrived at the scene; (4) used no more force than he or she reasonably believed necessary to enter the vehicle; and (5) placed a notice with certain information on the vehicle’s windshield if the actor left the scene before the vehicle’s owner or operator returned to the scene.

Effective date: November 13, 2015. The Act first applies to entries that are made on November 13, 2015.

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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>.