

Subject Civil liability: duty to render aid to shooting victim

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Summary

Currently, § 609.662 provides that if a person discharges a firearm, and that person knows or has reason to know that this has caused bodily harm to another person, then the shooter has a duty to render assistance to the injured party. Similarly, a person who witnesses the discharge of a firearm, and who knows or has reason to know that this caused bodily harm to another person, also has a duty to render assistance to the injured party. Violation of these duties is a crime under the current statute.

This bill would amend the statute to also provide that a person injured by a violation of either of the duties discussed above could bring a civil cause of action to recover damages as well as attorney fees.