

HB 1256 -- INVESTIGATIONS OF OFFICER-INVOLVED SHOOTINGS

SPONSOR: Anderson

Beginning on January 1, 2024, whenever an officer-involved shooting occurs in St. Louis City or County, the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction shall notify the Attorney General, who, upon receipt of that notification, must appoint a law enforcement agency located within 100 miles of the jurisdiction of occurrence to conduct a special investigation.

The bill specifies what the law enforcement agency conducting the special investigation must report upon the investigation's conclusion, including a recommendation to the circuit attorney or county prosecutor as to whether the law enforcement officer ought to be charged with a crime due to their involvement with the shooting. If the Attorney General determines there is no basis to prosecute the involved officer, they must prepare and publicly release a report explaining how that determination was reached. The bill specifies what must be in the report.

The law enforcement agency that employs the involved officer may conduct a separate, internal investigation into the shooting, but that internal investigation must not interfere with, or be conducted in lieu of, the special investigation. Additionally, the agency with jurisdiction over the shooting must reimburse the investigating agency for any expenses incurred through the duration of the investigation.