

**§2600-F. Duty to warn and protect****(REALLOCATED FROM TITLE 32, SECTION 2600-D)**

**1. Duty.** An osteopathic physician licensed under this chapter has a duty to warn of or to take reasonable precautions to provide protection from a patient's violent behavior if the osteopathic physician has a reasonable belief based on communications with the patient that the patient is likely to engage in physical violence that poses a serious risk of harm to self or others. The duty imposed under this subsection may not be interpreted to require the osteopathic physician to take any action that in the reasonable professional judgment of the osteopathic physician would endanger the osteopathic physician or increase the threat of danger to a potential victim.

[PL 2019, c. 317, §1 (NEW); RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. A, §44 (RAL).]

**2. Discharge of duty.** An osteopathic physician subject to a duty to warn or provide protection under subsection 1 may discharge that duty if the osteopathic physician makes reasonable efforts to communicate the threat to a potential victim, notifies a law enforcement agency or seeks involuntary hospitalization of the patient under Title 34-B, chapter 3, subchapter 4, article 3.

[PL 2019, c. 317, §1 (NEW); RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. A, §44 (RAL).]

**3. Immunity.** No monetary liability and no cause of action may arise concerning patient privacy or confidentiality against an osteopathic physician licensed under this chapter for information disclosed to 3rd parties in an effort to discharge a duty under subsection 2.

[PL 2019, c. 317, §1 (NEW); RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. A, §44 (RAL).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 2019, c. 317, §1 (NEW). RR 2019, c. 1, Pt. A, §44 (RAL).

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