**§1002-A. Criminal use of laser pointers**

**1.**  A person is guilty of criminal use of a laser pointer if the person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly points a laser pointer at another person, while the laser pointer is emitting a laser beam, and:

A. Causes bodily injury to that other person. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D crime; [PL 2001, c. 383, §112 (AMD); PL 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).]

B. That other person is a law enforcement officer in uniform. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D crime; or [PL 2001, c. 383, §112 (AMD); PL 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).]

C. Causes a reasonable person to suffer intimidation, annoyance or alarm. Violation of this paragraph is a Class E crime. [PL 2001, c. 383, §112 (AMD); PL 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).]

[PL 2001, c. 383, §112 (AMD); PL 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).]

**2.**  For the purposes of this section, "laser pointer" means a hand-held device that emits a visible light beam amplified by the stimulated emission of radiation.

[PL 1999, c. 163, §1 (NEW).]

**3.**  It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that at the time of the laser pointer's use the person who intentionally, knowingly or recklessly pointed a laser pointer at another person was justified under chapter 5 in threatening or using physical force upon the other person.

[PL 1999, c. 163, §1 (NEW).]

**4.**  As part of every judgment of conviction and sentence imposed, every laser pointer that constitutes the basis for conviction under this section must be forfeited to the State and the court shall so order, unless another person can satisfy the court prior to the judgment and by a preponderance of the evidence that such other person had a right to possess the laser pointer, to the exclusion of the defendant, at the time of the offense.

[PL 2001, c. 383, §113 (AMD); PL 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1999, c. 163, §1 (NEW). PL 2001, c. 383, §§112,113 (AMD). PL 2001, c. 383, §156 (AFF).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.