

Senator Stephen H. Urquhart proposes the following substitute bill:

**FORCIBLE ENTRY AMENDMENTS**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Stephen H. Urquhart**

House Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies the Utah Code of Criminal Procedure regarding the use of forcible entry when serving a search warrant or making an arrest.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ amends existing law regarding the use of forcible entry by a law enforcement officer when executing a warrant;
- ▶ requires a law enforcement officer to wear a badge, label, or clothing that identifies that person as a peace officer;
- ▶ provides that if the deploying law enforcement agency owns and operates body camera devices, the officer who executes a warrant shall be equipped with a body camera that actively records through the duration of the execution of the warrant;
- ▶ provides that a search or administrative warrant may not be issued by a justice court judge; and
- ▶ provides that any evidence obtained in violation of these provisions is not admissible in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None



26 **Other Special Clauses:**

27 None

28 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29 AMENDS:

30 **77-7-8**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 297

31 **77-23-210**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 297



33 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

34 Section 1. Section **77-7-8** is amended to read:

35 **77-7-8. Forcible entry to conduct search or make arrest -- Conditions requiring a**  
36 **warrant.**

37 (1) (a) Subject to Subsection (2), a peace officer when making an arrest may forcibly  
38 enter the building in which the person to be arrested is located, or in which there is probable  
39 cause for believing [~~him~~] the person to be.

40 (b) Before making the forcible entry, the officer shall:

41 (i) identify himself or herself as a law enforcement officer; [~~and~~]

42 (ii) demand admission; and

43 (iii) explain the purpose for which admission is desired.

44 (c) (i) The officer need not give a demand and explanation, or identify himself or  
45 herself, before making a forcible entry under the exceptions in Section **77-7-6** or where there is  
46 probable cause to believe evidence will be easily or quickly [~~secreted or~~] destroyed.

47 (ii) The officer shall identify himself or herself and state the purpose [~~of~~] for entering  
48 the premises as soon as practicable after entering the premises.

49 (d) The officer may use only that force which is reasonable and necessary to effectuate  
50 forcible entry under this section.

51 (2) If the building to be entered under Subsection (1) appears to be a private residence  
52 or the officer knows the building is a private residence, and if there is no consent to enter or  
53 there are no exigent circumstances, the officer shall, before entering the building:

54 (a) obtain an arrest or search warrant if the building is the residence of the person to be  
55 arrested; or

56 (b) obtain a search warrant if the building is a residence, but not the residence of the

57 person whose arrest is sought.

58 Section 2. Section **77-23-210** is amended to read:

59 **77-23-210. Force used in executing a search warrant -- When notice of authority**  
60 **is required as a prerequisite.**

61 (1) (a) No later than July 1, 2015, any law enforcement agency that seeks a warrant  
62 under this section shall comply with guidelines and procedures which are, at a minimum, in  
63 accordance with state law and model guidelines and procedures recommended by the Utah  
64 Department of Public Safety.

65 (b) Written policies adopted pursuant to this section, shall be subject to public  
66 disclosure and inspection, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Access and  
67 Management Act.

68 ~~[(1)]~~ (2) When a search warrant has been issued authorizing entry into any building,  
69 room, conveyance, compartment, or other enclosure, the officer executing the warrant may  
70 enter:

71 (a) if, after giving notice of the officer's authority and purpose, there is no response or  
72 the officer is not admitted with reasonable promptness; or

73 (b) without notice of the officer's authority and purpose as provided in Subsection (3).

74 ~~[(2) The officer executing the warrant under Subsection (1) may use only that force~~  
75 ~~which is reasonable and necessary to execute the warrant.]~~

76 ~~[(3) (a) The officer shall identify himself or herself and state the purpose of entering~~  
77 ~~the premises as soon as practicable.]~~

78 ~~[(b)]~~ (3) (a) The officer may enter without notice only if:

79 (i) there is ~~[reason]~~ reasonable suspicion to believe that the notice will endanger the  
80 life or safety of the officer or another person;

81 (ii) there is probable cause to believe that evidence may be easily or quickly ~~[secreted~~  
82 ~~or]~~ destroyed; or

83 (iii) the magistrate, having found probable cause based upon proof provided under  
84 oath, that the object of the search may be easily or quickly ~~[secreted or]~~ destroyed, or having  
85 found reason to believe that physical harm may result to any person if notice were given, has  
86 directed that the officer need not give notice of authority and purpose before entering the  
87 premises to be searched under ~~[Rule 40,]~~ the Rules of Criminal Procedure[-]; or

88 (iv) the officer physically observes and documents a previously unknown event or  
89 circumstance at the time the warrant is being executed which creates probable cause to believe  
90 the object of the search is being destroyed, or creates ~~§~~ → **reasonable suspicion** ← ~~§~~ to  
90a believe that physical harm may  
91 result to any person if notice were given.

92 (b) The officer shall identify himself or herself and state the purpose for entering the  
93 premises as soon as practicable after entering.

94 (4) An officer executing a warrant under this section may use only that force which is  
95 reasonable and necessary to execute the warrant.

96 (5) An officer executing a warrant under this section shall wear readily identifiable  
97 markings, including a badge and vest or clothing with a distinguishing label or other writing  
98 which indicates that he or she is a law enforcement officer.

99 (6) (a) An officer executing a warrant under this section shall comply with the officer's  
100 employing agency's body worn camera policy when the officer is equipped with a body worn  
101 camera.

102 (b) The employing agency's policy regarding the use of body worn cameras shall  
103 include a provision that an officer ~~§~~ → **executing a warrant under this section** ← ~~§~~ shall wear a  
103a body worn camera when a camera is available,  
104 except in exigent circumstances where it is not practicable to do so.

105 ~~[(4)]~~ (7) (a) The officer shall take reasonable precautions in execution of any search  
106 warrant to minimize the risks of unnecessarily confrontational or invasive methods which may  
107 result in harm to any person.

108 (b) The officer shall minimize the risk of searching the wrong premises by verifying  
109 that the premises being searched is consistent with a particularized description in the search  
110 warrant, including such factors as the type of structure, the color, the address, and orientation  
111 of the target property in relation to nearby structures as is reasonably necessary.

112 (8) Notwithstanding any provision in this chapter, a warrant may not be issued under  
113 this section, solely for:

114 (a) the alleged possession or use of a controlled substance; or

115 (b) the alleged possession of drug paraphernalia as provided in Section [53-37a-3](#).