

808B.2 Unlawful acts — penalty.

1. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter, a person who does any of the following commits a class “D” felony:

a. Willfully intercepts, endeavors to intercept, or procures any other person to intercept or endeavor to intercept, a wire, oral, or electronic communication.

b. Willfully uses, endeavors to use, or procures any other person to use or endeavor to use an electronic, mechanical, or other device to intercept any oral communication when either of the following applies:

(1) The device is affixed to, or otherwise transmits a signal through, a wire, cable, or other like connection used in wire communication.

(2) The device transmits communications by radio, or interferes with the transmission of radio communications.

c. Willfully discloses, or endeavors to disclose, to any other person the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication, knowing or having reason to know that the information was obtained through the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication in violation of this subsection.

d. Willfully uses, or endeavors to use, the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication, knowing or having reason to know that the information was obtained through the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication in violation of this subsection.

2. a. It is not unlawful under this chapter for an operator of a switchboard, or an officer, employee, or agent of a communications common carrier, whose facilities are used in the transmission of a wire communication, to intercept, disclose, or use that communication in the normal course of employment while engaged in an activity which is a necessary incident to the rendition of service or to the protection of the rights or property of the carrier of the communication. However, communications common carriers shall not use service observing or random monitoring except for mechanical or service quality control checks.

b. It is not unlawful under this chapter for a person acting under color of law to intercept a wire, oral, or electronic communication, if the person is a party to the communication or one of the parties to the communication has given prior consent to the interception.

c. It is not unlawful under this chapter for a person not acting under color of law to intercept a wire, oral, or electronic communication if the person is a party to the communication or if one of the parties to the communication has given prior consent to the interception, unless the communication is intercepted for the purpose of committing a criminal or tortious act in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States or of any state or for the purpose of committing any other injurious act.

3. An operator of a switchboard, or an officer, employee, or agent of a communications common carrier, whose facilities are used in the transmission or interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication shall not disclose the existence of any transmission or interception or the device used to accomplish the transmission or interception with respect to a court order under this chapter, except as may otherwise be required by legal process or court order. Violation of this subsection is a class “D” felony.

89 Acts, ch 225, §23; 99 Acts, ch 78, §6 – 9

Referred to in §808B.5