

## CHAPTER 808B

### INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS

Referred to in §801.1

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#### 808B.1 Definitions.

As used in [this chapter](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “*Aggrieved person*” means a person who was a party to an intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communication or a person against whom the interception was directed.
2. “*Contents*”, when used with respect to a wire, oral, or electronic communication, includes any information concerning the identity of the parties to the communication or the existence, substance, purpose, or meaning of that communication.
3. “*Court*” means a district court in this state.
4. “*Electronic communication*” means any transfer of signals, signs, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic or photooptical system that affects intrastate, interstate, or foreign commerce, but excludes the following:
  - a. Wire or oral communication.
  - b. Communication made through a tone-only paging device.
  - c. Communication from a tracking device.
  - d. Electronic funds transfer information stored by a financial institution in a communication system used for the electronic storage and transfer of funds.
5. “*Electronic, mechanical, or other device*” means a device or apparatus which can be used to intercept a wire, oral, or electronic communication other than either of the following:
  - a. A telephone or telegraph instrument, equipment, or facility, or any component of it which is either of the following:
    - (1) Furnished to the subscriber or user by a communications common carrier in the ordinary course of its business and being used by the subscriber or user in the ordinary course of the subscriber’s or user’s business.
    - (2) Being used by a communications common carrier in the ordinary course of its business, or by an investigative or law enforcement officer in the ordinary course of the officer’s duties.
      - b. A hearing aid or similar device being used to correct subnormal hearing to not better than normal hearing.
  6. “*Intercept*” or “*interception*” means the aural acquisition of the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication through the use of an electronic, mechanical, or other device.
  7. “*Investigative or law enforcement officer*” means a peace officer of this state or one of its political subdivisions or of the United States who is empowered by law to conduct investigations of or to make arrests for criminal offenses, the attorney general, or a county attorney authorized by law to prosecute or participate in the prosecution of criminal offenses.
  8. “*Oral communication*” means an oral communication uttered by a person exhibiting an expectation that the communication is not subject to interception, under circumstances

justifying that expectation. An “oral communication” does not include an electronic communication.

9. “Pen register” means a device or process which records or decodes dialing, routing, addressing, or signaling information, but not the contents of the communication, transmitted by an instrument or facility from which a wire or electronic communication is transmitted. “Pen register” does not include any device or process used by a provider or customer of a wire or electronic communication service for billing, or recording as an incident to billing, for communications services provided by such provider or any device or process used by a provider or customer of a wire communication service for cost accounting or other like purposes in the ordinary course of its business.

10. “Special state agent” means a sworn peace officer member of the department of public safety.

11. “Trap and trace device” means a device or process which captures the incoming electronic or other impulses which identify the originating number or other dialing, routing, addressing, and signaling information reasonably likely to identify the source of a wire or electronic communication, but does not capture the contents of any communication.

12. “Wire communication” means any aural transfer made in whole or in part through the use of facilities for the transmission of communications by the aid of wire, cable, or other like connection between the point of origin and the point of reception, including the use of such connection in a switching station, furnished or operated by any person engaged in providing or operating such facilities for the transmission of interstate or foreign communications or communications affecting interstate or foreign commerce.

[89 Acts, ch 225, §22](#); [99 Acts, ch 78, §1 – 5](#); [2009 Acts, ch 88, §6 – 8](#)

Referred to in [§808B.5](#)

### **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.

d. It is not unlawful under [this chapter](#) for a person who is the owner or lessee of real property to intercept an oral communication if the person intercepts the oral communication under all of the following circumstances:

(1) The interception of the oral communication is made by a surveillance system placed in or on the real property owned or leased by the person.

(2) The surveillance system is installed with the knowledge and consent of all lawful owners or lessees of the real property.

(3) The surveillance system is used for the purpose of detecting or preventing criminal activity in or on the real property owned or leased by the person or in an area accessible to the general public in the immediate vicinity of the real property owned or leased by the person.

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; 2018 Acts, ch 1102, §2](#)

Referred to in [§808B.5](#)

### **808B.3 Court order for interception by special agents.**

The attorney general shall authorize and prepare any application for an order authorizing the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications. The attorney general may apply to any district court of this state, or request that the county attorney in the district where application is to be made deliver the application of the attorney general, for an order authorizing the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications, and the court may grant, subject to [this chapter](#), an order authorizing the interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications by special state agents having responsibility for the investigation of the offense as to which application is made, when the interception may provide or has provided evidence of the following:

1. A felony offense involving dealing in controlled substances, as defined in [section 124.101](#).

2. A forcible felony as defined in [section 702.11](#).

3. A felony offense involving ongoing criminal conduct in violation of [chapter 706A](#).

4. A felony offense involving money laundering in violation of [chapter 706B](#).

5. A felony fugitive warrant issued in the state or involving an individual who is reasonably believed to be located within the state.

6. A felony offense involving human trafficking in violation of [chapter 710A](#).

[89 Acts, ch 225, §24; 99 Acts, ch 78, §10; 2009 Acts, ch 88, §9; 2014 Acts, ch 1097, §11](#)

Referred to in [§808B.5, 808B.11](#)

### **808B.4 Permissible disclosure and use.**

1. A special state agent who, by any means authorized by [this chapter](#), has obtained knowledge of the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication, or has obtained evidence derived from a wire, oral, or electronic communication, may disclose the contents to another investigative or law enforcement officer to the extent that the disclosure is appropriate to the proper performance of the official duties of the officer making or receiving the disclosure.

2. An investigative or law enforcement officer who, by any means authorized by [this chapter](#), has obtained knowledge of the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication or has obtained evidence derived from a wire, oral, or electronic communication may use

the contents to the extent the use is appropriate to the proper performance of the officer's official duties.

3. A person who has received, by any means authorized by [this chapter](#), any information concerning a wire, oral, or electronic communication, or evidence derived from a wire, oral, or electronic communication intercepted in accordance with [this chapter](#) may disclose the contents of that communication or derivative evidence while giving testimony under oath or affirmation in a criminal proceeding in any court of the United States or of this state or in any federal or state grand jury proceeding.

4. An otherwise privileged wire, oral, or electronic communication intercepted in accordance with, or in violation of, the provisions of [this chapter](#) does not lose its privileged character.

5. If a special state agent, while engaged in intercepting a wire, oral, or electronic communication in the manner authorized, intercepts a communication relating to an offense other than those specified in the order of authorization, the contents of the communication, and the evidence derived from the communication, may be disclosed or used as provided in [subsections 1 and 2](#). The contents of and the evidence derived from the communication may be used under [subsection 3](#) when authorized by a court if the court finds on subsequent petition that the contents were otherwise intercepted in accordance with [this chapter](#). The petition shall be made as soon as practicable.

[89 Acts, ch 225, §25; 99 Acts, ch 78, §11](#)

Referred to in [§808B.5](#)

#### **808B.5 Application and order.**

1. An application for an order authorizing or approving the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication shall be made in writing upon oath or affirmation to a court and shall state the applicant's authority to make the application. An application shall include the following information:

a. The identity of the special state agent requesting the application, the supervisory officer reviewing and approving the request, and the approval of the administrator of a division of the department of public safety under whose command the special state agent making the application is operating or the administrator's designee.

b. A full and complete statement of the facts and circumstances relied upon by the applicant to justify the belief that an order should be issued, including details as to the particular offense that has been, is being, or is about to be committed, a particular description of the nature and location of the facilities from which or the place where the communication is to be intercepted, a particular description of the type of communications sought to be intercepted, and the identity of the person, if known, committing the offense and whose communications are to be intercepted.

c. A full and complete statement as to whether other investigative procedures have been tried and failed or why they reasonably appear to be unlikely to succeed if tried or to be too dangerous.

d. A statement of the period of time for which the interception is required to be maintained. If the nature of the investigation is such that the authorization for interception should not automatically terminate when the described type of communication has been first obtained, a particular description of facts establishing probable cause to believe that additional communications of the same type will subsequently occur.

e. A full and complete statement of the facts concerning all previous applications known to the individuals authorizing and making the application, made to any court for authorization to intercept, or for approval of interceptions of, wire, oral, or electronic communications involving any of the same persons, facilities, or places specified in the application, and the action taken by the court on those applications.

f. If the application is for the extension of an order, a statement setting forth the results thus far obtained from the interception, or a reasonable explanation of the failure to obtain results.

2. The court may require the applicant to furnish additional testimony or documentary evidence in support of the application.

3. Upon application the court may enter an ex parte order, as requested or as modified, authorizing interception of wire, oral, or electronic communications within the territorial jurisdiction of the court, if the court finds on the basis of the facts submitted by the applicant all of the following:

a. There is probable cause for belief that an individual is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a felony offense involving dealing in controlled substances, as defined in [section 124.101, subsection 5](#).

b. There is probable cause for belief that particular communications concerning the offense will be obtained through the interception.

c. Normal investigative procedures have been tried and have failed or reasonably appear to be unlikely to succeed if tried or to be too dangerous.

d. There is probable cause for belief that the facilities from which, or the place where, the wire, oral, or electronic communications are to be intercepted are being used, or are about to be used, in connection with the commission of the offense, or are leased to, listed in the name of, or commonly used by the person whose communications are to be intercepted.

4. Each order authorizing the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication shall specify all of the following:

a. The identity of the person, if known, whose communications are to be intercepted.

b. The nature and location of the communications facilities as to which, or the place where, authority to intercept is granted.

c. A particular description of the type of communication sought to be intercepted, and a statement of the particular offense to which the communication relates.

d. The identity of the agency authorized to intercept the communications, and of the person requesting the application.

e. The period of time during which interception is authorized, including a statement as to whether the interception shall automatically terminate when the described communication has been first obtained.

5. Each order authorizing the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication shall, upon request of the applicant, direct that a communications common carrier, landlord, custodian, or other person shall furnish to the applicant all information, facilities, and technical assistance necessary to accomplish the interception inconspicuously and with a minimum of interference with the services that the carrier, landlord, custodian, or person is giving to the person whose communications are to be intercepted. Any communications common carrier, landlord, custodian, or other person furnishing facilities or technical assistance shall be compensated by the applicant at the prevailing rates.

6. An order entered under [this section](#) shall not authorize the interception of a wire, oral, or electronic communication for a period longer than is necessary to achieve the objective of the authorized interception, or in any event longer than thirty days. The thirty-day period shall commence on the date specified in the order upon which the commencement of the interception is authorized or ten days after the order is entered, whichever is earlier. An extension of an order may be granted, but only upon application for an extension made in accordance with [subsection 1](#) and the court making the findings required by [subsection 3](#). The period of extension shall be no longer than the authorizing court deems necessary to achieve the purposes for which it was granted and in no event longer than thirty days. Every order and its extension shall contain a provision that the authorization to intercept shall be executed as soon as practicable, shall be conducted in such a way as to minimize the interception of communications not otherwise subject to interception under [this section](#) and [sections 808B.1 through 808B.4, 808B.6, and 808B.7](#), and shall terminate upon attainment of the authorized objective, or in any event in thirty days.

7. If an order authorizing interception is entered pursuant to [this chapter](#), the order may require reports to be made to the court which issued the order showing what progress has been made toward achievement of the authorized objective and the need for continued interception. The reports shall be made at intervals as the court requires.

8. a. The contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication intercepted by a means authorized by [this chapter](#) shall, if possible, be recorded on tape or wire or other comparable device. The recording of the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication under

[this subsection](#) shall be done in a way which will protect the recording from editing or other alterations. Immediately upon the expiration of the period of the order, or extensions of it, the recordings shall be made available to the court issuing the order and shall be sealed under the court's directions. Custody of the recordings shall be in accordance with the court order. Recordings shall be kept for five years and shall then be destroyed unless it is necessary to keep the recordings due to a continued legal process or court order, but the recordings shall not be kept for longer than ten years. Duplicate recordings may be made for disclosure or use pursuant to [section 808B.4, subsections 1 and 2](#). The presence of a seal, or a satisfactory explanation for its absence, is a prerequisite for the disclosure or use of the contents of a wire, oral, or electronic communication or evidence derived from a communication under [section 808B.4, subsection 3](#).

b. Applications made and orders granted under [this chapter](#) shall be sealed by the court. Custody of the applications and orders shall be in accordance with the directives of the court. The applications and orders shall be disclosed only upon a showing of good cause before a court and shall be kept for five years and shall then be destroyed unless it is necessary to keep the applications or orders due to a continued legal process or court order, but the applications and orders shall not be kept for longer than ten years.

c. A violation of [this subsection](#) may be punished as contempt of court.

9. a. Within a reasonable time, but not longer than ninety days, after the termination of the period of an order or its extensions, the court shall cause a notice to be served on all persons named in the order or the application which includes the following:

(1) The names of other parties to intercepted communications if the court determines disclosure of the names to be in the interest of justice.

(2) An inventory which shall include all of the following:

(a) The date of the application.

(b) The date of the entry of the court order and the period of authorized, approved, or disapproved interception, or the denial of the application.

(c) Whether, during the period, wire, oral, or electronic communications were or were not intercepted.

b. The court, upon the filing of a motion by a person whose communications were intercepted, shall make available to the person or the person's attorney for inspection the intercepted communications, applications, and orders. On an ex parte showing of good cause to a court, the service of the inventory required by [this subsection](#) may be postponed.

10. The contents of an intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communication or evidence derived from the wire, oral, or electronic communication shall not be received in evidence or otherwise disclosed in a trial, hearing, or other proceeding in a federal or state court unless each party, not less than ten days before the trial, hearing, or proceeding, has been furnished with a copy of the court order, and accompanying application, under which the interception was authorized. This ten-day period may be waived by the court if it finds that it was not possible to furnish the party with the above information ten days before the trial, hearing, or proceeding and that the party will not be prejudiced by the delay in receiving the information. If the ten-day period is waived by the court, the court may grant a continuance or enter such other order as it deems just under the circumstances.

11. An aggrieved person in a trial, hearing, or proceeding in or before any court, department, officer, agency, regulatory body, or other authority of this state, may move to suppress the contents of an intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communication, or evidence derived from the wire, oral, or electronic communication, on the grounds that the communication was unlawfully intercepted, the order of authorization under which it was intercepted was insufficient on its face, or the interception was not made in conformity with the order of authorization. The motion shall be made before the trial, hearing, or proceeding unless there was no opportunity to make the motion or the person was not aware of the grounds of the motion. If the motion is granted, the contents of the intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communication, or evidence derived from the wire, oral, or electronic communication, shall be treated as having been obtained in violation of [this chapter](#).

12. A special state agent may make application to a judicial officer for the issuance of a search warrant to authorize the placement, tracking, or monitoring of a global positioning

device, supported by a peace officer's oath or affirmation, which includes facts, information, and circumstances tending to establish sufficient grounds for granting the special state agent's application, and probable cause for believing the grounds exist. Upon a finding of probable cause to issue such a warrant, the judicial officer shall issue a warrant, signed by the judicial officer with the judicial officer's name of office, directed to any peace officer, commanding that the peace officer place, track, or monitor the global positioning device.

13. Upon the request of an investigative or law enforcement officer, a judge may issue a subpoena or other court order in order to obtain information and supporting documentation regarding contemporaneous or prospective wire or electronic communications based upon a finding that a prosecuting attorney is engaged in a criminal investigation of an offense listed in [section 808B.3](#).

14. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of an investigative or law enforcement officer, a judge may authorize the capture of a wire or oral communication by a pen register or trap and trace device, if a judge finds that there is probable cause to believe that a wire or oral communication relevant to a valid search warrant will occur at any point while the warrant is in effect.

15. An appeal by the attorney general from an order granting a motion to suppress or from the denial of an application for an order of approval shall be pursuant to [section 814.5, subsection 2](#).

[89 Acts, ch 225, §26; 99 Acts, ch 78, §12 – 21; 99 Acts, ch 208, §63; 2009 Acts, ch 88, §10](#)

#### **808B.6 Reports to state court administrator.**

1. Within thirty days after the denial of an application or after the expiration of an order granting an application, or after an extension of an order, the court shall report to the state court administrator all of the following:

- a. The fact that an order or extension was applied for.
- b. The kind of order or extension applied for.
- c. The fact that the order or extension was granted as applied for, was granted as modified, or that an application was denied.
- d. The period of interceptions authorized by the order, and the number and duration of any extensions of the order.
- e. The offense specified in the order or application, or extension of an order.
- f. The identity of the prosecutor making the application and the court reviewing and approving the request.
- g. The nature of the facilities from which or the place where communications were to be intercepted.

2. In January of each year, the attorney general and the county attorneys of this state shall report to the state court administrator and to the administrative offices of the United States district courts all of the following:

- a. The fact that an order or extension was applied for.
- b. The kind of order or extension applied for.
- c. The fact that the order or extension was granted as applied for, was granted as modified, or that an application was denied.
- d. The period of interceptions authorized by the order, and the number and duration of any extensions of the order.
- e. The offense specified in the order or application, or extension of an order.
- f. The nature of the facilities from which or the place where communications were to be intercepted.
- g. A general description of the interceptions made under such order or extension, including:

- (1) The approximate nature and frequency of incriminating communications intercepted.
- (2) The approximate nature and frequency of other communications intercepted.
- (3) The approximate number of persons whose communications were intercepted.
- (4) The approximate nature, amount, and cost of personnel and other resources used in the interceptions.

*h.* The number of arrests resulting from interceptions made under such order or extension, and the offenses for which arrests were made.

*i.* The number of trials resulting from such interceptions.

*j.* The number of motions to suppress made with respect to such interceptions, and the number granted or denied.

*k.* The number of convictions resulting from such interceptions and the offenses for which the convictions were obtained and a general assessment of the importance of the interceptions.

*l.* The information required by paragraphs “*b*” through “*f*” with respect to orders or extensions obtained in a preceding calendar year and not yet reported.

*m.* Other information required by the rules of the administrative offices of the United States district courts.

3. In March of each year the state court administrator shall transmit to the general assembly a full and complete report concerning the number of applications for orders authorizing the interception of wire communications or oral communications and the number of applications, orders, and extensions granted or denied during the preceding calendar year. The report shall include a summary and analysis of the data required to be filed with the state court administrator by the attorney general, county attorneys, and the courts.

[89 Acts, ch 225, §27](#)

Referred to in [§808B.5](#)

#### **808B.7 Contents of intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communication as evidence.**

The contents or any part of the contents of an intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communication and any evidence derived from the wire, oral, or electronic communication shall not be received in evidence in a trial, hearing, or other proceeding in or before a court, grand jury, department, officer, agency, regulatory body, legislative committee, or other authority of the United States, a state, or political subdivision of a state if the disclosure of that information would be in violation of [this chapter](#).

[89 Acts, ch 225, §28; 99 Acts, ch 78, §22](#)

Referred to in [§808B.5](#)

#### **808B.8 Civil damages authorized — civil and criminal immunity — injunctive relief.**

1. A person whose wire, oral, or electronic communication is intercepted, disclosed, or used in violation of [this chapter](#) shall:

*a.* Have a civil cause of action against any person who intercepts, discloses, or uses or procures any other person to intercept, disclose, or use such communications.

*b.* Be entitled to recover from any such person all of the following:

(1) Actual damages, but not less than liquidated damages computed at the rate of one hundred dollars a day for each day of violation, or one thousand dollars, whichever is higher.

(2) Punitive damages upon a finding of a willful, malicious, or reckless violation of [this chapter](#).

(3) A reasonable attorney fee and other litigation costs reasonably incurred.

2. A good faith reliance on a court order shall constitute a complete defense to any civil or criminal action brought under [this chapter](#).

3. A person whose wire, oral, or electronic communication is intercepted, disclosed, or used in violation of [this chapter](#) may seek an injunction, either temporary or permanent, against any person who violates [this chapter](#).

[89 Acts, ch 225, §29; 99 Acts, ch 78, §23, 24](#)

**808B.9** Repealed by 98 Acts, ch 1157, §1.

#### **808B.10 Restrictions on use and installation of a pen register or a trap and trace device.**

1. Except for emergency situations pursuant to [section 808B.12](#), a person shall not install or use a pen register or a trap and trace device without first obtaining a search warrant or court order pursuant to [section 808B.11](#). However, a pen register or a trap and trace device may be used or installed without court order if any of the following apply:



a. It relates to the operation, maintenance, and testing of a wire or electronic communication service or to the protection of the rights or property of the provider of the service, or to the protection of users of the service from abuse of the service or unlawful use of the service.

b. If a wire or electronic communication was initiated or completed in order to protect the provider of the wire or electronic communication service, another provider furnishing service toward the completion of the wire or electronic communication, or a user of the service, from fraudulent, unlawful, or abusive use of the service.

c. If consent was obtained from the user of the electronic or wire communication service.

2. A person who knowingly violates [this section](#) commits a serious misdemeanor.

[99 Acts, ch 78, §25](#); [2009 Acts, ch 88, §11](#); [2010 Acts, ch 1069, §64](#)

### **808B.11 Application and order to install and use a pen register or trap and trace device.**

1. An application for an order or an extension of an order authorizing or approving the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device shall be made in writing by a prosecuting attorney upon oath or affirmation to a district court. Only a special state agent may conduct an investigation authorized under [this section](#) or [section 808B.12](#). An application shall include the following information:

a. The identity of the prosecuting attorney, and the identity of the special state agent authorized to conduct the investigation.

b. A certified statement by the special state agent that the information likely to be obtained is relevant to an ongoing criminal investigation of an offense listed under [section 808B.3](#) or an offense that may lead to an immediate danger of death of or serious injury to a person.

2. Upon application, the court may enter an ex parte order or an ex parte extension of an order authorizing the installation and use of a pen register or trap and trace device within the territorial jurisdiction of the court, if the court finds that the special state agent has certified to the court that the information likely to be obtained by the use of a pen register or trap and trace device is relevant to an ongoing criminal investigation of an offense listed under [section 808B.3](#), or an offense that may lead to an immediate danger of death of or serious injury to a person.

3. Each order authorizing the interception of a communication under [this section](#) shall specify all of the following:

a. The identity of the person, if known, who owns or leases the telephone line where the pen register or trap and trace device will be attached.

b. The identity of the person, if known, who is the subject of the criminal investigation.

c. The telephone number if known, the physical location of the telephone line where the pen register or trap and trace device will be attached, the method for determining the location of the electronic communication, and the geographic limits of the trap and trace device.

d. Upon request of the applicant, direct the furnishing of information, facilities, and technical assistance necessary to accomplish the installation of a pen register or trap and trace device.

e. The period of time during which the use of the pen register or trap and trace device is authorized, which shall be no greater than sixty days.

f. If the application is for the extension of an order and after a judicial finding required under [subsection 2](#), authorize the extension of an order. Each extension of an order shall not exceed sixty days.

4. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph “b”, any order granted under [this section](#) shall be sealed until otherwise ordered by the court.

a. Any person owning or leasing the telephone line to which the pen register or trap and trace device is attached, or who has been ordered by the court to furnish information, facilities, or technical assistance to the applicant, shall not disclose the existence of the pen register or trap and trace device or the existence of the investigation of the listed subscriber, to any person, unless or until otherwise ordered by the court.

b. A prosecuting attorney or special state agent may utilize or share any information obtained from the use of a pen register or trap and trace device with other prosecuting attorneys or law enforcement agencies while acting within the scope of their employment.

c. A violation of [this subsection](#) may be punished as contempt of court.

[99 Acts, ch 78, §26](#); [99 Acts, ch 208, §64, 65](#); [2009 Acts, ch 88, §12](#)

Referred to in [§808B.10](#), [808B.12](#), [808B.13](#)

#### **808B.12 Emergency installation and use — subsequent application and order.**

1. Notwithstanding any other provision of [this chapter](#), a special state agent authorized by the prosecuting attorney or an assistant attorney general who reasonably determines that an emergency situation described in [subsection 2](#) exists which requires the installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device before an order authorizing such installation and use can be obtained with due diligence, may install and use a pen register or trap and trace device, if an order approving the installation or use is applied for and issued in accordance with [section 808B.11](#) within forty-eight hours of the installation.

2. [Subsection 1](#) applies in the following emergency situations:

- a. Immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury to a person.
- b. Conspiratorial activities characteristic of organized crime.
- c. Immediate threat to a national security interest.

d. Ongoing attack on a computer that constitutes a crime punishable by a term of imprisonment greater than one year.

3. In the absence of an authorizing order, such use shall immediately terminate when the information sought is obtained, when the application for the order is denied, or when forty-eight hours have lapsed since the installation of the pen register or trap and trace device, whichever is earlier.

4. The knowing installation or use by any investigative or law enforcement officer of a pen register or trap and trace device pursuant to [subsection 1](#) without application for the authorizing order within forty-eight hours of the installation constitutes a serious misdemeanor.

5. A provider of a wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person who furnishes facilities or technical assistance pursuant to [this section](#) shall be reasonably compensated for such reasonable expenses incurred in providing such facilities and assistance.

[99 Acts, ch 78, §27](#); [99 Acts, ch 208, §66, 67](#); [2009 Acts, ch 88, §13](#)

Referred to in [§808B.10](#), [808B.11](#), [808B.13](#)

#### **808B.13 Assistance in installation and use of a pen register or a trap and trace device.**

1. Upon the request of the prosecuting attorney or the special state agent authorized to install and use a pen register under [this chapter](#), and as directed by court order, a provider of a wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person shall furnish such investigative or law enforcement officer forthwith with all information, facilities, and technical assistance necessary to accomplish the installation of the pen register unobtrusively and with a minimum of interference with the service that the person so ordered by the court accords the party with respect to whom the installation and use is to take place.

2. Upon the request of the prosecuting attorney or the special state agent authorized to receive the results of a trap and trace device under [this chapter](#), and as directed by court order, a provider of a wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person shall install such device forthwith on the appropriate telephone line and shall furnish such investigative or law enforcement officer with all additional information, facilities, and technical assistance including installation and operation of the device unobtrusively and with a minimum of interference with the services that the person so ordered by the court accords the party with respect to whom the installation and use is to take place. Unless otherwise ordered by the court, the results of the trap and trace device shall be furnished to the authorized law enforcement agency designated in the court order at reasonable intervals during regular business hours for the duration of the order.

3. A provider of a wire or electronic communication service, landlord, custodian, or other person who furnishes facilities or technical assistance pursuant to [this section](#) shall be compensated for reasonable expenses incurred in providing such facilities and assistance.

4. A cause of action shall not lie in any court against any provider of a wire or electronic

communication service, its officers, employees, agents, or other specified persons for providing information, facilities, or assistance in accordance with the terms of a search warrant or court order under [section 808B.11](#) or [808B.12](#).

5. A good faith reliance on a search warrant or court order under [section 808B.11](#) or [808B.12](#) is a complete defense against any civil or criminal action brought under [this chapter](#) or any other statute.

[99 Acts, ch 78, §28](#); [2009 Acts, ch 88, §14](#)

**808B.14 Reporting installation and use of pen registers and trap and trace devices.**

In January of each year, the attorney general and the county attorneys of this state shall report to the state court administrator the number of pen register orders and orders for trap and trace devices applied for and obtained by their offices during the preceding calendar year.

[99 Acts, ch 78, §29](#)