

321.261 Death or personal injuries.

1. *a.* The driver of any vehicle who knows or has reason to believe that the driver's vehicle was involved in an accident resulting in injury to or death of any person shall immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident or as close as possible and if able, shall then return to and remain at the scene of the accident in accordance with [section 321.263](#). Every such stop shall be made without obstructing traffic more than is necessary.

b. If the driver of a vehicle leaves the scene of an accident resulting in injury to or death of a person without knowledge or reason to believe that the driver's vehicle was involved in the accident, and later discovers that the driver's vehicle may have been involved in an accident that resulted in injury to or death of a person, the driver shall, as soon as reasonably possible, make a good-faith effort to immediately contact emergency services or make a 911 call and provide the dispatcher with any requested information described in [section 321.263](#) and the location and possible time of the accident.

2. Any person failing to stop or to comply with the requirements in [subsection 1 of this section](#), in the event of an accident resulting in an injury to any person is guilty upon conviction of a serious misdemeanor.

3. *a.* Notwithstanding [subsection 2](#), any person failing to stop or to comply with the requirements in [subsection 1](#), in the event of an accident resulting in a serious injury to any person, is guilty upon conviction of an aggravated misdemeanor.

b. Notwithstanding paragraph "a", the driver of a vehicle who knows or has reason to believe that the driver's vehicle caused an accident resulting in a serious injury to one or more persons, and who fails to stop or comply with the requirements of [subsection 1](#), is guilty upon conviction of a class "D" felony.

c. For purposes of [this subsection](#), "serious injury" means as defined in [section 702.18](#).

4. *a.* A person failing to stop or to comply with the requirements in [subsection 1](#), in the event of an accident resulting in the death of a person, is guilty upon conviction of a class "D" felony.

b. Notwithstanding paragraph "a", the driver of a vehicle who knows or has reason to believe that the driver's vehicle caused an accident resulting in the death of one or more persons, and who fails to stop or comply with the requirements of [subsection 1](#), is guilty upon conviction of a class "C" felony.

5. The director shall revoke the driver's license of a person convicted of a violation of [this section](#).

6. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any person who has suffered physical, emotional, or financial harm as the result of a motor vehicle accident from which another person who caused the accident failed to stop or to comply with the requirements of [subsection 1](#), as described in [subsection 3](#), paragraph "b", and [subsection 4](#), paragraph "b", shall be considered a victim pursuant to [chapter 915, subchapter II](#), for purposes of any related proceedings against the other person.

[S13, §1571-m23; C24, 27, 31, 35, §5072, 5074; C39, §5020.01; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §321.261; [81 Acts, ch 103, §4](#)]

[90 Acts, ch 1230, §67](#); [98 Acts, ch 1073, §9](#); [2006 Acts, ch 1082, §1, 2](#); [2021 Acts, ch 180, §2](#)

- 4

Referred to in [§321.209](#), [321.228](#), [321.484](#), [321.517](#), [321.555](#), [515D.4](#), [902.12](#), [915.80](#)