

**512.020 Criminal mischief in the first degree.**

- (1) A person is guilty of criminal mischief in the first degree when, having no right to do so or any reasonable ground to believe that he or she has such right, he or she intentionally or wantonly:
  - (a) Defaces, destroys, or damages any property causing pecuniary loss of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more;
  - (b) Tampers with the operations of a key infrastructure asset, as defined in KRS 511.100, in a manner that renders the operations harmful or dangerous; or
  - (c) As a tenant, intentionally or wantonly defaces, destroys, or damages residential rental property causing pecuniary loss of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more.
- (2) Criminal mischief in the first degree is a Class D felony, unless the offense occurs during a declared emergency as defined by KRS 39A.020 arising from a natural or man-made disaster, within the area covered by the emergency declaration, and within the area impacted by the disaster, in which case it is a Class C felony.

**Effective:** July 14, 2022

**History:** Amended 2022 Ky. Acts ch. 151, sec. 9, effective July 14, 2022. -- Amended 2021 Ky. Acts ch. 164, sec. 2, effective June 29, 2021. -- Amended 2020 Ky. Acts ch. 12, sec. 2, effective July 15, 2020. -- Amended 1976 Ky. Acts ch. 183, sec. 3. -- Created 1974 Ky. Acts ch. 406, sec. 106, effective January 1, 1975.