

- Chap. AMENDMENTS
- 2006—Pub. L. 109-162, title XI, § 1187(d), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3128, added item for chapter 40A.
- 2002—Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, § 4003(b)(6), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1812, inserted “Service” after “Marshals” in item for chapter 37.
- 1986—Pub. L. 99-554, title I, § 144(g)(2), Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3097, substituted “40” for “39” in item relating to Independent Counsel.
- 1983—Pub. L. 97-409, § 2(a)(2), Jan. 3, 1983, 96 Stat. 2039, substituted “Independent Counsel” for “Special Prosecutor” in item for second chapter 39.
- 1978—Pub. L. 95-598, title II, § 224(b), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2664, added item for chapter 39, “United States Trustees”, effective Oct. 1, 1979.
- Pub. L. 95-521, title VI, § 601(b), Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1873, added item for chapter 39 “Special Prosecutor”.
- 1966—Pub. L. 89-554, § 4(c), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 611, added items for chapters 31 and 33 and redesignated items for former chapters 31 and 33 as 35 and 37, respectively.

CHAPTER 31—THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

- Sec.
501. Executive department.
502. Seal.
503. Attorney General.
504. Deputy Attorney General.
- 504a. Associate Attorney General.
505. Solicitor General.
506. Assistant Attorneys General.
507. Assistant Attorney General for Administration.
- 507A. Assistant Attorney General for National Security.
508. Vacancies.
509. Functions of the Attorney General.
- 509A. National Security Division.
- 509B. Section to enforce human rights laws.
510. Delegation of authority.
511. Attorney General to advise the President.
512. Attorney General to advise heads of executive departments.
513. Attorney General to advise Secretaries of military departments.
514. Legal services on pending claims in departments and agencies.
515. Authority for legal proceedings; commission, oath, and salary for special attorneys.
516. Conduct of litigation reserved to Department of Justice.
517. Interests of United States in pending suits.
518. Conduct and argument of cases.
519. Supervision of litigation.
520. Transmission of petitions in United States Court of Federal Claims or in United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; statement furnished by departments.
521. Publication and distribution of opinions.
522. Report of business and statistics.
523. Requisitions.
524. Availability of appropriations.
525. Procurement of law books, reference books, and periodicals; sale and exchange.
526. Authority of the Attorney General to investigate United States attorneys, marshals, trustees, clerks of court, and others.¹
527. Establishment of working capital fund.
528. Disqualification of officers and employees of the Department of Justice.
529. Annual report of Attorney General.
530. Payment of travel and transportation expenses of newly appointed special agents.
- 530A. Authorization of appropriations for travel and related expenses and for health care of personnel serving abroad.

¹ So in original. Does not conform to section catchline.

- Sec. 530B. Ethical standards for attorneys for the Government.
- 530C. Authority to use available funds.
- 530D. Report on enforcement of laws.

AMENDMENTS

- 2009—Pub. L. 111-122, § 2(c), Dec. 22, 2009, 123 Stat. 3480, added item 509B.
- 2006—Pub. L. 109-177, title V, § 506(c), Mar. 9, 2006, 120 Stat. 249, added items 507A and 509A.
- 2002—Pub. L. 107-273, div. A, title II, §§ 201(b), 202(b)(1), div. B, title IV, § 4003(b)(5), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1771, 1774, 1811, in item 526, struck out “and” before “trustees”, and added items 530C and 530D.
- 1998—Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, § 101(b) [title VIII, § 801(b)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-50, 2681-119, added item 530B.
- 1992—Pub. L. 102-572, title IX, § 902(b)(1), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4516, substituted “United States Court of Federal Claims” for “United States Claims Court” in item 520.
- 1988—Pub. L. 100-690, title VI, § 6281(b), Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4369, added item 530A.
- 1983—Pub. L. 98-86, § 2, Aug. 26, 1983, 97 Stat. 492, added item 530.
- 1982—Pub. L. 97-258, § 2(g)(1)(A), Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1060, substituted “Availability of appropriations” for “Appropriations for administrative expenses; notarial fees; meals and lodging of bailiffs” in item 524.
- Pub. L. 97-164, title I, § 118(b), Apr. 2, 1982, 96 Stat. 33, substituted “United States Claims Court or in United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit” for “Court of Claims” in item 520.
- 1978—Pub. L. 95-598, title II, § 219(c), Nov. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 2662, inserted reference to trustees in item 526.
- Pub. L. 95-521, title VI, § 603(b), Oct. 26, 1978, 92 Stat. 1875, added items 528 and 529.
- 1977—Pub. L. 95-139, § 1(b), Oct. 19, 1977, 91 Stat. 1171, added item 504a.
- 1975—Pub. L. 93-613, § 1(2), Jan. 2, 1975, 88 Stat. 1975, added item 527.
- 1966—Pub. L. 89-554, § 4(c), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 611, substituted “THE ATTORNEY GENERAL” for “UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS” in chapter heading, “Executive Department” for “Appointment of United States attorneys” in item 501, “Seal” for “Appointment of assistant United States attorneys” in item 502, “Attorney General” for “Appointment of attorneys” in item 503, “Deputy Attorney General” for “Tenure and oath of office; removal” in item 504, “Solicitor General” for “Residence” in item 505, “Assistant Attorney General” for “Vacancies” in item 506, “Assistant Attorney General for Administration” for “Duties; supervision by Attorney General” in item 507, “Vacancies” for “Salaries” in item 508, “Functions of the Attorney General” for “Expenses” in item 509, “Delegation of authority” for “Clerical assistants and messengers” in item 510, and added items 511 to 526.

§ 501. Executive department

The Department of Justice is an executive department of the United States at the seat of Government.

(Added Pub. L. 89-554, § 4(c), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 611.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
.....	5 U.S.C. 291 (less last 10 words).	R.S. § 346 (less last 10 words).

The words “There shall be”, referring to the establishment of the Department, are omitted as executed.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 501, acts June 25, 1948, ch. 646, 62 Stat. 909; Mar. 18, 1959, Pub. L. 86-3, § 11(a), 73 Stat. 9, related

to appointment of United States attorneys, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 89-554, §8(a), and reenactment in section 541 of this title by section 4(c) of Pub. L. 89-554.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF OVERSEAS TERRORISM

Pub. L. 108-447, div. B, title I, §126, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 2872, provided that: "The Department of Justice shall establish an Office of Justice for Victims of Overseas Terrorism."

SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS REQUIRED FOR DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Pub. L. 94-503, title II, §204, Oct. 15, 1976, 90 Stat. 2427, provided that: "No sums shall be deemed to be authorized to be appropriated for any fiscal year beginning on or after October 1, 1978, for the Department of Justice (including any bureau, agency, or other similar subdivision thereof) except as specifically authorized by Act of Congress with respect to such fiscal year. Neither the creation of a subdivision in the Department of Justice, nor the authorization of an activity of the Department, any subdivision, or officer thereof, shall be deemed in itself to be an authorization of appropriations for the Department of Justice, such subdivision, or activity, with respect to any fiscal year beginning on or after October 1, 1978."

§ 502. Seal

The Attorney General shall have a seal for the Department of Justice. The design of the seal is subject to the approval of the President.

(Added Pub. L. 89-554, §4(c), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 611.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Derivation, U.S. Code, Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Row 1: 5 U.S.C. 292, R.S. §353.

The section is rewritten to conform to other statutes authorizing departmental seals. The words "The seal heretofore provided for the office of the Attorney General shall be" are omitted as obsolete.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 502, act June 25, 1948, ch. 646, 62 Stat. 909, related to appointment of assistant United States attorneys, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 89-554, §8(a), and reenactment in section 542 of this title by section 4(c) of Pub. L. 89-554.

§ 503. Attorney General

The President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an Attorney General of the United States. The Attorney General is the head of the Department of Justice.

(Added Pub. L. 89-554, §4(c), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 612.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Derivation, U.S. Code, Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Row 1: 5 U.S.C. 291 (last 10 words), R.S. §346 (last 10 words).

The words "The President shall appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate" have been added to conform the section with the Constitution. See article II, section 2, clause 2.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 503, act June 25, 1948, ch. 646, 62 Stat. 909, related to appointment of attorneys to assist

United States attorneys, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 89-554, §8(a), and reenactment in section 543 of this title by section 4(c) of Pub. L. 89-554.

ACTIONS CHALLENGING APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL ON GROUNDS OF VIOLATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS GOVERNING COMPENSATION AND OTHER EMOLUMENTS

Pub. L. 93-178, §2, Dec. 10, 1973, 87 Stat. 697, provided that:

"(a) Any person aggrieved by an action of the Attorney General may bring a civil action in the appropriate district court to contest the constitutionality of the appointment and continuance in office of the Attorney General on the ground that such appointment and continuance in office is in violation of article I, section 6, clause 2, of the Constitution. The United States district courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction, without regard to the sum or value of the matter in controversy, to determine the validity of such appointment and continuance in office.

"(b) Any action brought under this section shall be heard and determined by a panel of three judges in accordance with the provisions of section 2284 of title 28, United States Code. Any appeal from the action of a court convened pursuant to such section shall lie to the Supreme Court.

"(c) Any judge designated to hear any action brought under this section shall cause such action to be in every way expedited."

§ 504. Deputy Attorney General

The President may appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a Deputy Attorney General.

(Added Pub. L. 89-554, §4(c), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 612; amended Pub. L. 107-77, title VI, §612(c), Nov. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 800; Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, §4004(f), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1812.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Derivation, U.S. Code, Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large. Row 1: 5 U.S.C. 294, Mar. 3, 1903, ch. 1006, §1 (so much of 2d par. under "Department of Justice" as provides for appointment, pay, and duties of an assistant to the Attorney General), 32 Stat. 1062. Row 2: [Uncodified], 1950 Reorg. Plan No. 2, §3, eff. May 24, 1950, 64 Stat. 1261.

The words "may appoint" are substituted for "is authorized to appoint". So much of the Act of Mar. 3, 1903, as relates to pay is omitted as superseded by §303(c) of the Act of Aug. 14, 1964, Pub. L. 88-426, 78 Stat. 416, which is codified in section 5314 of title 5, United States Code.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 504, acts June 25, 1948, ch. 646, 62 Stat. 909; Mar. 18, 1959, Pub. L. 86-3, §11(b), 73 Stat. 9, related to tenure and oath of office of United States attorneys, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 89-554, §8(a), and reenactment in sections 541 and 544 of this title by section 4(c) of Pub. L. 89-554.

AMENDMENTS

2002—Pub. L. 107-273 repealed Pub. L. 107-77, §612(c). See 2001 Amendment note below.

2001—Pub. L. 107-77, §612(c), which directed amendment of section catchline by substituting "Attorneys" for "Attorney" and amendment of text by inserting "and a Deputy Attorney General for Combating Domestic Terrorism" after "General", was repealed by Pub. L. 107-273.