

**(d) Misrepresentation of SIPC membership or protection****(1) In general**

Any person who falsely represents by any means (including, without limitation, through the Internet or any other medium of mass communication), with actual knowledge of the falsity of the representation and with an intent to deceive or cause injury to another, that such person, or another person, is a member of SIPC or that any person or account is protected or is eligible for protection under this chapter or by SIPC, shall be liable for any damages caused thereby and shall be fined not more than \$250,000 or imprisoned for not more than 5 years.

**(2) Injunctions**

Any court having jurisdiction of a civil action arising under this chapter may grant temporary injunctions and final injunctions on such terms as the court deems reasonable to prevent or restrain any violation of paragraph (1). Any such injunction may be served anywhere in the United States on the person enjoined, shall be operative throughout the United States, and shall be enforceable, by proceedings in contempt or otherwise, by any United States court having jurisdiction over that person. The clerk of the court granting the injunction shall, when requested by any other court in which enforcement of the injunction is sought, transmit promptly to the other court a certified copy of all papers in the case on file in such clerk's office.

(Pub. L. 91-598, §14, formerly §10, Dec. 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 1655; renumbered §14 and amended Pub. L. 95-283, §§9, 13, May 21, 1978, 92 Stat. 260, 269; Pub. L. 111-203, title IX, §929V(b), (c), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 1868.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 91-598, Dec. 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 1636. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 111-203, §929V(b)(1), substituted "\$250,000" for "\$50,000" in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 111-203, §929V(b)(2), substituted "\$250,000" for "\$50,000".

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 111-203, §929V(c), added subsec. (d).

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-283, §13(a), inserted "and penalty" after "interest", and substituted "it" for "he" wherever appearing.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-283, §13(b), in heading inserted "or initiation of direct payment procedure" after "trustee", and in text inserted references to initiation of direct payment procedure in two places.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-283, §13(c), in heading substituted "Concealment of assets; false statements or claims" for "Embezzlement, etc., of assets of SIPC", added par. (1), and designated existing provisions as par. (2) and, as so designated, inserted references to direct or indirect acts, and provisions covering defrauding or attempts to defraud SIPC or a trustee, and substituted provisions covering activities constituting fraudulent, or with intent to defeat this chapter, abstracts or conversions, for provisions covering activities constituting unlawfully abstracting or unlawfully and willfully converting moneys, etc.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective 1 day after July 21, 2010, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as an Effective Date note under section 5301 of Title 12, Banks and Banking.

**§ 78kkk. Miscellaneous provisions****(a) Public inspection of reports**

Any notice, report, or other document filed with SIPC pursuant to this chapter shall be available for public inspection unless SIPC or the Commission shall determine that disclosure thereof is not in the public interest. Nothing herein shall act to deny documents or information to the Congress of the United States or the committees of either House having jurisdiction over financial institutions, securities regulation, or related matters under the rules of each body. Nor shall the Commission be denied any document or information which the Commission, in its judgment, needs.

**(b) Liability of members of SIPC**

Except for such assessments as may be made upon such member pursuant to the provisions of section 78ddd of this title, no member of SIPC shall have any liability under this chapter as a member of SIPC for, or in connection with, any act or omission of any other broker or dealer whether in connection with the conduct of the business or affairs of such broker or dealer or otherwise and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no member shall have any liability for or in respect of any indebtedness or other liability of SIPC.

**(c) Liability of SIPC and Directors, officers, or employees**

Neither SIPC nor any of its Directors, officers, or employees shall have any liability to any person for any action taken or omitted in good faith under or in connection with any matter contemplated by this chapter.

**(d) Advertising**

SIPC shall by bylaw prescribe the manner in which a member of SIPC may display any sign or signs (or include in any advertisement a statement) relating to the protection to customers and their accounts, or any other protections, afforded under this chapter. No member may display any such sign, or include in an advertisement any such statement, except in accordance with such bylaws. SIPC may also by bylaw prescribe such minimal requirements as it considers necessary and appropriate to require a member of SIPC to provide public notice of its membership in SIPC.

**(e) SIPC exempt from taxation**

SIPC, its property, its franchise, capital, reserves, surplus, and its income, shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States or by any State or local taxing authority, except that any real property and any tangible personal property (other than cash and securities) of SIPC shall be subject to State and local taxation to the same extent according to its value as other real and tangible personal property is taxed. Assessments made upon a member of SIPC shall constitute ordinary and necessary expenses in carrying on the business

of such member for the purpose of section 162(a) of title 26. The contribution and transfer to SIPC of funds or securities held by any trust established by a national securities exchange prior to January 1, 1970, for the purpose of providing assistance to customers of members of such exchange, shall not result in any taxable gain to such trust or give rise to any taxable income to any member of SIPC under any provision of title 26, nor shall such contribution or transfer, or any reduction in assessments made pursuant to this chapter, in any way affect the status, as ordinary and necessary expenses under section 162(a) of title 26, of any contributions made to such trust by such exchange at any time prior to such transfer. Upon dissolution of SIPC, none of its net assets shall inure to the benefit of any of its members.

**(f) Section 78t(a) of this title not to apply**

The provisions of subsection (a) of section 78t of this title shall not apply to any liability under or in connection with this chapter.

**(g) SEC study of unsafe or unsound practices**

Not later than twelve months after December 30, 1970, the Commission shall compile a list of unsafe or unsound practices by members of SIPC in conducting their business and report to the Congress (1) the steps being taken under the authority of existing law to eliminate those practices and (2) recommendations concerning additional legislation which may be needed to eliminate those unsafe or unsound practices.

(Pub. L. 91-598, § 15, formerly § 11, Dec. 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 1655; renumbered § 15 and amended Pub. L. 95-283, §§ 9, 14, May 21, 1978, 92 Stat. 260, 270; Pub. L. 99-514, § 2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) to (f), was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 91-598, Dec. 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 1636. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1986—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 99-514 substituted "Internal Revenue Code of 1986" for "Internal Revenue Code of 1954" wherever appearing, which for purposes of codification was translated as "title 26" thus requiring no change in text.

1978—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-283, § 14(c), redesignated subsec. (c) as (b). Former subsec. (b), relating to application of securities investor protection provisions to foreign members, was struck out.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95-283, § 14(a), (c), redesignated subsec. (d) as (c) and inserted ", officers, or employees" after "Directors" in heading and text. Former subsec. (c) redesignated (b).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 95-283, § 14(b), (c), redesignated subsec. (e) as (d), inserted provisions authorizing SIPC to prescribe necessary and proper minimal requirements for providing public notice of membership by a member of SIPC in SIPC, and struck out provisions authorizing rules by SIPC to implement advertising requirements. Former subsec. (d) redesignated (c).

Subsecs. (e) to (h). Pub. L. 95-283, § 14(c), redesignated subsecs. (e) to (h) as (d) to (g), respectively.

**§ 78III. Definitions**

For purposes of this chapter, including the application of the Bankruptcy Act to a liquidation proceeding:

**(1) Commission**

The term "Commission" means the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**(2) Customer**

**(A) In general**

The term "customer" of a debtor means any person (including any person with whom the debtor deals as principal or agent) who has a claim on account of securities received, acquired, or held by the debtor in the ordinary course of its business as a broker or dealer from or for the securities accounts of such person for safekeeping, with a view to sale, to cover consummated sales, pursuant to purchases, as collateral, security, or for purposes of effecting transfer.

**(B) Included persons**

The term "customer" includes—

(i) any person who has deposited cash with the debtor for the purpose of purchasing securities;

(ii) any person who has a claim against the debtor for cash, securities, futures contracts, or options on futures contracts received, acquired, or held in a portfolio margining account carried as a securities account pursuant to a portfolio margining program approved by the Commission; and

(iii) any person who has a claim against the debtor arising out of sales or conversions of such securities.

**(C) Excluded persons**

The term "customer" does not include any person, to the extent that—

(i) the claim of such person arises out of transactions with a foreign subsidiary of a member of SIPC; or

(ii) such person has a claim for cash or securities which by contract, agreement, or understanding, or by operation of law, is part of the capital of the debtor, or is subordinated to the claims of any or all creditors of the debtor, notwithstanding that some ground exists for declaring such contract, agreement, or understanding void or voidable in a suit between the claimant and the debtor.

**(3) Customer name securities**

The term "customer name securities" means securities which were held for the account of a customer on the filing date by or on behalf of the debtor and which on the filing date were registered in the name of the customer, or were in the process of being so registered pursuant to instructions from the debtor, but does not include securities registered in the name of the customer which, by endorsement or otherwise, were in negotiable form.

**(4) Customer property**

The term "customer property" means cash and securities (except customer name securities delivered to the customer) at any time received, acquired, or held by or for the account of a debtor from or for the securities accounts of a customer, and the proceeds of any such property transferred by the debtor, including property unlawfully converted. The term "customer property" includes—