

§ 2114. Mail, money, or other property of United States

(a) ASSAULT.—A person who assaults any person having lawful charge, control, or custody of any mail matter or of any money or other property of the United States, with intent to rob, steal, or purloin such mail matter, money, or other property of the United States, or robs or attempts to rob any such person of mail matter, or of any money, or other property of the United States, shall, for the first offense, be imprisoned not more than ten years; and if in effecting or attempting to effect such robbery he wounds the person having custody of such mail, money, or other property of the United States, or puts his life in jeopardy by the use of a dangerous weapon, or for a subsequent offense, shall be imprisoned not more than twenty-five years.

(b) RECEIPT, POSSESSION, CONCEALMENT, OR DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY.—A person who receives, possesses, conceals, or disposes of any money or other property that has been obtained in violation of this section, knowing the same to have been unlawfully obtained, shall be imprisoned not more than 10 years, fined under this title, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 797; Pub. L. 98-473, title II, § 223(d), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2028; Pub. L. 101-647, title XXXV, § 3562, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4927; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXII, §§ 320602, 320903(a)(3), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2115, 2124; Pub. L. 104-294, title VI, § 604(b)(17), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3507.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 320 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 197, 35 Stat. 1126; Aug. 26, 1935, ch. 694, 49 Stat. 867).

The attention of Congress is directed to the mandatory minimum punishment provisions of sections 2113(e) and 2114 of this title. These were left unchanged because of the controversial question involved. Such legislative attempts to control the discretion of the sentencing judge are contrary to the opinions of experienced criminologists and criminal law experts. They are calculated to work manifest injustice in many cases.

Minor changes were made in phraseology.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-294 amended Pub. L. 103-322, § 320602. See 1994 Amendment note below.

1994—Pub. L. 103-322, § 320903(a)(3), inserted “or attempts to rob” after “robs” in subsec. (a).

Pub. L. 103-322, § 320602, as amended by Pub. L. 104-294, § 604(b)(17), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, substituted “A person who” for “Whoever”, and added subsec. (b).

1990—Pub. L. 101-647 inserted a comma after “money” in section catchline.

1984—Pub. L. 98-473, which directed insertion of “not more than” after “imprisoned”, was executed by making the insertion after “imprisoned” the second time appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-294 effective Sept. 13, 1994, see section 604(d) of Pub. L. 104-294, set out as a note under section 13 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1984 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 98-473 effective Nov. 1, 1987, and applicable only to offenses committed after the taking effect of such amendment, see section 235(a)(1)

of Pub. L. 98-473, set out as an Effective Date note under section 3551 of this title.

§ 2115. Post office

Whoever forcibly breaks into or attempts to break into any post office, or any building used in whole or in part as a post office, with intent to commit in such post office, or building or part thereof, so used, any larceny or other depredation, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 797; Pub. L. 104-294, title VI, § 601(a)(8), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3498.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 315 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 192, 35 Stat. 1125).

Mandatory punishment provisions were rephrased in the alternative.

Minor change in phraseology was made.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-294 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$1,000”.

§ 2116. Railway or steamboat post office

Whoever, by violence, enters a post-office car, or any part of any car, steamboat, or vessel, assigned to the use of the mail service, or willfully or maliciously assaults or interferes with any postal clerk in the discharge of his duties in connection with such car, steamboat, vessel, or apartment thereof, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 797; Pub. L. 104-294, title VI, § 601(a)(8), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3498.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 316 (Mar. 4, 1909, ch. 321, § 193, 35 Stat. 1125).

Reference to persons aiding or assisting was deleted as unnecessary because such persons are made principals by section 2 of this title.

Minor changes were made in phraseology.

AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-294 substituted “fined under this title” for “fined not more than \$1,000”.

§ 2117. Breaking or entering carrier facilities

Whoever breaks the seal or lock of any railroad car, vessel, aircraft, motortruck, wagon or other vehicle or of any pipeline system, containing interstate or foreign shipments of freight or express or other property, or enters any such vehicle or pipeline system with intent in either case to commit larceny therein, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both. If the offense involves a pre-retail medical product (as defined in section 670) the punishment for the offense shall be the same as the punishment for an offense under section 670 unless the punishment under this section is greater.

A judgment of conviction or acquittal on the merits under the laws of any State shall be a bar to any prosecution under this section for the same act or acts. Nothing contained in this sec-