

§ 14903. Tariff violations

(a) **CIVIL PENALTY FOR UNDERCHARGING AND OVERCHARGING.**—A person that offers, grants, gives, solicits, accepts, or receives by any means transportation or service provided for property by a carrier subject to jurisdiction under chapter 135 at a rate different than the rate in effect under section 13702 is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than \$100,000 for each violation.

(b) **GENERAL CRIMINAL PENALTY.**—A carrier providing transportation or service subject to jurisdiction under chapter 135 or an officer, director, receiver, trustee, lessee, agent, or employee of a corporation that is subject to jurisdiction under that chapter, that willfully does not observe its tariffs as required under section 13702, shall be fined under title 18 or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

(c) **ACTIONS OF AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES.**—When acting in the scope of their employment, the actions and omissions of persons acting for or employed by a carrier or shipper that is subject to this section are considered to be the actions and omissions of that carrier or shipper as well as that person.

(d) **VENUE.**—Trial in a criminal action under this section is in the judicial district in which any part of the violation is committed or through which the transportation is conducted.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 915; amended Pub. L. 105-102, §2(12), Nov. 20, 1997, 111 Stat. 2205.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

PUB. L. 105-102

This amends 49:14903(a) to correct a grammatical error.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11903 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

AMENDMENTS

1997—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-102 inserted “a” before “civil penalty of not more than”.

§ 14904. Additional rate violations

(a) **REBATES BY AGENTS.**—A person, or an officer, employee, or agent of that person, that—

(1) offers, grants, gives, solicits, accepts, or receives a rebate for concession, in violation of a provision of this part related to motor carrier transportation subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I of chapter 135; or

(2) by any means assists or permits another person to get transportation that is subject to jurisdiction under that subchapter at less than the rate in effect for that transportation under section 13702,

is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of \$200 for the first violation and \$250 for a subsequent violation.

(b) **UNDERCHARGING.**—

(1) **FREIGHT FORWARDER.**—A freight forwarder providing service subject to jurisdiction under subchapter III of chapter 135, or an officer, agent, or employee of that freight for-

warder, that assists a person in getting, or willingly permits a person to get, service provided under that subchapter at less than the rate in effect for that service under section 13702, is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than \$500 for the first violation and not more than \$2,000 for a subsequent violation.

(2) **OTHERS.**—A person that by any means gets, or attempts to get, service provided under subchapter III of chapter 135 at less than the rate in effect for that service under section 13702, is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than \$500 for the first violation and not more than \$2,000 for a subsequent violation.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 915.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11904 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

§ 14905. Penalties for violations of rules relating to loading and unloading motor vehicles

(a) **CIVIL PENALTIES.**—Whoever knowingly authorizes, consents to, or permits a violation of subsection (a) or (b) of section 14103 or who knowingly violates subsection (a) of such section is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation.

(b) **CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**—Whoever knowingly violates section 14103(b) of this title shall be fined under title 18 or imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 916.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11902a of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

§ 14906. Evasion of regulation of carriers and brokers

A person, or an officer, employee, or agent of that person, that by any means tries to evade regulation provided under this part for carriers or brokers is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of at least \$2,000 for the first violation and at least \$5,000 for a subsequent violation, and may be subject to criminal penalties.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 916; amended Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, §32505(b), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 804.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11906 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

AMENDMENTS

2012—Pub. L. 112-141 substituted “at least \$2,000” for “\$200” and “\$5,000” for “\$250” and inserted “, and may be subject to criminal penalties” after “a subsequent violation”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-141 effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as an Effec-

tive and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

§ 14907. Recordkeeping and reporting violations

A person required to make a report to the Secretary or the Board, as applicable, answer a question, or make, prepare, or preserve a record under this part about transportation subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I or III of chapter 135, or an officer, agent, or employee of that person, that—

- (1) does not make that report;
- (2) does not specifically, completely, and truthfully answer that question in 30 days from the date the Secretary or Board, as applicable, requires the question to be answered;
- (3) does not make, prepare, or preserve that record in the form and manner prescribed;
- (4) falsifies, destroys, mutilates, or changes that report or record;
- (5) files a false report or record;
- (6) makes a false or incomplete entry in that record about a business related fact or transaction; or
- (7) makes, prepares, or preserves a record in violation of an applicable regulation or order of the Secretary or Board;

is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 916.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11909 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

§ 14908. Unlawful disclosure of information

(a) DISCLOSURE OF SHIPMENT AND ROUTING INFORMATION.—

(1) VIOLATIONS.—A carrier or broker providing transportation subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I, II, or III of chapter 135 or an officer, receiver, trustee, lessee, or employee of that carrier or broker, or another person authorized by that carrier or broker to receive information from that carrier or broker may not disclose to another person, except the shipper or consignee, and a person may not solicit, or receive, information about the nature, kind, quantity, destination, consignee, or routing of property tendered or delivered to that carrier or broker for transportation provided under this part without the consent of the shipper or consignee if that information may be used to the detriment of the shipper or consignee or may disclose improperly to a competitor the business transactions of the shipper or consignee.

(2) PENALTY.—A person violating paragraph (1) of this subsection is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than \$2,000.

(b) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—This part does not prevent a carrier or broker providing transportation subject to jurisdiction under chapter 135 from giving information—

- (1) in response to legal process issued under authority of a court of the United States or a State;

(2) to an officer, employee, or agent of the United States Government, a State, or a territory or possession of the United States; or

(3) to another carrier or its agent to adjust mutual traffic accounts in the ordinary course of business.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 917.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11910 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

§ 14909. Disobedience to subpoenas

Whoever does not obey a subpoena or requirement of the Secretary or the Board to appear and testify or produce records shall be fined under title 18 or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 917.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11913 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

§ 14910. General civil penalty when specific penalty not provided

When another civil penalty is not provided under this chapter, a person that violates a provision of this part or a regulation or order prescribed under this part, or a condition of a registration under this part related to transportation that is subject to jurisdiction under subchapter I or III of chapter 135 or a condition of a registration of a foreign motor carrier or foreign motor private carrier under section 13902, is liable to the United States for a civil penalty of \$500 for each violation. A separate violation occurs each day the violation continues.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 917.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11914 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).

§ 14911. Punishment of corporation for violations committed by certain individuals

An act or omission that would be a violation of this part if committed by a director, officer, receiver, trustee, lessee, agent, or employee of a carrier providing transportation or service subject to jurisdiction under chapter 135 that is a corporation is also a violation of this part by that corporation. The penalties of this chapter apply to that violation. When acting in the scope of their employment, the actions and omissions of individuals acting for or employed by that carrier are considered to be the actions and omissions of that carrier as well as that individual.

(Added Pub. L. 104-88, title I, §103, Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 917.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 11915 of this title prior to the general amendment of this subtitle by Pub. L. 104-88, §102(a).