

“subchapter” after “forfeited under this” in two places in concluding provisions.

Subsec. (f)(1). Pub. L. 101-647, § 3565(3)(B), substituted “under section 616 of the Tariff Act of 1930” for “pursuant to section 1616 of title 19”.

Subsec. (f)(2). Pub. L. 101-647, § 2003, inserted “, by public sale or any other commercially feasible means,” after “sell”.

1988—Pub. L. 100-690 amended section generally, substituting subssecs. (a) to (i) for former subssecs. (a) to (d).

1986—Pub. L. 99-500 and Pub. L. 99-591 amended section identically, inserting “, and any property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, which was used or intended to be used, in any manner or part, to facilitate a violation of this chapter” in subsec. (a)(1), substituting “Attorney General or the Postal Service” for “Attorney General” in subsec. (b), and adding subssecs. (c) and (d).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106-185 applicable to any forfeiture proceeding commenced on or after the date that is 120 days after Apr. 25, 2000, see section 21 of Pub. L. 106-185, set out as a note under section 1324 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330011(m), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2145, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective as of Nov. 29, 1990.

§ 2255. Civil remedy for personal injuries

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of this title and who suffers personal injury as a result of such violation, regardless of whether the injury occurred while such person was a minor, may sue in any appropriate United States District Court and shall recover the actual damages such person sustains or liquidated damages in the amount of \$150,000, and the cost of the action, including reasonable attorney’s fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred. The court may also award punitive damages and such other preliminary and equitable relief as the court determines to be appropriate.

(b) **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.**—Any action commenced under this section shall be barred unless the complaint is filed—

(1) not later than 10 years after the date on which the plaintiff reasonably discovers the later of—

(A) the violation that forms the basis for the claim; or

(B) the injury that forms the basis for the claim; or

(2) not later than 10 years after the date on which the victim reaches 18 years of age.

(c) **VENUE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.**—

(1) **VENUE.**—Any action brought under subsection (a) may be brought in the district court of the United States that meets applicable requirements relating to venue under section 1391 of title 28.

(2) **SERVICE OF PROCESS.**—In an action brought under subsection (a), process may be served in any district in which the defendant—

(A) is an inhabitant; or

(B) may be found.

(Added Pub. L. 99-500, § 101(b) [title VII, § 703(a)], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-39, 1783-74, and Pub. L. 99-591, § 101(b) [title VII, § 703(a)], Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-39, 3341-74; amended Pub. L. 105-314, title VI, § 605, Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 2984; Pub. L. 109-248, title VII, § 707(b), (c), July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 650; Pub. L. 113-4, title XII, § 1212(a), Mar. 7, 2013, 127 Stat. 143; Pub. L. 115-126, title I, § 102, Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 319.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 99-591 is a corrected version of Pub. L. 99-500.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2255 was renumbered section 2256 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115-126, § 102(1), added subsec. (a) and struck out former subsec. (a) which related to civil remedy for personal injuries in general.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-126, § 102(2), substituted “filed—” for “filed within 10 years after the right of action first accrues or in the case of a person under a legal disability, not later than three years after the disability.” and added pars. (1) and (2).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115-126, § 102(3), added subsec. (c). 2013—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113-4, § 1212(a)(1), substituted “section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c)” for “section 2241(c)”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-4, § 1212(a)(2), substituted “10 years” for “six years”.

2006—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-248, § 707(b), inserted heading, inserted “, regardless of whether the injury occurred while such person was a minor,” after “such violation”, and substituted “Any person who, while a minor, was” for “Any minor who is”, “such person” for “such minor”, “Any person as described” for “Any minor as described”, and “\$150,000” for “\$50,000”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 109-248, § 707(c), inserted heading. 1998—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 105-314 substituted “2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423” for “2251 or 2252”.

§ 2256. Definitions for chapter

For the purposes of this chapter, the term—

(1) “minor” means any person under the age of eighteen years;

(2)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), “sexually explicit conduct” means actual or simulated—

(i) sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex;

(ii) bestiality;

(iii) masturbation;

(iv) sadistic or masochistic abuse; or

(v) lascivious exhibition of the anus, genitals, or pubic area of any person;

(B) For purposes of subsection 8(B)¹ of this section, “sexually explicit conduct” means—

(i) graphic sexual intercourse, including genital-genital, oral-genital, anal-genital, or oral-anal, whether between persons of the same or opposite sex, or lascivious simulated sexual intercourse where the genitals, breast, or pubic area of any person is exhibited;

¹ So in original. Probably should be “(8)(B)”.