

feiture under subsection (a)(1)(C) of this section” was executed by substituting the new language for “involved in a violation of section 1956 or 1957 of this title investigated by the Secretary of the Treasury, may be seized by the Secretary of the Treasury, and any property subject to forfeiture under subsection (a)(1)(C) of this section” in introductory provisions, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Pub. L. 100-690, §6469(b)(1), inserted “or the Postal Service” after “Secretary of the Treasury” in two places in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 100-690, §6469(b)(2), substituted “the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Postal Service” for “the Attorney General or the Secretary of the Treasury”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-690, §6469(b)(2), substituted “the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Postal Service” for “the Attorney General or the Secretary of the Treasury” in two places.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 100-690, §6469(b)(2), (3), substituted “the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Postal Service” for “the Attorney General or the Secretary of the Treasury” and inserted provision that Attorney General have sole responsibility for disposing of petitions for remission or mitigation with respect to property involved in a judicial forfeiture proceeding.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-690, §6469(b)(2), which directed the substitution of “the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Treasury, or the Postal Service” for “the Attorney General or the Secretary of the Treasury” was executed to reflect the probable intent of Congress by making the substitution in four places without regard as to whether or not the initial article “the” was capitalized.

Pub. L. 100-690, §6469(b)(4), inserted provision that the authority granted to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postal Service apply only to property that has been administratively forfeited.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 100-690, §6471(c), inserted “, Federal, State or local,” after “law”.

Subsec. (i)(1). Pub. L. 100-690, §6470(f), substituted “subsection” for “subchapter” in fourth sentence.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the transfer date, see section 351 of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 906 of Title 2, The Congress.

##### 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(s)(2), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2146, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective as of the date on which section 2525(a)(2) of Pub. L. 101-647 took effect.

##### SHORT TITLE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-185, §1(a), Apr. 25, 2000, 114 Stat. 202, provided that: “This Act [enacting sections 983 and 985 of this title and sections 2466 and 2467 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure, amending this section, sections 982 to 984, 986, 2232, 2254, and 3322 of this title, section 1324 of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality, section 1621 of Title 19, Customs Duties, section 881 of Title 21, Food and Drugs, sections 524, 2461, 2465, and 2680 of Title 28, and section 2996f of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, repealing section 888 of Title 21, and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 1324 of Title 8, section 2466 of Title 28, and section 3724 of Title 31, Money and Finance] may be cited as the ‘Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act of 2000’.”

##### SHORT TITLE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-690, title VI, §6181, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4354, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle E (§§6181-6187) of title VI of Pub. L. 100-690, enacting sections 5325 and 5326 of Title 31, Money and Finance, amending sections 1956 and 1957 of this title, sections 1730d, 1829b, 1953, 1955, 3403, 3412, 3413, 3417, and 3420 of Title 12, Banks and Banking, and sections 5312, 5318, and 5321 of Title 31] may be cited as the ‘Money Laundering Prosecution Improvements Act of 1988’.”

##### SHORT TITLE OF 1986 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 99-570, title I, §1351, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-18, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle H (§§1351-1367) of title I of Pub. L. 99-570, enacting this section, sections 982, 1956, and 1957 of this title and section 5324 of Title 31, Money and Finance, amending sections 1952, 1961, and 2516 of this title, sections 1464, 1730, 1786, 1817, 1818, 3403, and 3413 of Title 12, Banks and Banking, and sections 5312, 5316 to 5318, 5321, and 5322 of Title 31, and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section, sections 1464 and 1730 of Title 12, and sections 5315 to 5317, 5321, and 5324 of Title 31] may be cited as the ‘Money Laundering Control Act of 1986’.”

##### SEVERABILITY

Pub. L. 99-570, title I, §1367, Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-39, provided that: “If any provision of this subtitle [see Short Title of 1986 Amendment note above] or any amendment made by this Act [see Short Title of 1986 Amendment note set out under section 801 of Title 21, Food and Drugs], or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the provisions of every other part, and their application, shall not be affected thereby.”

#### § 982. Criminal forfeiture

(a)(1) The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of an offense in violation of section 1956, 1957, or 1960 of this title, shall order that the person forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, involved in such offense, or any property traceable to such property.

(2) The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate—

(A) section 215, 656, 657, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1014, 1341, 1343, or 1344 of this title, affecting a financial institution, or

(B) section 471, 472, 473, 474, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 485, 486, 487, 488, 501, 502, 510, 542, 545, 555, 842, 844, 1028, 1029, or 1030 of this title,

shall order that the person forfeit to the United States any property constituting, or derived from, proceeds the person obtained directly or indirectly, as the result of such violation.

(3) The court, in imposing a sentence on a person convicted of an offense under—

(A) section 666(a)(1) (relating to Federal program fraud);

(B) section 1001 (relating to fraud and false statements);

(C) section 1031 (relating to major fraud against the United States);

(D) section 1032 (relating to concealment of assets from conservator, receiver, or liquidating agent of insured financial institution);

(E) section 1341 (relating to mail fraud); or

(F) section 1343 (relating to wire fraud),

involving the sale of assets acquired or held by the the<sup>1</sup> Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,

<sup>1</sup> So in original.

as conservator or receiver for a financial institution or any other conservator for a financial institution appointed by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, or the National Credit Union Administration, as conservator or liquidating agent for a financial institution, shall order that the person forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, which represents or is traceable to the gross receipts obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of such violation.

(4) With respect to an offense listed in subsection (a)(3) committed for the purpose of executing or attempting to execute any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent statements, pretenses, representations, or promises, the gross receipts of such an offense shall include any property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, which is obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of such offense.

(5) The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of a violation or conspiracy to violate—

(A) section 511 (altering or removing motor vehicle identification numbers);

(B) section 553 (importing or exporting stolen motor vehicles);

(C) section 2119 (armed robbery of automobiles);

(D) section 2312 (transporting stolen motor vehicles in interstate commerce); or

(E) section 2313 (possessing or selling a stolen motor vehicle that has moved in interstate commerce);

shall order that the person forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, which represents or is traceable to the gross proceeds obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of such violation.

(6)(A) The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of a violation of, or conspiracy to violate, section 274(a), 274A(a)(1), or 274A(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act or section 555, 1425, 1426, 1427, 1541, 1542, 1543, 1544, or 1546 of this title, or a violation of, or conspiracy to violate, section 1028 of this title if committed in connection with passport or visa issuance or use, shall order that the person forfeit to the United States, regardless of any provision of State law—

(i) any conveyance, including any vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used in the commission of the offense of which the person is convicted; and

(ii) any property real or personal—

(I) that constitutes, or is derived from or is traceable to the proceeds obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of the offense of which the person is convicted; or

(II) that is used to facilitate, or is intended to be used to facilitate, the commission of the offense of which the person is convicted.

(B) The court, in imposing sentence on a person described in subparagraph (A), shall order that the person forfeit to the United States all property described in that subparagraph.

(7) The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of a Federal health care offense, shall order the person to forfeit property, real or

personal, that constitutes or is derived, directly or indirectly, from gross proceeds traceable to the commission of the offense.

(8) The court, in sentencing a defendant convicted of an offense under section 1028, 1029, 1341, 1342, 1343, or 1344, or of a conspiracy to commit such an offense, if the offense involves telemarketing (as that term is defined in section 2325), shall order that the defendant forfeit to the United States any real or personal property—

(A) used or intended to be used to commit, to facilitate, or to promote the commission of such offense; and

(B) constituting, derived from, or traceable to the gross proceeds that the defendant obtained directly or indirectly as a result of the offense.

(b)(1) The forfeiture of property under this section, including any seizure and disposition of the property and any related judicial or administrative proceeding, shall be governed by the provisions of section 413 (other than subsection (d) of that section) of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 853).

(2) The substitution of assets provisions of subsection 413(p) shall not be used to order a defendant to forfeit assets in place of the actual property laundered where such defendant acted merely as an intermediary who handled but did not retain the property in the course of the money laundering offense unless the defendant, in committing the offense or offenses giving rise to the forfeiture, conducted three or more separate transactions involving a total of \$100,000 or more in any twelve month period.

(Added Pub. L. 99-570, title I, §1366(a), Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3207-39; amended Pub. L. 100-690, title VI, §§6463(c), 6464, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4374, 4375; Pub. L. 101-73, title IX, §963(c), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 504; Pub. L. 101-647, title XIV, §§1401, 1403, title XXV, §2525(b), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4835, 4874; Pub. L. 102-393, title VI, §638(e), Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1788; Pub. L. 102-519, title I, §104(b), Oct. 25, 1992, 106 Stat. 3385; Pub. L. 102-550, title XV, §1512(c), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4058; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, §330011(s)(1), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2145; Pub. L. 104-191, title II, §249(a), (b), Aug. 21, 1996, 110 Stat. 2020; Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title II, §217, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-573; Pub. L. 105-184, §2, June 23, 1998, 112 Stat. 520; Pub. L. 105-318, §6(a), Oct. 30, 1998, 112 Stat. 3010; Pub. L. 106-185, §18(b), Apr. 25, 2000, 114 Stat. 223; Pub. L. 107-56, title III, §372(b)(2), Oct. 26, 2001, 115 Stat. 339; Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title IV, §4002(b)(10), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1808; Pub. L. 109-295, title V, §551(c), Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1390; Pub. L. 110-161, div. E, title V, §553(b), Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2082; Pub. L. 111-203, title III, §377(4), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 1569; Pub. L. 112-127, §5, June 5, 2012, 126 Stat. 371.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 274 and 274A of the Immigration and Nationality Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(6)(A), are classified to sections 1324 and 1324a, respectively, of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

## AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (a)(2)(B). Pub. L. 112-127 inserted “555,” after “545.”

2010—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 111-203, in concluding provisions, struck out “Resolution Trust Corporation,” after “acquired or held by the” and “or the Office of Thrift Supervision” after “Office of the Comptroller of the Currency”.

2007—Subsec. (a)(6)(A). Pub. L. 110-161 substituted “555” for “554” in introductory provisions.

2006—Subsec. (a)(6)(A). Pub. L. 109-295 inserted “554,” before “1425,” in introductory provisions.

2002—Subsec. (a)(8). Pub. L. 107-273 substituted “court” for “Court”.

2001—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 107-56 struck out “of section 5313(a), 5316, or 5324 of title 31, or” before “of section 1956, 1957, or 1960 of this title” and struck out at end “However, no property shall be seized or forfeited in the case of a violation of section 5313(a) of title 31 by a domestic financial institution examined by a Federal bank supervisory agency or a financial institution regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission or a partner, director, or employee thereof.”

2000—Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 106-185, §18(b)(2), (3), designated concluding provisions of subpar. (A) as subpar. (B), substituted “The court, in imposing sentence on a person described in subparagraph (A)” for “The court, in imposing sentence on such person” and “that subparagraph” for “this subparagraph”, and struck out former subpar. (B), which read as follows: “The criminal forfeiture of property under subparagraph (A), including any seizure and disposition of the property and any related administrative or judicial proceeding, shall be governed by the provisions of section 413 of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 853), other than subsections (a) and (d) of such section 413.”

Subsec. (a)(6)(A). Pub. L. 106-185, §18(b)(1)(A), inserted “section 274(a), 274A(a)(1), or 274A(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act or” after “a person convicted of a violation of, or conspiracy to violate,” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (a)(6)(A)(i). Pub. L. 106-185, §18(b)(1)(B), substituted “the offense of which the person is convicted” for “a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, subsection (a)”.

Subsec. (a)(6)(A)(ii)(I), (II). Pub. L. 106-185, §18(b)(1)(C), substituted “the offense of which the person is convicted” for “a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, subsection (a), section 274A(a)(1) or 274A(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, or section 1028, 1425, 1426, 1427, 1541, 1542, 1543, 1544, or 1546 of this title”.

1998—Subsec. (a)(6), (7). Pub. L. 105-184, §2(1)(A), which directed the amendment of subsec. (a) “by redesignating the second paragraph designated as paragraph (6) as paragraph (7)”, was executed by redesignating par. (6), relating to forfeitures for Federal health care offenses, as (7), to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Subsec. (a)(8). Pub. L. 105-184, §2(1)(B), added par. (8).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 105-318 amended par. (1) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (1) read as follows: “Property subject to forfeiture under this section, any seizure and disposition thereof, and any administrative or judicial proceeding in relation thereto, shall be governed—

“(A) in the case of a forfeiture under subsection (a)(1), (a)(6), or (a)(8) of this section, by subsections (c) and (e) through (p) of section 413 of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 853); and

“(B) in the case of a forfeiture under subsection (a)(2) of this section, by subsections (b), (c), (e), and (g) through (p) of section 413 of such Act.”

Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 105-184, §2(2), substituted “(a)(1), (a)(6), or (a)(8)” for “(a)(1) or (a)(6)”.

1996—Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 104-208 added par. (6) relating to criminal forfeiture for passport and visa related offenses.

Pub. L. 104-191, §249(a), added par. (6) relating to forfeitures for Federal health care offenses.

Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 104-191, §249(b), inserted “or (a)(6)” after “(a)(1)”.

1994—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 103-322, §33001(s)(1), amended directory language of Pub. L. 101-647, §1401. See 1990 Amendment note below.

1992—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 102-550 substituted “, 1957, or 1960” for “or 1957”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 102-393 amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, section 215, 656, 657, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1014, 1341, 1343, or 1344 of this title, affecting a financial institution, shall order that the person forfeit to the United States any property constituting, or derived from, proceeds the person obtained directly or indirectly, as the result of such violation.”

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 102-519 added par. (5).

1990—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 101-647, §1401, as amended by Pub. L. 103-322, §33001(s)(1), inserted “, 5316,” after “5313(a)”, the first place appearing.

Subsec. (a)(3), (4). Pub. L. 101-647, §2525(b), added pars. (3) and (4).

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 101-647, §1403, inserted before period at end “unless the defendant, in committing the offense or offenses giving rise to the forfeiture, conducted three or more separate transactions involving a total of \$100,000 or more in any twelve month period”.

1989—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-73, §963(c)(1), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 101-73, §963(c)(2), struck out “The provisions of subsections 413(c) and (e) through (p) of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21 U.S.C. 853(c) and (e)-(p)) shall apply to property subject to forfeiture under this section, to any seizure or disposition thereof, and to any administrative or judicial proceeding in relation thereto, if not inconsistent with this section. However, the”, added par. (1), and inserted “(2) The” before “substitution of assets”.

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-690, §6463(c), amended subsec. (a) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (a) read as follows: “The court, in imposing sentence on a person convicted of an offense under section 1956 or 1957 of this title shall order that the person forfeit to the United States any property, real or personal, which represents the gross receipts the person obtained, directly or indirectly, as a result of such offense, or which is traceable to such gross receipts.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-690, §6464, substituted “(p)” for “(o)” in two places and inserted at end “However, the substitution of assets provisions of subsection 413(p) not be used to order a defendant to forfeit assets in place of the actual property laundered where such defendant acted merely as an intermediary who handled but did not retain the property in the course of the money laundering offense.”

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the transfer date, see section 351 of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 906 of Title 2, The Congress.

## 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, §33001(s)(1), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2145, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective as of the date on which section 1401 of Pub. L. 101-647 took effect.

**§ 983. General rules for civil forfeiture proceedings**

(a) NOTICE; CLAIM; COMPLAINT.—

(1)(A)(i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) through (v), in any nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding under a civil forfeiture statute, with respect to which the Government is required to send written notice to interested parties, such notice shall be sent in a manner to achieve proper notice as soon as practicable, and in no case more than 60 days after the date of the seizure.

(ii) No notice is required if, before the 60-day period expires, the Government files a civil judicial forfeiture action against the property and provides notice of that action as required by law.

(iii) If, before the 60-day period expires, the Government does not file a civil judicial forfeiture action, but does obtain a criminal indictment containing an allegation that the property is subject to forfeiture, the Government shall either—

(I) send notice within the 60 days and continue the nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding under this section; or

(II) terminate the nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding, and take the steps necessary to preserve its right to maintain custody of the property as provided in the applicable criminal forfeiture statute.

(iv) In a case in which the property is seized by a State or local law enforcement agency and turned over to a Federal law enforcement agency for the purpose of forfeiture under Federal law, notice shall be sent not more than 90 days after the date of seizure by the State or local law enforcement agency.

(v) If the identity or interest of a party is not determined until after the seizure or turnover but is determined before a declaration of forfeiture is entered, notice shall be sent to such interested party not later than 60 days after the determination by the Government of the identity of the party or the party's interest.

(B) A supervisory official in the headquarters office of the seizing agency may extend the period for sending notice under subparagraph (A) for a period not to exceed 30 days (which period may not be further extended except by a court), if the official determines that the conditions in subparagraph (D) are present.

(C) Upon motion by the Government, a court may extend the period for sending notice under subparagraph (A) for a period not to exceed 60 days, which period may be further extended by the court for 60-day periods, as necessary, if the court determines, based on a written certification of a supervisory official in the headquarters office of the seizing agency, that the conditions in subparagraph (D) are present.

(D) The period for sending notice under this paragraph may be extended only if there is reason to believe that notice may have an adverse result, including—

(i) endangering the life or physical safety of an individual;

(ii) flight from prosecution;

(iii) destruction of or tampering with evidence;

(iv) intimidation of potential witnesses; or

(v) otherwise seriously jeopardizing an investigation or unduly delaying a trial.

(E) Each of the Federal seizing agencies conducting nonjudicial forfeitures under this section shall report periodically to the Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate the number of occasions when an extension of time is granted under subparagraph (B).

(F) If the Government does not send notice of a seizure of property in accordance with subparagraph (A) to the person from whom the property was seized, and no extension of time is granted, the Government shall return the property to that person without prejudice to the right of the Government to commence a forfeiture proceeding at a later time. The Government shall not be required to return contraband or other property that the person from whom the property was seized may not legally possess.

(2)(A) Any person claiming property seized in a nonjudicial civil forfeiture proceeding under a civil forfeiture statute may file a claim with the appropriate official after the seizure.

(B) A claim under subparagraph (A) may be filed not later than the deadline set forth in a personal notice letter (which deadline may be not earlier than 35 days after the date the letter is mailed), except that if that letter is not received, then a claim may be filed not later than 30 days after the date of final publication of notice of seizure.

(C) A claim shall—

(i) identify the specific property being claimed;

(ii) state the claimant's interest in such property; and

(iii) be made under oath, subject to penalty of perjury.

(D) A claim need not be made in any particular form. Each Federal agency conducting nonjudicial forfeitures under this section shall make claim forms generally available on request, which forms shall be written in easily understandable language.

(E) Any person may make a claim under subparagraph (A) without posting bond with respect to the property which is the subject of the claim.

(3)(A) Not later than 90 days after a claim has been filed, the Government shall file a complaint for forfeiture in the manner set forth in the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims or return the property pending the filing of a complaint, except that a court in the district in which the complaint will be filed may extend the period for filing a complaint for good cause shown or upon agreement of the parties.

(B) If the Government does not—

(i) file a complaint for forfeiture or return the property, in accordance with subparagraph (A); or

(ii) before the time for filing a complaint has expired—