

(June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 829.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Based on Title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ed., § 583 (R.S. § 1045).  
Said section 583 was rephrased and made applicable to all statutes of limitation and is merely declaratory of the generally accepted rule of law.

**§ 3291. Nationality, citizenship and passports**

No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for violation of any provision of sections 1423 to 1428, inclusive, of chapter 69 and sections 1541 to 1544, inclusive, of chapter 75 of title 18 of the United States Code, or for conspiracy to violate any of such sections, unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted within ten years after the commission of the offense.

(Added June 30, 1951, ch. 194, § 1, 65 Stat. 107; amended Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXIII, § 330008(9), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2143.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1994—Pub. L. 103-322 substituted “violate any of such sections” for “violate any of the afore-mentioned sections”.

**§ 3292. Suspension of limitations to permit United States to obtain foreign evidence**

(a)(1) Upon application of the United States, filed before return of an indictment, indicating that evidence of an offense is in a foreign country, the district court before which a grand jury is impaneled to investigate the offense shall suspend the running of the statute of limitations for the offense if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that an official request has been made for such evidence and that it reasonably appears, or reasonably appeared at the time the request was made, that such evidence is, or was, in such foreign country.

(2) The court shall rule upon such application not later than thirty days after the filing of the application.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a period of suspension under this section shall begin on the date on which the official request is made and end on the date on which the foreign court or authority takes final action on the request.

(c) The total of all periods of suspension under this section with respect to an offense—

(1) shall not exceed three years; and

(2) shall not extend a period within which a criminal case must be initiated for more than six months if all foreign authorities take final action before such period would expire without regard to this section.

(d) As used in this section, the term “official request” means a letter rogatory, a request under a treaty or convention, or any other request for evidence made by a court of the United States or an authority of the United States having criminal law enforcement responsibility, to a court or other authority of a foreign country.

(Added Pub. L. 98-473, title II, § 1218(a), Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 2167.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 30 days after Oct. 12, 1984, see section 1220 of Pub. L. 98-473, set out as a note under section 3505 of this title.

**§ 3293. Financial institution offenses**

No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate—

(1) section 215, 656, 657, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1014, 1033, or 1344;

(2) section 1341 or 1343, if the offense affects a financial institution; or

(3) section 1963, to the extent that the racketeering activity involves a violation of section 1344;

unless the indictment is returned or the information is filed within 10 years after the commission of the offense.

(Added Pub. L. 101-73, title IX, § 961(l)(1), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 501; amended Pub. L. 101-647, title XXV, § 2505(a), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4862; Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXII, § 320604(b), title XXXIII, § 330002(e), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2119, 2140.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

1994—Par. (1). Pub. L. 103-322 struck out “1008,” after “1007,” and inserted “1033,” after “1014.”

1990—Par. (3). Pub. L. 101-647 added par. (3).

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-647, title XXV, § 2505(b), Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4862, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply to any offense committed before the date of the enactment of this section [Nov. 29, 1990], if the statute of limitations applicable to that offense had not run as of such date.”

EFFECT OF THIS SECTION ON OFFENSES FOR WHICH PRIOR PERIOD OF LIMITATIONS HAD NOT RUN

Pub. L. 101-73, title IX, § 961(l)(3), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 501, provided that: “The amendments made by this subsection [enacting this section] shall apply to an offense committed before the effective date of this section [Aug. 9, 1989], if the statute of limitations applicable to that offense under this chapter had not run as of such date.”

**§ 3294. Theft of major artwork**

No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for a violation of or conspiracy to violate section 668 unless the indictment is returned or the information is filed within 20 years after the commission of the offense.

(Added Pub. L. 103-322, title XXXII, § 320902(b), Sept. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 2124.)

**§ 3295. Arson offenses**

No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any non-capital offense under section 81 or subsection (f), (h), or (i) of section 844 unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted not later than 10 years after the date on which the offense was committed.

(Added Pub. L. 104-132, title VII, § 708(c)(1), Apr. 24, 1996, 110 Stat. 1297.)

**§ 3296. Counts dismissed pursuant to a plea agreement**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, any counts of an indictment or information that are dismissed pursuant to a plea agreement shall be reinstated by the District Court if—

(1) the counts sought to be reinstated were originally filed within the applicable limitations period;

(2) the counts were dismissed pursuant to a plea agreement approved by the District Court under which the defendant pled guilty to other charges;

(3) the guilty plea was subsequently vacated on the motion of the defendant; and

(4) the United States moves to reinstate the dismissed counts within 60 days of the date on which the order vacating the plea becomes final.

(b) DEFENSES; OBJECTIONS.—Nothing in this section shall preclude the District Court from considering any defense or objection, other than statute of limitations, to the prosecution of the counts reinstated under subsection (a).

(Added Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title III, § 3003(a), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1805.)

**§ 3297. Cases involving DNA evidence**

In a case in which DNA testing implicates an identified person in the commission of a felony, no statute of limitations that would otherwise preclude prosecution of the offense shall preclude such prosecution until a period of time following the implication of the person by DNA testing has elapsed that is equal to the otherwise applicable limitation period.

(Added Pub. L. 108-405, title II, § 204(a), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2271; amended Pub. L. 109-162, title X, § 1005, Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3086.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2006—Pub. L. 109-162 struck out “except for a felony offense under chapter 109A,” before “no statute of limitations”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 108-405, title II, § 204(c), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2271, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section] shall apply to the prosecution of any offense committed before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this section [Oct. 30, 2004] if the applicable limitation period has not yet expired.”

**§ 3298. Trafficking-related offenses**

No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any non-capital offense or conspiracy to commit a non-capital offense under section 1581 (Peonage; Obstructing Enforcement), 1583 (Enticement into Slavery), 1584 (Sale into Involuntary Servitude), 1589 (Forced Labor), 1590 (Trafficking with Respect to Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor), or 1592

(Unlawful Conduct with Respect to Documents in furtherance of Trafficking, Peonage, Slavery, Involuntary Servitude, or Forced Labor) of this title or under section 274(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted not later than 10 years after the commission of the offense.

(Added Pub. L. 109-162, title XI, § 1182(a), Jan. 5, 2006, 119 Stat. 3126.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 274(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, referred to in text, is classified to section 1324(a) of Title 8, Aliens and Nationality.

**§ 3299. Child abduction and sex offenses**

Notwithstanding any other law, an indictment may be found or an information instituted at any time without limitation for any offense under section 1201 involving a minor victim, and for any felony under chapter 109A, 110 (except for section<sup>1</sup> 2257 and 2257A), or 117, or section 1591.

(Added Pub. L. 109-248, title II, § 211(1), July 27, 2006, 120 Stat. 616.)

**§ 3300. Recruitment or use of child soldiers**

No person may be prosecuted, tried, or punished for a violation of section 2442 unless the indictment or the information is filed not later than 10 years after the commission of the offense.

(Added Pub. L. 110-340, § 2(a)(2), Oct. 3, 2008, 122 Stat. 3736.)

**§ 3301. Securities fraud offenses**

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “securities fraud offense” means a violation of, or a conspiracy or an attempt to violate—

(1) section 1348;

(2) section 32(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78ff(a));

(3) section 24 of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77x);

(4) section 217 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b-17);

(5) section 49 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-48); or

(6) section 325 of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (15 U.S.C. 77yyy).

(b) LIMITATION.—No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for a securities fraud offense, unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted within 6 years after the commission of the offense.

(Added Pub. L. 111-203, title X, § 1079A(b)(1), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2079.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective 1 day after July 21, 2010, except as otherwise provided, see section 4 of Pub. L. 111-203, set

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “sections”.