

**(3) Significance of block**

For purposes of this subsection, if a consumer reporting agency rescinds a block, the presence of information in the file of a consumer prior to the blocking of such information is not evidence of whether the consumer knew or should have known that the consumer obtained possession of any goods, services, or money as a result of the block.

**(d) Exception for resellers****(1) No reseller file**

This section shall not apply to a consumer reporting agency, if the consumer reporting agency—

- (A) is a reseller;
- (B) is not, at the time of the request of the consumer under subsection (a), otherwise furnishing or reselling a consumer report concerning the information identified by the consumer; and
- (C) informs the consumer, by any means, that the consumer may report the identity theft to the Bureau to obtain consumer information regarding identity theft.

**(2) Reseller with file**

The sole obligation of the consumer reporting agency under this section, with regard to any request of a consumer under this section, shall be to block the consumer report maintained by the consumer reporting agency from any subsequent use, if—

- (A) the consumer, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a), identifies, to a consumer reporting agency, information in the file of the consumer that resulted from identity theft; and
- (B) the consumer reporting agency is a reseller of the identified information.

**(3) Notice**

In carrying out its obligation under paragraph (2), the reseller shall promptly provide a notice to the consumer of the decision to block the file. Such notice shall contain the name, address, and telephone number of each consumer reporting agency from which the consumer information was obtained for resale.

**(e) Exception for verification companies**

The provisions of this section do not apply to a check services company, acting as such, which issues authorizations for the purpose of approving or processing negotiable instruments, electronic fund transfers, or similar methods of payments, except that, beginning 4 business days after receipt of information described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a), a check services company shall not report to a national consumer reporting agency described in section 1681a(p) of this title, any information identified in the subject identity theft report as resulting from identity theft.

**(f) Access to blocked information by law enforcement agencies**

No provision of this section shall be construed as requiring a consumer reporting agency to prevent a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency from accessing blocked information in a consumer file to which the agency

could otherwise obtain access under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 90-321, title VI, §605B, as added Pub. L. 108-159, title I, §152(a), Dec. 4, 2003, 117 Stat. 1964; amended Pub. L. 111-203, title X, §1088(a)(2)(C), July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2087.)

**Editorial Notes**

## AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (d)(1)(C). Pub. L. 111-203 substituted “the Bureau” for “the Commission”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

Section subject to joint regulations establishing effective dates as prescribed by Federal Reserve Board and Federal Trade Commission, except as otherwise provided, see section 3 of Pub. L. 108-159, set out as an Effective Date of 2003 Amendment note under section 1681 of this title.

**§ 1681c-3. Adverse information in cases of trafficking****(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Trafficking documentation**

The term “trafficking documentation” means—

- (A) documentation of—
  - (i) a determination that a consumer is a victim of trafficking made by a Federal, State, or Tribal governmental entity; or
  - (ii) by a court of competent jurisdiction; and
- (B) documentation that identifies items of adverse information that should not be furnished by a consumer reporting agency because the items resulted from a severe form of trafficking in persons or sex trafficking of which the consumer is a victim.

**(2) Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 definitions**

The terms “severe forms of trafficking in persons” and “sex trafficking” have the meanings given, respectively, in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

**(3) Victim of trafficking**

The term “victim of trafficking” means a person who is a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons or sex trafficking.

**(b) Adverse information**

A consumer reporting agency may not furnish a consumer report containing any adverse item of information about a consumer that resulted from a severe form of trafficking in persons or sex trafficking if the consumer has provided trafficking documentation to the consumer reporting agency.

**(c) Rulemaking****(1) In general**

Not later than 180 days after December 27, 2021, the Director shall issue rules to implement subsection (a).

**(2) Contents**

The rules issued pursuant to paragraph (1) shall establish a method by which consumers shall submit trafficking documentation to consumer reporting agencies.

(Pub. L. 90-321, title VI, §605C, as added Pub. L. 117-81, div. F, title LXI, §6102(a), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2383.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries****EFFECTIVE DATE**

Pub. L. 117-81, div. F, title LXI, §6102(c), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2384, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [enacting this section] shall apply on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection issues a rule pursuant to section 605C(c) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act [15 U.S.C. 1681c-3(c)], as added by subsection (a) of this section. Any rule issued by the Director to implement such section 605C [15 U.S.C. 1681c-3] shall be limited to preventing a consumer reporting agency from furnishing a consumer report containing any adverse item of information about a consumer (as such terms are defined, respectively, in section 603 the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681a)) that resulted from trafficking.”

**§ 1681d. Disclosure of investigative consumer reports****(a) Disclosure of fact of preparation**

A person may not procure or cause to be prepared an investigative consumer report on any consumer unless—

(1) it is clearly and accurately disclosed to the consumer that an investigative consumer report including information as to his character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and mode of living, whichever are applicable, may be made, and such disclosure (A) is made in a writing mailed, or otherwise delivered, to the consumer, not later than three days after the date on which the report was first requested, and (B) includes a statement informing the consumer of his right to request the additional disclosures provided for under subsection (b) of this section and the written summary of the rights of the consumer prepared pursuant to section 1681g(c) of this title; and

(2) the person certifies or has certified to the consumer reporting agency that—

(A) the person has made the disclosures to the consumer required by paragraph (1); and

(B) the person will comply with subsection (b).

**(b) Disclosure on request of nature and scope of investigation**

Any person who procures or causes to be prepared an investigative consumer report on any consumer shall, upon written request made by the consumer within a reasonable period of time after the receipt by him of the disclosure required by subsection (a)(1), make a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of

the investigation requested. This disclosure shall be made in a writing mailed, or otherwise delivered, to the consumer not later than five days after the date on which the request for such disclosure was received from the consumer or such report was first requested, whichever is the later.

**(c) Limitation on liability upon showing of reasonable procedures for compliance with provisions**

No person may be held liable for any violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this section if he shows by a preponderance of the evidence that at the time of the violation he maintained reasonable procedures to assure compliance with subsection (a) or (b).

**(d) Prohibitions****(1) Certification**

A consumer reporting agency shall not prepare or furnish an investigative consumer report unless the agency has received a certification under subsection (a)(2) from the person who requested the report.

**(2) Inquiries**

A consumer reporting agency shall not make an inquiry for the purpose of preparing an investigative consumer report on a consumer for employment purposes if the making of the inquiry by an employer or prospective employer of the consumer would violate any applicable Federal or State equal employment opportunity law or regulation.

**(3) Certain public record information**

Except as otherwise provided in section 1681k of this title, a consumer reporting agency shall not furnish an investigative consumer report that includes information that is a matter of public record and that relates to an arrest, indictment, conviction, civil judicial action, tax lien, or outstanding judgment, unless the agency has verified the accuracy of the information during the 30-day period ending on the date on which the report is furnished.

**(4) Certain adverse information**

A consumer reporting agency shall not prepare or furnish an investigative consumer report on a consumer that contains information that is adverse to the interest of the consumer and that is obtained through a personal interview with a neighbor, friend, or associate of the consumer or with another person with whom the consumer is acquainted or who has knowledge of such item of information, unless—

(A) the agency has followed reasonable procedures to obtain confirmation of the information, from an additional source that has independent and direct knowledge of the information; or

(B) the person interviewed is the best possible source of the information.

(Pub. L. 90-321, title VI, §606, as added Pub. L. 91-508, title VI, §601, Oct. 26, 1970, 84 Stat. 1130; amended Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title II, §§2408(d)(2), 2414, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-438, 3009-449.)