

# Title 18, United States Code Statutes

# 18 U.S.C. §201 Bribery of public officials and witnesses

- **(a)** For the purpose of this section--
  - **(1)** the term “**public official**” means Member of Congress, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner, either before or after such official has qualified, or an officer or employee or person acting for or on behalf of the United States, or any department, agency or branch of Government thereof, including the District of Columbia, in any official function, under or by authority of any such department, agency, or branch of Government, or a juror;
  - **(2)** the term “person who has been selected to be a **public official**” means any person who has been nominated or appointed to be a **public official**, or has been officially informed that such person will be so nominated or appointed; and
  - **(3)** the term “official act” means any decision or action on any question, matter, cause, suit, proceeding or controversy, which may at any time be pending, or which may by law be brought before any **public official**, in such official's official capacity, or in such official's place of trust or profit.

# 18 U.S.C. §201 Bribery of public officials and witnesses

- **(b) Whoever--**
  - **(1)** directly or indirectly, corruptly gives, offers or promises anything of value to any public official or person who has been selected to be a public official, or offers or promises any public official or any person who has been selected to be a public official to give anything of value to any other person or entity, with intent--
    - **(A)** to influence any official act; or
    - **(B)** to influence such public official or person who has been selected to be a public official to commit or aid in committing, or collude in, or allow, any fraud, or make opportunity for the commission of any fraud, on the United States; or
    - **(C)** to induce such public official or such person who has been selected to be a public official to do or omit to do any act in violation of the lawful duty of such official or person;
  - **(2)** being a public official or person selected to be a public official, directly or indirectly, corruptly demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept anything of value personally or for any other person or entity, in return for:
    - **(A)** being influenced in the performance of any official act;
    - **(B)** being influenced to commit or aid in committing, or to collude in, or allow, any fraud, or make opportunity for the commission of any fraud, on the United States; or
    - **(C)** being induced to do or omit to do any act in violation of the official duty of such official or person;
  - **(3)** directly or indirectly, corruptly gives, offers, or promises anything of value to any person, or offers or promises such person to give anything of value to any other person or entity, with intent to influence the testimony under oath or affirmation of such first-mentioned person as a witness upon a trial, hearing, or other proceeding, before any court, any committee of either House or both Houses of Congress, or any agency, commission, or officer authorized by the laws of the United States to hear evidence or take testimony, or with intent to influence such person to absent himself therefrom;
  - **(4)** directly or indirectly, corruptly demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept anything of value personally or for any other person or entity in return for being influenced in testimony under oath or affirmation as a witness upon any such trial, hearing, or other proceeding, or in return for absenting himself therefrom;  
shall be fined under this title or not more than three times the monetary equivalent of the thing of value, whichever is greater, or imprisoned for not more than fifteen years, or both, and may be disqualified from holding any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

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- **(c) Whoever--**
  - **(1)** otherwise than as provided by law for the proper discharge of official duty--
    - **(A)** directly or indirectly gives, offers, or promises anything of value to any public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official, for or because of any official act performed or to be performed by such public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official; or
    - **(B)** being a public official, former public official, or person selected to be a public official, otherwise than as provided by law for the proper discharge of official duty, directly or indirectly demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept anything of value personally for or because of any official act performed or to be performed by such official or person;
  - **(2)** directly or indirectly, gives, offers, or promises anything of value to any person, for or because of the testimony under oath or affirmation given or to be given by such person as a witness upon a trial, hearing, or other proceeding, before any court, any committee of either House or both Houses of Congress, or any agency, commission, or officer authorized by the laws of the United States to hear evidence or take testimony, or for or because of such person's absence therefrom;
  - **(3)** directly or indirectly, demands, seeks, receives, accepts, or agrees to receive or accept anything of value personally for or because of the testimony under oath or affirmation given or to be given by such person as a witness upon any such trial, hearing, or other proceeding, or for or because of such person's absence therefrom;

shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for not more than two years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §371 Conspiracy to commit offense or to defraud United States

- If two or more persons conspire either to commit any offense against the United States, or to defraud the United States, or any agency thereof in any manner or for any purpose, and one or more of such persons do any act to effect the object of the conspiracy, each shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §606 Intimidation to secure political contributions

- Whoever, being one of the officers or employees of the United States mentioned in [section 602](#) of this title, discharges, or promotes, or degrades, or in any manner changes the official rank or compensation of any other officer or employee, or promises or threatens so to do, for giving or withholding or neglecting to make any contribution of money or other valuable thing for any political purpose, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §610 Coercion of political activity

- It shall be unlawful for any person to intimidate, threaten, command, or coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, command, or coerce, any employee of the Federal Government as defined in [section 7322\(1\) of title 5, United States Code](#), to engage in, or not to engage in, any political activity, including, but not limited to, voting or refusing to vote for any candidate or measure in any election, making or refusing to make any political contribution, or working or refusing to work on behalf of any candidate. Any person who violates this section shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §666 Theft or bribery concerning programs receiving Federal funds

- **(a)** Whoever, if the circumstance described in subsection (b) of this section exists--
  - **(1)** being an agent of an organization, or of a State, local, or Indian tribal government, or any agency thereof--
    - **(A)** embezzles, steals, obtains by fraud, or otherwise without authority knowingly converts to the use of any person other than the rightful owner or intentionally misapplies, property that--
      - **(i)** is valued at \$5,000 or more, and
      - **(ii)** is owned by, or is under the care, custody, or control of such organization, government, or agency; or
    - **(B)** corruptly solicits or demands for the benefit of any person, or accepts or agrees to accept, anything of value from any person, intending to be influenced or rewarded in connection with any business, transaction, or series of transactions of such organization, government, or agency involving any thing of value of \$5,000 or more; or
  - **(2)** corruptly gives, offers, or agrees to give anything of value to any person, with intent to influence or reward an agent of an organization or of a State, local or Indian tribal government, or any agency thereof, in connection with any business, transaction, or series of transactions of such organization, government, or agency involving anything of value of \$5,000 or more; shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both
- **(b)** The circumstance referred to in subsection (a) of this section is that the organization, government, or agency receives, in any one year period, benefits in excess of \$10,000 under a Federal program involving a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, or other form of Federal assistance.



# 18 U.S.C. §1001 Statements or entries generally

- **(a)** Except as otherwise provided in this section, whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the United States, knowingly and willfully--
  - **(1)** falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact;
  - **(2)** makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation;  
or
  - **(3)** makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry;

shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years or, if the offense involves international or domestic terrorism (as defined in [section 2331](#)), imprisoned not more than 8 years, or both. If the matter relates to an offense under chapter 109A, 109B, 110, or 117, or [section 1591](#), then the term of imprisonment imposed under this section shall be not more than 8 years.

# 18 U.S.C. §1341 Frauds and swindles

- Whoever, having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, or to sell, dispose of, loan, exchange, alter, give away, distribute, supply, or furnish or procure for unlawful use any counterfeit or spurious coin, obligation, security, or other article, or anything represented to be or intimated or held out to be such counterfeit or spurious article, for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice or attempting so to do, places in any post office or authorized depository for mail matter, any matter or thing whatever to be sent or delivered by the Postal Service, or deposits or causes to be deposited any matter or thing whatever to be sent or delivered by any private or commercial interstate carrier, or takes or receives therefrom, any such matter or thing, or knowingly causes to be delivered by mail or such carrier according to the direction thereon, or at the place at which it is directed to be delivered by the person to whom it is addressed, any such matter or thing, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §1343 Fraud by wire, radio, or television

- Whoever, having devised or intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises, transmits or causes to be transmitted by means of wire, radio, or television communication in interstate or foreign commerce, any writings, signs, signals, pictures, or sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

## 18 U.S.C. §1346 Definition of “scheme or artifice to defraud”

- For the purposes of this chapter, the term “scheme or artifice to defraud” includes a scheme or artifice to deprive another of the intangible right of honest services.

# 18 U.S.C. §1503 Influencing or injuring officer or juror generally

- **(a)** Whoever corruptly, or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, endeavors to influence, intimidate, or impede any grand or petit juror, or officer in or of any court of the United States, or officer who may be serving at any examination or other proceeding before any United States magistrate judge or other committing magistrate, in the discharge of his duty, or injures any such grand or petit juror in his person or property on account of any verdict or indictment assented to by him, or on account of his being or having been such juror, or injures any such officer, magistrate judge, or other committing magistrate in his person or property on account of the performance of his official duties, or corruptly or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, influences, obstructs, or impedes, or endeavors to influence, obstruct, or impede, the due administration of justice, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b). If the offense under this section occurs in connection with a trial of a criminal case, and the act in violation of this section involves the threat of physical force or physical force, the maximum term of imprisonment which may be imposed for the offense shall be the higher of that otherwise provided by law or the maximum term that could have been imposed for any offense charged in such case.
- **(b)** The punishment for an offense under this section is--
  - **(1)** in the case of a killing, the punishment provided in sections 1111 and 1112;
  - **(2)** in the case of an attempted killing, or a case in which the offense was committed against a petit juror and in which a class A or B felony was charged, imprisonment for not more than 20 years, a fine under this title, or both; and
  - **(3)** in any other case, imprisonment for not more than 10 years, a fine under this title, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §1510 Obstruction of criminal investigations

- **(a)** Whoever willfully endeavors by means of bribery to obstruct, delay, or prevent the communication of information relating to a violation of any criminal statute of the United States by any person to a criminal investigator shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §1512 Tampering with a witness, victim, or an informant

- **(a)**
  - **(1)** Whoever kills or attempts to kill another person, with intent to--
    - **(A)** prevent the attendance or testimony of any person in an official proceeding;
    - **(B)** prevent the production of a record, document, or other object, in an official proceeding; or
    - **(C)** prevent the communication by any person to a law enforcement officer or judge of the United States of information relating to the commission or possible commission of a Federal offense or a violation of conditions of probation, parole, or release pending judicial proceedings; shall be punished as provided in paragraph (3).
  - **(2)** Whoever uses physical force or the threat of physical force against any person, or attempts to do so, with intent to--
    - **(A)** influence, delay, or prevent the testimony of any person in an official proceeding;
    - **(B)** cause or induce any person to--
      - **(i)** withhold testimony, or withhold a record, document, or other object, from an official proceeding;
      - **(ii)** alter, destroy, mutilate, or conceal an object with intent to impair the integrity or availability of the object for use in an official proceeding;
      - **(iii)** evade legal process summoning that person to appear as a witness, or to produce a record, document, or other object, in an official proceeding; or
      - **(iv)** be absent from an official proceeding to which that person has been summoned by legal process; or
    - **(C)** hinder, delay, or prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer or judge of the United States of information relating to the commission or possible commission of a Federal offense or a violation of conditions of probation, supervised release, parole, or release pending judicial proceedings; shall be punished as provided in paragraph (3).

# 18 U.S.C. §1512 Tampering with a witness, victim, or an informant

- **(3)** The punishment for an offense under this subsection is--
  - **(A)** in the case of a killing, the punishment provided in [sections 1111](#) and [1112](#);
  - **(B)** in the case of--
    - **(i)** an attempt to murder; or
    - **(ii)** the use or attempted use of physical force against any person; imprisonment for not more than 30 years; and
  - **(C)** in the case of the threat of use of physical force against any person, imprisonment for not more than 20 years.
- **(b)** Whoever knowingly uses intimidation, threatens, or corruptly persuades another person, or attempts to do so, or engages in misleading conduct toward another person, with intent to—
  - **(1)** influence, delay, or prevent the testimony of any person in an official proceeding;
  - **(2)** cause or induce any person to--
    - **(A)** withhold testimony, or withhold a record, document, or other object, from an official proceeding;
    - **(B)** alter, destroy, mutilate, or conceal an object with intent to impair the object's integrity or availability for use in an official proceeding;
    - **(C)** evade legal process summoning that person to appear as a witness, or to produce a record, document, or other object, in an official proceeding; or
    - **(D)** be absent from an official proceeding to which such person has been summoned by legal process; or
  - **(3)** hinder, delay, or prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer or judge of the United States of information relating to the commission or possible commission of a Federal offense or a violation of conditions of probation<sup>1</sup> supervised release,<sup>2</sup> parole, or release pending judicial proceedings; shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.



# 18 U.S.C. §1512 Tampering with a witness, victim, or an informant

- **(c)** Whoever corruptly--
  - **(1)** alters, destroys, mutilates, or conceals a record, document, or other object, or attempts to do so, with the intent to impair the object's integrity or availability for use in an official proceeding; or
  - **(2)** otherwise obstructs, influences, or impedes any official proceeding, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.
- **(d)** Whoever intentionally harasses another person and thereby hinders, delays, prevents, or dissuades any person from--
  - **(1)** attending or testifying in an official proceeding;
  - **(2)** reporting to a law enforcement officer or judge of the United States the commission or possible commission of a Federal offense or a violation of conditions of probation<sup>1</sup> supervised release,<sup>2</sup> parole, or release pending judicial proceedings;
  - **(3)** arresting or seeking the arrest of another person in connection with a Federal offense; or
  - **(4)** causing a criminal prosecution, or a parole or probation revocation proceeding, to be sought or instituted, or assisting in such prosecution or proceeding; or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.
- **(e)** In a prosecution for an offense under this section, it is an affirmative defense, as to which the defendant has the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence, that the conduct consisted solely of lawful conduct and that the defendant's sole intention was to encourage, induce, or cause the other person to testify truthfully.

# 18 U.S.C. §1512 Tampering with a witness, victim, or an informant

- **(f)** For the purposes of this section--
  - **(1)** an official proceeding need not be pending or about to be instituted at the time of the offense; and
  - **(2)** the testimony, or the record, document, or other object need not be admissible in evidence or free of a claim of privilege.
- **(g)** In a prosecution for an offense under this section, no state of mind need be proved with respect to the circumstance--
  - **(1)** that the official proceeding before a judge, court, magistrate judge, grand jury, or government agency is before a judge or court of the United States, a United States magistrate judge, a bankruptcy judge, a Federal grand jury, or a Federal Government agency; or
  - **(2)** that the judge is a judge of the United States or that the law enforcement officer is an officer or employee of the Federal Government or a person authorized to act for or on behalf of the Federal Government or serving the Federal Government as an adviser or consultant.
- **(h)** There is extraterritorial Federal jurisdiction over an offense under this section.
- **(i)** A prosecution under this section or [section 1503](#) may be brought in the district in which the official proceeding (whether or not pending or about to be instituted) was intended to be affected or in the district in which the conduct constituting the alleged offense occurred.
- **(j)** If the offense under this section occurs in connection with a trial of a criminal case, the maximum term of imprisonment which may be imposed for the offense shall be the higher of that otherwise provided by law or the maximum term that could have been imposed for any offense charged in such case.
- **(k)** Whoever conspires to commit any offense under this section shall be subject to the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense the commission of which was the object of the conspiracy.

## 18 U.S.C. §1519 Destruction, alteration, or falsification of records in Federal investigations and bankruptcy

- Whoever knowingly alters, destroys, mutilates, conceals, covers up, falsifies, or makes a false entry in any record, document, or tangible object with the intent to impede, obstruct, or influence the investigation or proper administration of any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States or any case filed under title 11, or in relation to or contemplation of any such matter or case, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

# 18 U.S.C. §1951 Interference with commerce by threats or violence

- **(a)** Whoever in any way or degree obstructs, delays, or affects commerce or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce, by robbery or extortion or attempts or conspires so to do, or commits or threatens physical violence to any person or property in furtherance of a plan or purpose to do anything in violation of this section shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than twenty years, or both.
- **(2)** The term “extortion” means the obtaining of property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful use of actual or threatened force, violence, or fear, or under color of official right.