

CHAPTER 37—CLAIMS**SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL**

- Sec.
3701. Definitions and application.
3702. Authority to settle claims.

SUBCHAPTER II—CLAIMS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

3711. Collection and compromise.
3712. Time limitations for presenting certain claims of the Government.
3713. Priority of Government claims.
3714. Keeping money due States in default.
3715. Buying real property of a debtor.
3716. Administrative offset.
3717. Interest and penalty on claims.
3718. Contracts for collection services.
3719. Reports on debt collection activities.
3720. Collection of payments.
3720A. Reduction of tax refund by amount of debt.
3720B. Barring delinquent Federal debtors from obtaining Federal loans or loan insurance guarantees.
3720C. Debt Collection Improvement Account.
3720D. Garnishment.
3720E. Dissemination of information regarding identity of delinquent debtors.

SUBCHAPTER III—CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

3721. Claims of personnel of agencies and the District of Columbia government for personal property damage or loss.
3722. Claims of officers and employees at Government penal and correctional institutions.
3723. Small claims for privately owned property damage or loss.
3724. Claims for damages caused by investigative or law enforcement officers of the Department of Justice.
3725. Claims of non-nationals for personal injury or death in a foreign country.
3726. Payment for transportation.
3727. Assignments of claims.
3728. Setoff against judgment.
3729. False claims.
3730. Civil actions for false claims.
3731. False claims procedure.
3732. False claims jurisdiction.
3733. Civil investigative demands.

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

1996—Pub. L. 104-316, title II, §202(n)(2), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3844, substituted “Authority to settle claims” for “Authority of the Comptroller General to settle claims” in item 3702.

Pub. L. 104-134, title III, §31001(j)(2), (o)(2), (r)(2), (t)(2), Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-365, 1321-371, 1321-373, 1321-375, added items 3720B to 3720E.

1989—Pub. L. 101-203, §1(b)(2), Dec. 7, 1989, 103 Stat. 1805, substituted “investigative or law enforcement officers of the Department of Justice” for “the Federal Bureau of Investigation” in item 3724.

1986—Pub. L. 99-562, §6(b), Oct. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 3168, added items 3732 and 3733.

1984—Pub. L. 98-369, div. B, title VI, §§2652(a)(2), 2653(a)(2), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1152, 1154, added items 3720 and 3720A.

1983—Pub. L. 97-452, §1(13)(B), (16)(B), Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2470, 2474, inserted “and application” in item 3701 and added items 3716-3719.

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL**§ 3701. Definitions and application**

(a) In this chapter—

(1) “administrative offset” means withholding funds payable by the United States (including funds payable by the United States on behalf of a State government) to, or held by the United States for, a person to satisfy a claim.

(2) “calendar quarter” means a 3-month period beginning on January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1.

(3) “consumer reporting agency” means—

(A) a consumer reporting agency as that term is defined in section 603(f) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681a(f)); or

(B) a person that, for money or on a cooperative basis, regularly—

(i) gets information on consumers to give the information to a consumer reporting agency; or

(ii) serves as a marketing agent under an arrangement allowing a third party to get the information from a consumer reporting agency.

(4) “executive, judicial, or legislative agency” means a department, agency, court, court administrative office, or instrumentality in the executive, judicial, or legislative branch of Government, including government corporations.

(5) “military department” means the Departments of the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

(6) “system of records” has the same meaning given that term in section 552a(a)(5) of title 5.

(7) “uniformed services” means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force, Coast Guard, Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service.

(8) “nontax” means, with respect to any debt or claim, any debt or claim other than a debt or claim under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(b)(1) In subchapter II of this chapter and subsection (a)(8) of this section, the term “claim” or “debt” means any amount of funds or property that has been determined by an appropriate official of the Federal Government to be owed to the United States by a person, organization, or entity other than another Federal agency. A claim includes, without limitation—

(A) funds owed on account of loans made, insured, or guaranteed by the Government, including any deficiency or any difference between the price obtained by the Government in the sale of a property and the amount owed to the Government on a mortgage on the property,

(B) expenditures of nonappropriated funds, including actual and administrative costs related to shoplifting, theft detection, and theft prevention,

(C) over-payments, including payments disallowed by audits performed by the Inspector General of the agency administering the program,

(D) any amount the United States is authorized by statute to collect for the benefit of any person,

(E) the unpaid share of any non-Federal partner in a program involving a Federal pay-