

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 108–458 substituted “Secretary of Homeland Security and, for a violation relating to section 46504, the Secretary of Transportation,” for “Secretary of Transportation”.

§ 46303. Carrying a weapon

(a) CIVIL PENALTY.—An individual who, when on, or attempting to board, an aircraft in, or intended for operation in, air transportation or intrastate air transportation, has on or about the individual or the property of the individual a concealed dangerous weapon that is or would be accessible to the individual in flight is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation.

(b) COMPROMISE AND SETOFF.—(1) The Secretary of Homeland Security may compromise the amount of a civil penalty imposed under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) The Government may deduct the amount of a civil penalty imposed or compromised under this section from amounts it owes the individual liable for the penalty.

(c) NONAPPLICATION.—This section does not apply to—

(1) a law enforcement officer of a State or political subdivision of a State, or an officer or employee of the Government, authorized to carry arms in an official capacity; or

(2) another individual the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration or the Secretary of Homeland Security by regulation authorizes to carry arms in an official capacity.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1234; Pub. L. 107–71, title I, §140(d)(5), Nov. 19, 2001, 115 Stat. 642; Pub. L. 108–458, title IV, §4027(c), Dec. 17, 2004, 118 Stat. 3727.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
46303(a)	49 App.:1471(d) (words after 3d comma).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, §901(d); added Oct. 12, 1984, Pub. L. 98–473, §2014(a)(1), 98 Stat. 2189.
46303(b)	49 App.:1471(a)(2) (related to 1471(d)).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, §901(a)(2) (related to §901(d)), 72 Stat. 784; July 10, 1962, Pub. L. 87–528, §12, 76 Stat. 150; restated Oct. 24, 1978, Pub. L. 95–504, §35(b), 92 Stat. 1740; Oct. 12, 1984, Pub. L. 98–473, §2014(b), 98 Stat. 2189.
	49 App.:1551(b)(1)(E).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, §1601(b)(1)(E); added Oct. 4, 1984, Pub. L. 98–443, §3(e), 98 Stat. 1704.
46303(c)	49 App.:1471(d) (words before 3d comma).	

In subsection (a), the words “deadly or” and “which shall be recoverable in a civil action brought in the name of the United States” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b)(1), the words “imposed under” are substituted for “provided for in” for consistency.

In subsection (b)(2), the words “imposed or compromised” are substituted for “The amount of such penalty when finally determined or fixed by order of the Board, or the amount agreed upon in compromise” to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (c)(1), the words “State or political subdivision of a State” are substituted for “municipal or

State government” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code. The words “or required” are omitted as surplus.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 108–458, §4027(c)(1), substituted “Secretary of Homeland Security” for “Secretary of Transportation”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 108–458, §4027(c)(2), substituted “Secretary of Homeland Security” for “Under Secretary of Transportation for Security”.

2001—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 107–71 inserted “or the Under Secretary of Transportation for Security” after “Federal Aviation Administration”.

§ 46304. Liens on aircraft

(a) AIRCRAFT SUBJECT TO LIENS.—When an aircraft is involved in a violation referred to in section 46301(a)(1)(A)–(C) of this title and the violation is by the owner of, or individual commanding, the aircraft, the aircraft is subject to a lien for the civil penalty.

(b) SEIZURE.—An aircraft subject to a lien under this section may be seized summarily and placed in the custody of a person authorized to take custody of it under regulations of the Secretary of Transportation (or the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration with respect to aviation safety duties and powers designated to be carried out by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration). A report on the seizure shall be submitted to the Attorney General. The Attorney General promptly shall bring a civil action in rem to enforce the lien or notify the Secretary or Administrator that the action will not be brought.

(c) RELEASE.—An aircraft seized under subsection (b) of this section shall be released from custody when—

(1) the civil penalty is paid;

(2) a compromise amount agreed on is paid;

(3) the aircraft is seized under a civil action in rem to enforce the lien;

(4) the Attorney General gives notice that a civil action will not be brought under subsection (b) of this section; or

(5) a bond (in an amount and with a surety the Secretary or Administrator prescribes), conditioned on payment of the penalty or compromise, is deposited with the Secretary or Administrator.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1235; Pub. L. 108–176, title V, §503(d)(2), Dec. 12, 2003, 117 Stat. 2559; Pub. L. 115–254, div. K, title I, §1991(g)(2), Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3644.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
46304(a)	49 App.:1471(b).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, §§901(b), 903(b)(2), (3), 72 Stat. 784, 786.
46304(b)	49 App.:1473(b)(2). 49 App.:1551(b)(1)(E).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85–726, 72 Stat. 731, §1601(b)(1)(E); added Oct. 4, 1984, Pub. L. 98–443, §3(e), 98 Stat. 1704.
	49 App.:1655(c)(1).	Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89–670, §6(c)(1), 80 Stat. 938; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub. L. 97–449, §7(b), 96 Stat. 2444.
46304(c)	49 App.:1473(b)(3). 49 App.:1551(b)(1)(E). 49 App.:1655(c)(1).	