



Proceeds of Crime Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 29

PART 12

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

Miscellaneous

[^{F1}453C Obstruction offence in relation to immigration officers

- (1) A person commits an offence if the person resists or wilfully obstructs an immigration officer who is acting in the exercise of a relevant power.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 51 weeks, to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale, or to both;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale, or to both;
 - (c) on summary conviction in Northern Ireland, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 1 month, to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale, or to both.
- (3) In this section “relevant power” means a power exercisable under—
 - (a) sections 47C to 47F, 127C to 127F or 195C to 195F (powers to seize and search for realisable property);
 - (b) section 289 as applied by section 24 of the UK Borders Act 2007 (powers to search for cash);
 - (c) section 294 as so applied (powers to seize cash);
 - (d) section 295(1) as so applied (power to detain seized cash);
 - (e) section 303C as so applied (powers to search for a listed asset);
 - (f) section 303J as so applied (powers to seize property);
 - (g) section 303K as so applied (powers to detain seized property);

Changes to legislation: *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Section 453C is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 26 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- [section 303Z21 (powers to search for cryptoasset-related items) as applied by F2(ga) section 24 of the UK Borders Act 2007 (exercise of civil recovery powers by immigration officers);
- (gb) section 303Z26 as so applied (powers to seize cryptoasset-related items);
- (gc) section 303Z27 as so applied (powers to detain cryptoasset-related items);]
- (h) a search and seizure warrant issued under section 352; or
- (i) a search and seizure warrant issued under section 387.
- (4) The power conferred by subsection (5) of section 28A of the Immigration Act 1971 (arrest without warrant) applies in relation to an offence under this section as it applies in relation to an offence under section 26(1)(g) of that Act (and subsections (6) to (9), (10) and (11) of section 28A of that Act apply accordingly).
- (5) In relation to an offence committed before the coming into force of section 281(5) of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (alteration of penalties for certain summary offences: England and Wales) the reference in subsection (2)(a) to 51 weeks is to be read as a reference to 1 month.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 453C inserted (27.4.2017 for specified purposes, 31.1.2018 for E.W.S. for specified purposes, 28.6.2021 for N.I. in so far as not already in force, 28.6.2021 for E.W.S. for specified purposes) by [Criminal Finances Act 2017 \(c. 22\)](#), **ss. 25**, 58(1)(6); [S.I. 2018/78](#), reg. 3(j); [S.I. 2021/724](#), reg. 2(1)(m)(2)(c)
- F2** S. 453C(3)(ga)-(gc) inserted (26.10.2023 for specified purposes) by [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023 \(c. 56\)](#), s. 219(1)(2)(b), **Sch. 9 para. 14**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 13(5)(a)(iia) inserted by [2015 c. 30 Sch. 5 para. 15\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 323(1)(hc) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(2\)](#)
- s. 323(4)(ec) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(3\)](#)
- s. 323(5)(ec) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(4\)](#)