

Illinois False Claims Act

As amended by P.A. 102-538, effective August 20, 2021.

740 ILCS 175/1 et seq.

§ 740 ILCS 175/1. [Short title]

This Act may be cited as the Illinois False Claims Act.

§ 740 ILCS 175/2. Definitions

As used in this Act:

(a) "State" means the State of Illinois; any agency of State government; the system of State colleges and universities, any school district, community college district, county, municipality, municipal corporation, unit of local government, and any combination of the above under an intergovernmental agreement that includes provisions for a governing body of the agency created by the agreement.

(b) "Guard" means the Illinois National Guard.

(c) "Investigation" means any inquiry conducted by any investigator for the purpose of ascertaining whether any person is or has been engaged in any violation of this Act.

(d) "Investigator" means a person who is charged by the Attorney General or the Illinois State Police with the duty of conducting any investigation under this Act, or any officer or employee of the State acting under the direction and supervision of the Attorney General or the Illinois State Police, in the course of an investigation.

(e) "Documentary material" includes the original or any copy of any book, record, report, memorandum, paper, communication, tabulation, chart, or other document, or data compilations stored in or accessible through computer or other

(G) knowingly makes, uses, or causes to be made or used, a false record or statement material to an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the State, or knowingly conceals or knowingly and improperly avoids or decreases an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the State,

is liable to the State for a civil penalty of not less than the minimum amount and not more than the maximum amount allowed for a civil penalty for a violation of the federal False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. 3729 et seq.) as adjusted by the

- (i) is presented to an officer, employee, or agent of the State; or
- (ii) is made to a contractor, grantee, or other recipient, if the money or property is to be spent or used on the State's behalf or to advance a State program or interest, and if the State:

(b) Actions by private persons. (1) A person may bring a civil action for a violation of Section 3 for the person and for the State. The action shall be brought in the name of the State. The action may be dismissed only if the court and the Attorney General give written consent to the dismissal and their reasons for consenting.

(2) A copy of the complaint and written disclosure of substantially all material evidence and information the person possesses shall be served on the State. The complaint shall be filed in camera, shall remain under seal for at least 60 days, and shall not be served on the defendant until the court so orders. The State may elect to intervene and proceed with the action within 60 days after it receives both the complaint and the material evidence and information.

(3) The State may, for good cause shown, move the court for extensions of the time during which the complaint remains under seal under paragraph (2). Any such motions may be supported by affidavits or other submissions in camera. The defendant shall not be required to respond to any complaint filed under this Section until 20 days after the complaint is unsealed and served upon the defendant.

(4) Before the expiration of the 60-day period or any extensions obtained under paragraph (3), the State shall:

(A) proceed with the action, in which case the action shall be conducted by the State; or

(B) notify the court that it declines to take over the action, in which case the person bringing the action shall have the right to conduct the action.

(5) When a person brings an action under this subsection (b), no person other than the State may intervene or bring a related action based on the facts underlying the pending action.

(c) Rights of the parties to Qui Tam actions. (1) If the State proceeds with the action, it shall have the primary responsibility for prosecuting the action, and shall not be bound by an act of the person bringing the action. Such person shall have the right to continue as a party to the action, subject to the limitations set forth in paragraph (2).

(2)(A) The State may dismiss the action notwithstanding the objections of the person initiating the action if the person has been notified by the State of the filing of the motion and the court has provided the person with an opportunity for a hearing on the motion.

(B) The State may settle the action with the defendant notwithstanding the objections of the person initiating the action if the court determines, after a hearing, that the proposed settlement is fair, adequate, and reasonable under all

the circumstances. Upon a showing of good cause, such hearing may be held in camera.

(C) Upon a showing by the State that unrestricted participation during the course of the litigation by the person initiating the action would interfere with or unduly delay the State's prosecution of the case, or would be repetitious, irrelevant, or for purposes of harassment, the court may, in its discretion, impose limitations on the person's participation, such as:

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direct the State Treasurer to make a disbursement of funds as provided in court orders or 8e.5 (o)]TJ 0 o9g /Local o

§ 740 ILCS 175/5. False claims procedure

(a) A subpoena requiring the attendance of a witness at a trial or hearing conducted under Section 4 of this Act may be served at any place in the State.

(b) A civil action under Section 4 may not be brought:

(1) more than 6 years after the date on which the violation of s A

(C) Shall state the date, place, and time at which the person is required to appear, produce written answers to interrogatories, produce documentary material or give oral testimony. The date shall not be less than 10 days from the date of service of the subpoena. Compliance with the subpoena shall be at the Office of the Attorney General in either the Springfield or Chicago location or at other location by agreement.

(D) If the subpoena is for documentary material or interrogatories, shall describe the documents or information requested with specificity.

(E) Shall notify the person of the right to be assisted by counsel.

(F) Shall advise that the person has 20 days from the date of service or up until the return date specified in the demand, whichever date is earlier, to move, modify, or set aside the subpoena pursuant to subparagraph (j)(2)(A) of this Section.

(b) Protected material or information.

(1) In general. A subpoena issued under sub(em)5.5 27.244 -15 (i)2.8 (nf >>BDC &(ed)0

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(1) Legal entities. Service of any subpoena issued under subsection (a) or of any petition filed under subsection (j) may be made upon a partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity by:

(A) delivering an executed copy of such subpoena or petition to any partner, executive officer, managing agent, general agent, or registered agent of the partnership, corporation, association or entity;

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subpoena is directed has been produced and made available to the Attorney General.

(2) Production of materials. Any person upon whom any subpoena for the production of documentary material has been served under this Section shall make such material available for inspection and copying to the Attorney General at the place designated in the subpoena, or at such other place as the Attorney General and the person thereafter may agree and prescribe in writing, or as the court may direct under subsection (j)(1). Such material shall be made so available i(o 9 (prA1 n0.5 (of)1(t)0.5)2.8 (ab)5.1 (of)3.5 (be)0.5 (m)5. (h)5 (8t)8.17l)2.8 6.6 (

of testimony by any means authorized by, and in a manner consistent with, the Code of Civil Procedure.

(2) Persons present. The investigator conducting the examination shall exclude from the place where the examination is held all persons except the person giving the testimony, the attorney for and any other representative of the person giving the testimony, the attorney for the State, any person who may be agreed upon by the attorney for the State and the person giving the testimony, the officer before whom the testimony is to be taken, and any stenographer taking such testimony.

(3) Where testimony taken. The oral testimony of any person taken pursuant to a subpoena served under this Section shall be taken in the county within which such person resides, is found, or transacts business, or in such other place as may be agreed upon by the Attorney General and such person.

(4) Transcript of testimony. When the testimony is fully transcribed, the Attorney General or the officer before whom the testimony is taken shall afford the witness, who may be accompanied by counsel, a reasonable opportunity to review and correct the transcript, in accordance with the rules applicable to deposition witnesses in civil cases. Upon payment of reasonable charges, the Attorney General shall furnish a copy of the transcript to the witness, except that the Attorney General may, for good cause, limit the witness to inspection of the official transcript of the witness' testimony.

(5) Conduct of oral testimony.

(A) Any person compelled to appear for oral testimony under a subpoena issued under subsection (a) may be accompanied, represented, and advised by counsel, who may raise objections based on matters of privilege in accordance with the rules applicable to depositions in civil cases. If such person refuses to answer any question, a petition may be filed in circuit court under subsection (j)(1) for an order compelling such person to answer such question.

(B) If such person refuses any question on the grounds of the privilege against self-incrimination, the testimony of such person may be compelled in accordance with Article 106 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963.

(6) Witness fees and allowances. Any person appearing for oral testimony under a subpoena issued under subsection (a) shall be entitled to the same fees and allowances which are paid to witnesses in the circuit court.

(i) Custodians of documents, answers, and transcripts.

(1) Designation. The Attorney General or his or her delegate shall serve as custodian of documentary material, answers to interrogatories, and transcripts of oral testimony received under this Section.

