



Public Law 87-664
87th Congress, S. 167
September 19, 1962

An Act

76 STAT. 548.

To authorize the Attorney General to compel the production of documentary evidence required in civil investigations for the enforcement of the antitrust laws, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Antitrust Civil Process Act".

Antitrust Civ.
Process Act.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 2. For the purposes of this Act—

(a) The term "antitrust law" includes:

(1) Each provision of law defined as one of the antitrust laws by section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to supplement existing laws against unlawful restraints and monopolies, and for other purposes", approved October 15, 1914 (38 Stat. 730, as amended; 15 U.S.C. 12), commonly known as the Clayton Act;

(2) The Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 and the following); and

38 Stat. 717.

(3) Any statute hereafter enacted by the Congress which prohibits, or makes available to the United States in any court of the United States any civil remedy with respect to (A) any restraint upon or monopolization of interstate or foreign trade or commerce, or (B) any unfair trade practice in or affecting such commerce;

(b) The term "antitrust order" means any final order, decree, or judgment of any court of the United States, duly entered in any case or proceeding arising under any antitrust law;

(c) The term "antitrust investigation" means ~~any inquiry conducted by any antitrust investigator for the purpose of ascertaining whether any person is or has been engaged in any antitrust violation;~~

(d) The term "antitrust violation" means any act or omission in violation of any antitrust law or any antitrust order;

(e) The term "antitrust investigator" means any attorney or investigator employed by the Department of Justice who is charged with the duty of enforcing or carrying into effect any antitrust law;

(f) The term "person" means any corporation, association, partnership, or other legal entity not a natural person;

(g) The term "documentary material" includes the original or any copy of any book, record, report, memorandum, paper, communication, tabulation, chart, or other document; and

(h) The term "custodian" means the antitrust document custodian or any deputy custodian designated under section 4(a) of this Act.

CIVIL INVESTIGATIVE DEMAND

SEC. 3. (a) Whenever the Attorney General, or the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, has reason to believe that any person under investigation may be in possession, custody, or control of any documentary material relevant to a civil antitrust investigation, he may, prior to the institution of a civil or criminal proceeding thereon, issue in writing, and cause to be served upon such person, a civil investigative demand requiring such person to produce such material for examination.

- (b) Each such demand shall—
- (1) state the nature of the conduct constituting the alleged antitrust violation which is under investigation and the provision of law applicable thereto;
 - (2) describe the class or classes of documentary material to be produced thereunder with such definiteness and certainty as to permit such material to be fairly identified;
 - (3) prescribe a return date which will provide a reasonable period of time within which the material so demanded may be assembled and made available for inspection and copying or reproduction; and
 - (4) identify the custodian to whom such material shall be made available.
- (c) No such demand shall—
- (1) contain any requirement which would be held to be unreasonable if contained in a subpoena duces tecum issued by a court of the United States in aid of a grand jury investigation of such alleged antitrust violation; or
 - (2) require the production of any documentary evidence which would be privileged from disclosure if demanded by a subpoena duces tecum issued by a court of the United States in aid of a grand jury investigation of such alleged antitrust violation.
- (d) Any such demand may be served by any antitrust investigator, or by any United States marshal or deputy marshal, at any place within the territorial jurisdiction of any court of the United States.
- (e) Service of any such demand or of any petition filed under section 5 of this Act may be made upon a partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity by—
- (1) delivering a duly executed copy thereof to any partner, executive officer, managing agent, or general agent thereof, or to any agent thereof authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process on behalf of such partnership, corporation, association, or entity;
 - (2) delivering a duly executed copy thereof to the principal office or place of business of the partnership, corporation, association, or entity to be served; or
 - (3) depositing such copy in the United States mails, by registered or certified mail duly addressed to such partnership, corporation, association, or entity at its principal office or place of business.
- (f) A verified return by the individual serving any such demand or petition setting forth the manner of such service shall be proof of such service. In the case of service by registered or certified mail, such return shall be accompanied by the return post office receipt of delivery of such demand.

ANTITRUST DOCUMENT CUSTODIAN

SEC. 4. (a) The Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice shall designate an antitrust investigator to serve as antitrust document custodian, and such additional antitrust investigators as he shall determine from time to time to be necessary to serve as deputies to such officer.

(b) Any person upon whom any demand issued under section 3 has been duly served shall make such material available for inspection and copying or reproduction to the custodian designated therein at the principal place of business of such person (or at such other place as such custodian and such person thereafter may agree and prescribe in writing or as the court may direct, pursuant to section 5(d) of this Act) on the return date specified in such demand (or on such later

date as such custodian may prescribe in writing). Such person may upon written agreement between such person and the custodian substitute for copies of all or any part of such material originals thereof.

(c) The custodian to whom any documentary material is so delivered shall take physical possession thereof, and shall be responsible for the use made thereof and for the return thereof pursuant to this Act. The custodian may cause the preparation of such copies of such documentary material as may be required for official use under regulations which shall be promulgated by the Attorney General. While in the possession of the custodian, no material so produced shall be available for examination, without the consent of the person who produced such material, by any individual other than a duly authorized officer, member, or employee of the Department of Justice. Under such reasonable terms and conditions as the Attorney General shall prescribe, documentary material while in the possession of the custodian shall be available for examination by the person who produced such material or any duly authorized representative of such person.

(d) Whenever any attorney has been designated to appear on behalf of the United States before any court or grand jury in any case or proceeding involving any alleged antitrust violation, the custodian may deliver to such attorney such documentary material in the possession of the custodian as such attorney determines to be required for use in the presentation of such case or proceeding on behalf of the United States. Upon the conclusion of any such case or proceeding, such attorney shall return to the custodian any documentary material so withdrawn which has not passed into the control of such court or grand jury through the introduction thereof into the record of such case or proceeding.

(e) Upon the completion of (1) the antitrust investigation for which any documentary material was produced under this Act, and (2) any case or proceeding arising from such investigation, the custodian shall return to the person who produced such material all such material (other than copies thereof made by the Department of Justice pursuant to subsection (c)) which has not passed into the control of any court or grand jury through the introduction thereof into the record of such case or proceeding.

(f) When any documentary material has been produced by any person under this Act for use in any antitrust investigation, and no such case or proceeding arising therefrom has been instituted within a reasonable time after completion of the examination and analysis of all evidence assembled in the course of such investigation, such person shall be entitled, upon written demand made upon the Attorney General or upon the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division, to the return of all documentary material (other than copies thereof made by the Department of Justice pursuant to subsection (c)) so produced by such person.

(g) In the event of the death, disability, or separation from service in the Department of Justice of the custodian of any documentary material produced under any demand issued under this Act, or the official relief of such custodian from responsibility for the custody and control of such material, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division shall promptly (1) designate another antitrust investigator to serve as custodian thereof, and (2) transmit notice in writing to the person who produced such material as to the identity and address of the successor so designated. Any successor so designated shall have with regard to such materials all duties and responsibilities imposed by this Act upon his predecessor in office with regard thereto, except that he shall not be held responsible for any default or dereliction which occurred before his designation as custodian.

JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

SEC. 5. (a) Whenever any person fails to comply with any civil investigative demand duly served upon him under section 3 or whenever satisfactory copying or reproduction of any such material cannot be done and such person refuses to surrender such material, the Attorney General, through such officers or attorneys as he may designate, may file, in the district court of the United States for any judicial district in which such person resides, is found, or transacts business, and serve upon such person a petition for an order of such court for the enforcement of this Act, except that if such person transacts business in more than one such district such petition shall be filed in the district in which such person maintains his principal place of business, or in such other district in which such person transacts business as may be agreed upon by the parties to such petition.

(b) Within twenty days after the service of any such demand upon any person, or at any time before the return date specified in the demand, whichever period is shorter, such person may file, in the district court of the United States for the judicial district within which such person resides, is found, or transacts business, and serve upon such custodian a petition for an order of such court modifying or setting aside such demand. The time allowed for compliance with the demand in whole or in part as deemed proper and ordered by the court shall not run during the pendency of such petition in the court. Such petition shall specify each ground upon which the petitioner relies in seeking such relief, and may be based upon any failure of such demand to comply with the provisions of this Act, or upon any constitutional or other legal right or privilege of such person.

(c) At any time during which any custodian is in custody or control of any documentary material delivered by any person in compliance with any such demand, such person may file, in the district court of the United States for the judicial district within which the office of such custodian is situated, and serve upon such custodian a petition for an order of such court requiring the performance by such custodian of any duty imposed upon him by this Act.

(d) Whenever any petition is filed in any district court of the United States under this section, such court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the matter so presented, and to enter such order or orders as may be required to carry into effect the provisions of this Act. Any final order so entered shall be subject to appeal pursuant to section 1291 of title 28 of the United States Code. Any disobedience of any final order entered under this section by any court shall be punished as a contempt thereof.

65 Stat. 726.

(e) To the extent that such rules may have application and are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure shall apply to any petition under this Act.

28 USC app.

CRIMINAL PENALTY

62 Stat. 770.

SEC. 6. (a) Section 1505, title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 1505. Obstruction of proceedings before departments, agencies, and committees

“Whoever corruptly, or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, endeavors to influence, intimidate, or impede any witness in any proceeding pending before any department or agency of the United States, or in connection with any inquiry or investigation being had by either House, or any committee of either House, or any joint committee of the Congress; or

“Whoever injures any party or witness in his person or property on account of his attending or having attended such proceeding, inquiry, or investigation, or on account of his testifying or having testified to any matter pending therein; or

“Whoever, with intent to avoid, evade, prevent, or obstruct compliance in whole or in part with any civil investigative demand duly and properly made under the Antitrust Civil Process Act willfully removes from any place, conceals, destroys, mutilates, alters, or by other means falsifies any documentary material which is the subject of such demand; or

“Whoever 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 and proper administration of the law under which such proceeding is being had before such department or agency of the United States, or the due and proper exercise of the power of inquiry under which such inquiry or investigation is being had by either House, or any committee of either House or any joint committee of the Congress—

“Shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.”

(b) The analysis of chapter 73 of title 18 of United States Code is amended so that the title of section 1505 shall read therein as follows: 18 USC 1501.

“1505. Obstruction of proceedings before departments, agencies, and committees.” 1509.

SAVING PROVISION

SEC. 7. Nothing contained in this Act shall impair the authority of the Attorney General, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, or any antitrust investigator to (a) lay before any grand jury impaneled before any district court of the United States any evidence concerning any alleged antitrust violation, (b) invoke the power of any such court to compel the production of any evidence before any such grand jury, or (c) institute any proceeding for the enforcement of any order or process issued in execution of such power, or to punish disobedience of any such order or process by any person, including a natural person.

Approved September 19, 1962.