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any officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service who desires to examine the same in the performance of his duties under chapter 11 of the Code (relating to estate taxes) shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding \$500, to be recovered with costs of suit, in a civil action in the name of the United States.

§ 301.7272-1 Penalty for failure to register.

(a) Any person who fails to register with the district director as required by the Code or by regulations issued thereunder shall be liable to a penalty of \$50 except that on and after September 3, 1958, this section shall not apply to persons required to register under subtitle E of the Code, or persons engaging in a trade or business on which a special tax is imposed by such subtitle.

(b) For provisions relating to registration under sections 4101, 4412, 4455, 4722, 4753, and 4804(d), see the regulations relating to the particular tax. For regulations under section 7011, see § 301.7011-1.

FORFEITURES

PROPERTY SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE

§ 301.7304-1 Penalty for fraudulently claiming drawback.

Whenever any person fraudulently claims or seeks to obtain an allowance of drawback on goods, wares, or merchandise on which no internal tax shall have been paid, or fraudulently claims any greater allowance of drawback than the tax actually paid, he shall forfeit triple the amount wrongfully or fraudulently claimed or sought to be obtained, or the sum of \$500, at the election of the district director.

PROVISIONS COMMON TO FORFEITURES

§ 301.7321-1 Seizure of property.

Any property subject to forfeiture to the United States under any provision of the Code may be seized by the district director or assistant regional commissioner (alcohol, tobacco, and firearms). Upon seizure of property by the district director he shall notify the assistant regional commissioner (alcohol, tobacco, and firearms) for the re-

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gion wherein the district is located who will take charge of the property and arrange for its disposal or retention under the provisions of law and regulations applicable thereto.

[32 FR 15241, Nov. 3, 1967, as amended by T.D. 7188, 37 FR 12794, June 29, 1972; T.D. ATF-33, 41 FR 44038, Oct. 6, 1976]

§ 301.7322-1 Delivery of seized property to U.S. marshal.

Any forfeitable property which may be seized under the provisions of the Code may, at the option of the assistant regional commissioner (alcohol, tobacco, and firearms) be delivered to the U.S. marshal of the judicial district wherein the property was seized, and remain in the care and custody and under the control of such marshal, pending the disposal thereof as provided by law.

[32 FR 15241, Nov. 3, 1967, as amended by T.D. 7188, 37 FR 12794, June 29, 1972; T.D. ATF-33, 41 FR 44038, Oct. 6, 1976]

§ 301.7324-1 Special disposition of perishable goods.

For regulations relating to the disposal of perishable goods, see § 172.30 of this chapter (Disposition of Seized Personal Property).

§ 301.7325-1 Personal property valued at \$2,500 or less.

For regulations relating to the forfeiture of personal property valued at \$2,500 or less, see part 172 of this chapter (Disposition of Seized Personal Property).

§ 301.7326-1 Disposal of forfeited or abandoned property in special cases.

(a) *Coin-operated gaming devices.* For regulations relating to the disposal of coin-operated gaming devices, see § 172.65 of this chapter (Disposition of Seized Personal Property).

(b) *Narcotics.* For regulations relating to the disposal of forfeited narcotic drugs, see 21 CFR 302.56. For the disposal of forfeited marihuana, see 26 CFR (1939) 152.99 and 152.100 (Regulations under the Marihuana Tax Act of 1937, as amended).

(c) *Firearms.* For regulations relating to the disposal of forfeited firearms or

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ammunition, see §178.166 of this chapter (Commerce in Firearms and Ammunition), and §179.182 of this chapter (Machine Guns, Destructive Devices, and Certain Other Firearms).

[32 FR 15241, Nov. 3, 1967, as amended by T.D. 7188, 37 FR 12796, June 29, 1972]

§ 301.7327-1 Customs laws applicable.

For regulations relating to the remission or mitigation of forfeitures, see part 172 of this chapter (Disposition of Seized Personal Property).

Judicial Proceedings

Civil Actions by the United States

§ 301.7401-1 Authorization.

(a) *In general.* No civil action for the collection or recovery of taxes, or of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture, shall be commenced unless the Commissioner (or the Director, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division, with respect to the provisions of subtitle E of the Code), or the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service or his delegate authorizes or sanctions the proceedings and the Attorney General or his delegate directs that the action be commenced.

(b) *Property held by banks.* The Commissioner shall not authorize or sanction any civil action for the collection or recovery of taxes, or of any fine, penalty, or forfeiture, from any deposits held in a foreign office of a bank engaged in the banking business in the United States or a possession of the United States unless the Commissioner believes—

(1) That the taxpayer is within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court at the time the civil action is authorized or sanctioned and that the bank is in possession of (or obligated with respect to) deposits of the taxpayer in an office of the bank outside the United States or a possession of the United States; or

(2) That the taxpayer is not within the jurisdiction of a U.S. court at the time the civil action is authorized or sanctioned, that the bank is in possession of (or obligated with respect to) deposits of the taxpayer in an office outside the United States or a possession of the United States, and that such deposits consist, in whole or in

part, of funds transferred from the United States or a possession of the United States in order to hinder or delay the collection of a tax imposed by the Code.

For purposes of this paragraph, the term “possession of the United States” includes Guam, the Midway Islands, the Panama Canal Zone, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and Wake Island.

[32 FR 15241, Nov. 3, 1967, as amended by T.D. 7188, 37 FR 12796, June 29, 1972]

§ 301.7403-1 Action to enforce lien or to subject property to payment of tax.

(a) *Civil actions.* In any case where there has been a refusal or neglect to pay any tax, or to discharge any liability in respect thereof, whether or not levy has been made, the Attorney General or his delegate, at the request of the Commissioner (or the Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, or the Chief Counsel for the Bureau, with respect to the provisions of subtitle E of the Code), or the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service or his delegate, may direct a civil action to be filed in a district court of the United States to enforce the lien of the United States under the Code with respect to such tax or liability or to subject any property, of whatever nature, of the delinquent, or in which he has any right, title or interest, to the payment of such tax or liability. In any such proceeding, at the instance of the United States, the court may appoint a receiver to enforce the lien, or, upon certification by the Commissioner or the Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service during the pendency of such proceedings that it is in the public interest, may appoint a receiver with all the powers of a receiver in equity.

(b) *Bid by the United States.* If property is sold to satisfy a first lien held by the United States, the United States may bid at the sale a sum which does not exceed the amount of its lien and the expenses of the sale. See also 31 U.S.C. 195.

[T.D. 7305, 39 FR 9950, Mar. 15, 1974]