## Statutes of Limitation for Prosecution of Offenses Against Children (last updated August 2012)

This compilation includes statutes that establish, toll, extend, or eliminate time limitations for charging criminal offenses relating specifically to child victims. Every statute included either specifically mentions child victims or makes reference to a statute that does. This is not a statutory compilation of all criminal statute of limitations laws. General statutes of limitations that apply to all crimes without specific reference to the age of the victim or children as a class of victims are omitted. Please feel free to contact NDAA for help in ensuring compliance with all of your jurisdiction's applicable statutes of limitation.

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### **ALABAMA**

## ALA. CODE § 15-3-5 (2012). Offenses having no limitation.

- (a) There is no limitation of time within which a prosecution must be commenced for:
- (1) Any capital offense;
- (2) Any felony involving the use, attempted use, or threat of, violence to a person;
- (3) Any felony involving serious physical injury or death of a person;
- (4) Any sex offense involving a victim under 16 years of age, regardless of whether it involves force or serious physical injury or death;
  - (5) Any felony involving arson of any type;
  - (6) Any felony involving forgery of any type;
  - (7) Any felony involving counterfeiting; and
  - (8) Any felony involving drug trafficking.
- (b) The amendments made by this act shall apply:
  - (1) To all crimes committed after January 7, 1985; and
- (2) To all crimes committed before January 7, 1985, for which no statute of limitations provided under pre-existing law has run as of January 7, 1985.
- (c) Nothing herein shall be construed to mean that the adoption of this act indicates that any former statute of limitations applying to capital offenses is invalid as the result of any decision of any court invalidating the capital punishment statutes of the State of Alabama.

#### **ALASKA**

## ALASKA STAT. § 12.10.010 (2012). General time limitations

- (a) Prosecution for the following offenses may be commenced at any time:
  - (1) murder;
- (2) attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit murder or hindering the prosecution of murder;

- (3) felony sexual abuse of a minor;
- (4) sexual assault that is an unclassified, class A, or class B felony or a violation of AS 11.41.425(a)(2)--(4);
- (5) a violation of AS 11.41.425, 11.41.427, 11.41.450 -- 11.41.458, AS 11.66.110 -- 11.66.130, or former AS 11.41.430, when committed against a person who, at the time of the offense, was under 18 years of age;
  - (6) kidnapping.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided by law or in (a) of this section, a person may not be prosecuted, tried, or punished for an offense unless the indictment is found or the information or complaint is instituted not later than
- (1) 10 years after the commission of a felony offense in violation of AS 11.41.120 -- 11.41.370, 11.41.425(a)(1), or 11.41.450 -- 11.41.458; or
  - (2) five years after the commission of any other offense.

### **ARIZONA**

## ARIZ. REV. STAT. § 13-107 (2012). Time limitations.

- A. A prosecution for any homicide, any offense that is listed in chapter 14 or 35.1 of this title [FN1] and that is a class 2 felony, any violent sexual assault pursuant to § 13-1423, any violation of § 13-2308. 01, any misuse of public monies or a felony involving falsification of public records or any attempt to commit an offense listed in this subsection may be commenced at any time.
- B. Except as otherwise provided in this section and § 28-672, prosecutions for other offenses must be commenced within the following periods after actual discovery by the state or the political subdivision having jurisdiction of the offense or discovery by the state or the political subdivision that should have occurred with the exercise of reasonable diligence, whichever first occurs:
- 1. For a class 2 through a class 6 felony, seven years.
- 2. For a misdemeanor, one year.
- 3. For a petty offense, six months.
- C. For the purposes of subsection B of this section, a prosecution is commenced when an indictment, information or complaint is filed.

- D. The period of limitation does not run during any time when the accused is absent from the state or has no reasonably ascertainable place of abode within the state.
- E. The period of limitation does not run for a serious offense as defined in § 13-706 during any time when the identity of the person who commits the offense or offenses is unknown.
- F. The time limitation within which a prosecution of a class 6 felony shall commence shall be determined pursuant to subsection B, paragraph 1 of this section, irrespective of whether a court enters a judgment of conviction for or a prosecuting attorney designates the offense as a misdemeanor.
- G. If a complaint, indictment or information filed before the period of limitation has expired is dismissed for any reason, a new prosecution may be commenced within six months after the dismissal becomes final even if the period of limitation has expired at the time of the dismissal or will expire within six months of the dismissal.

#### **ARKANSAS**

## ARK. CODE ANN. § 5-1-109 (2012). Statute of limitations

- (a)(1) A prosecution for murder may be commenced at any time.
- (2) A prosecution may be commenced for a violation of the following offenses, if, when the alleged violation occurred, the offense was committed against a minor, the violation has not been previously reported to a law enforcement agency or prosecuting attorney, and the victim has not reached the age of twenty-eight (28) years of age:
- (A) Rape, § 5-14-103;
- (B) Sexual assault in the first degree, § 5-14-124;
- (C) Sexual assault in the second degree, § 5-14-125;
- (D) Sexual assault in the third degree, § 5-14-126;
- (E) Sexual assault in the fourth degree, § 5-14-127;
- (F) Incest, § 5-26-202;
- (G) Endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree, § 5-27-205;
- (H) Permitting abuse of a minor, § 5-27-221;
- (I) Engaging children in sexually explicit conduct for use in visual or print medium, § 5-27-303;
- (J) Transportation of minors for prohibited sexual conduct, § 5-27-305;
- (K) Employing or consenting to the use of a child in a sexual performance, § 5-27-402;
- (L) Producing, directing, or promoting a sexual performance by a child, § 5-27-403;
- (M) Computer child pornography, § 5-27-603; and
- (N) Computer exploitation of a child in the first degree, § 5-27-605.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a prosecution for another offense shall be commenced within the following periods of limitation after the offense's commission:
- (1)(A) Class Y felony or Class A felony, six (6) years.
- (B) However, for rape, § 5-14-103, the period of limitation is eliminated if biological evidence of the alleged perpetrator is identified that is capable of producing a deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) profile;

- (2) Class B felony, Class C felony, Class D felony, or an unclassified felony, three (3) years;
- (3) Misdemeanor or violation, one (1) year; and
- (4) Municipal ordinance violation, one (1) year unless a different period of time not to exceed three (3) years is set by ordinance of the municipal government.
- (c) If the period prescribed in subsection (b) of this section has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for:
- (1) Any offense involving either fraud or breach of a fiduciary obligation, within one (1) year after the offense is discovered or should reasonably have been discovered by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party and who is himself or herself not a party to the offense; and
- (2)(A) Any offense that is concealed involving felonious conduct in office by a public servant at any time within five (5) years after he or she leaves public office or employment or within five (5) years after the offense is discovered or should reasonably have been discovered, whichever is sooner.
- (B) However, in no event does this subdivision (c)(2) extend the period of limitation by more than ten (10) years after the commission of the offense.
- (d) A defendant may be convicted of any offense included in the offense charged, notwithstanding that the period of limitation has expired for the included offense, if as to the offense charged the period of limitation has not expired or there is no period of limitation, and there is sufficient evidence to sustain a conviction for the offense charged.
- (e)(1) For the purposes of this section, an offense is committed either when:
- (A) Every element occurs; or
- (B) If a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity in the course of conduct is terminated.
- (2) Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (f) A prosecution is commenced when an arrest warrant or other process is issued based on an indictment, information, or other charging instrument if the arrest warrant or other process is sought to be executed without unreasonable delay.
- (g) The period of limitation does not run:
- (1)(A) During any time when the accused is continually absent from the state or has no reasonably ascertainable place of abode or work within the state.

- (B) However, in no event does this subdivision (g)(1) extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than three (3) years; or
- (2) During any period when a prosecution against the accused for the same conduct is pending in this state.
- (h) If the period prescribed in subsection (b) of this section has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for a violation of the following offenses if, when the alleged violation occurred, the offense was committed against a minor, the violation has not previously been reported to a law enforcement agency or prosecuting attorney, and the period prescribed in subsection (b) of this section has not expired since the victim has reached eighteen (18) years of age:
- (1) Battery in the first degree, § 5-13-201;
- (2) Battery in the second degree, § 5-13-202;
- (3) Aggravated assault, § 5-13-204;
- (4) Terroristic threatening in the first degree, § 5-13-301;
- (5) Kidnapping, § 5-11-102;
- (6) False imprisonment in the first degree, § 5-11-103;
- (7) Permanent detention or restraint, § 5-11-106; and
- (8) Criminal attempt, criminal solicitation, or criminal conspiracy to commit any offense listed in this subsection, §§ 5-3-201, 5-3-202, 5-3-301, and 5-3-401.
- (i) If there is biological evidence connecting a person with the commission of an offense and that person's identity is unknown, the prosecution is commenced if an indictment or information is filed against the unknown person and the indictment contains the genetic information of the unknown person and the genetic information is accepted to be likely to be applicable only to the unknown person.
- (j) When deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) testing implicates a person previously identified through a search of the State DNA Data Base or National DNA Index System, a statute of limitation shall not preclude prosecution of the offense.

#### CALIFORNIA

## CAL. PENAL CODE § 801.1 (2012). Commencement of prosecution for specified sex offenses

- (a) Notwithstanding any other limitation of time described in this chapter, prosecution for a felony offense described in Section 261, 286, 288, 288.5, 288a, or 289, or Section 289.5, as enacted by Chapter 293 of the Statutes of 1991 relating to penetration by an unknown object, that is alleged to have been committed when the victim was under the age of 18 years, may be commenced any time prior to the victim's 28th birthday.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other limitation of time described in this chapter, if subdivision (a) does not apply, prosecution for a felony offense described in subdivision (c) of Section 290 shall be commenced within 10 years after commission of the offense.

# CAL. PENAL CODE § 801.2 (2012). Limitations period for prosecution of crime under § 311.4 relating to employment of minor to perform prohibited acts

Notwithstanding any other limitation of time prescribed in this chapter, prosecution for a violation of subdivision (b) of Section 311.4 shall commence within 10 years of the date of production of the pornographic material.

## CAL. PENAL CODE § 803 (2012). Tolling or extension of time periods

- (a) Except as provided in this section, a limitation of time prescribed in this chapter is not tolled or extended for any reason.
- (b) No time during which prosecution of the same person for the same conduct is pending in a court of this state is a part of a limitation of time prescribed in this chapter.
- (c) A limitation of time prescribed in this chapter does not commence to run until the discovery of an offense described in this subdivision. This subdivision applies to an offense punishable by imprisonment in the state prison or imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170, a material element of which is fraud or breach of a fiduciary obligation, the commission of the crimes of theft or embezzlement upon an elder or dependent adult, or the basis of which is misconduct in office by a public officer, employee, or appointee, including, but not limited to, the following offenses:
- (1) Grand theft of any type, forgery, falsification of public records, or acceptance of a bribe by a public official or a public employee.
- (2) A violation of Section 72, 118, 118a, 132, 134, or 186.10.
- (3) A violation of Section 25540, of any type, or Section 25541 of the Corporations Code.
- (4) A violation of Section 1090 or 27443 of the Government Code.

- (5) Felony welfare fraud or Medi-Cal fraud in violation of Section 11483 or 14107 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (6) Felony insurance fraud in violation of Section 548 or 550 of this code or former Section 1871.1, or Section 1871.4, of the Insurance Code.
- (7) A violation of Section 580, 581, 582, 583, or 584 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (8) A violation of Section 22430 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (9) A violation of Section 10690 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (10) A violation of Section 529a.
- (11) A violation of subdivision (d) or (e) of Section 368.
- (d) If the defendant is out of the state when or after the offense is committed, the prosecution may be commenced as provided in Section 804 within the limitations of time prescribed by this chapter, and no time up to a maximum of three years during which the defendant is not within the state shall be a part of those limitations.
- (e) A limitation of time prescribed in this chapter does not commence to run until the offense has been discovered, or could have reasonably been discovered, with regard to offenses under Division 7 (commencing with Section 13000) of the Water Code, under Chapter 6.5 (commencing with Section 25100) of, Chapter 6.7 (commencing with Section 25280) of, or Chapter 6.8 (commencing with Section 25300) of, Division 20 of, or Part 4 (commencing with Section 41500) of Division 26 of, the Health and Safety Code, or under Section 386, or offenses under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2000) of Division 2 of, Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 4000) of Division 2 of, Section 6126 of, Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 7301) of Division 3 of, or Chapter 19.5 (commencing with Section 22440) of Division 8 of, the Business and Professions Code.
- (f)(1) Notwithstanding any other limitation of time described in this chapter, a criminal complaint may be filed within one year of the date of a report to a California law enforcement agency by a person of any age alleging that he or she, while under the age of 18 years, was the victim of a crime described in Section 261, 286, 288, 288a, 288.5, or 289, or Section 289.5 [FN1], as enacted by Chapter 293 of the Statutes of 1991 relating to penetration by an unknown object.
- (2) This subdivision applies only if all of the following occur:
- (A) The limitation period specified in Section 800, 801, or 801.1, whichever is later, has expired.
- (B) The crime involved substantial sexual conduct, as described in subdivision (b) of Section 1203.066, excluding masturbation that is not mutual.
- (C) There is independent evidence that corroborates the victim's allegation. If the victim was 21

years of age or older at the time of the report, the independent evidence shall clearly and convincingly corroborate the victim's allegation.

- (3) No evidence may be used to corroborate the victim's allegation that otherwise would be inadmissible during trial. Independent evidence does not include the opinions of mental health professionals.
- (4)(A) In a criminal investigation involving any of the crimes listed in paragraph (1) committed against a child, when the applicable limitations period has not expired, that period shall be tolled from the time a party initiates litigation challenging a grand jury subpoena until the end of the litigation, including any associated writ or appellate proceeding, or until the final disclosure of evidence to the investigating or prosecuting agency, if that disclosure is ordered pursuant to the subpoena after the litigation.
- (B) Nothing in this subdivision affects the definition or applicability of any evidentiary privilege.
- (C) This subdivision shall not apply where a court finds that the grand jury subpoena was issued or caused to be issued in bad faith.
- (g)(1) Notwithstanding any other limitation of time described in this chapter, a criminal complaint may be filed within one year of the date on which the identity of the suspect is conclusively established by DNA testing, if both of the following conditions are met:
- (A) The crime is one that is described in subdivision (c) of Section 290.
- (B) The offense was committed prior to January 1, 2001, and biological evidence collected in connection with the offense is analyzed for DNA type no later than January 1, 2004, or the offense was committed on or after January 1, 2001, and biological evidence collected in connection with the offense is analyzed for DNA type no later than two years from the date of the offense.
- (2) For purposes of this section, "DNA" means deoxyribonucleic acid.
- (h) For any crime, the proof of which depends substantially upon evidence that was seized under a warrant, but which is unavailable to the prosecuting authority under the procedures described in People v. Superior Court (Laff) (2001) 25 Cal.4th 703, People v. Superior Court (Bauman & Rose) (1995) 37 Cal.App.4th 1757, or subdivision (c) of Section 1524, relating to claims of evidentiary privilege or attorney work product, the limitation of time prescribed in this chapter shall be tolled from the time of the seizure until final disclosure of the evidence to the prosecuting authority. Nothing in this section otherwise affects the definition or applicability of any evidentiary privilege or attorney work product.
- (i) Notwithstanding any other limitation of time described in this chapter, a criminal complaint may be filed within one year of the date on which a hidden recording is discovered related to a violation of paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (j) of Section 647.

#### **COLORADO**

# COLO. REV. STAT. § 16-5-401 (2012). Limitation for commencing criminal proceedings and juvenile delinquency proceedings

(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided by statute applicable to specific offenses, delinquent acts, or circumstances, no adult person or juvenile shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any offense or delinquent act unless the indictment, information, complaint, or petition in delinquency is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction or a summons and complaint or penalty assessment notice is served upon the defendant or juvenile within the period of time after the commission of the offense or delinquent act as specified below:

Murder, kidnapping, treason, any sex offense against a child, and any forgery regardless of the penalty provided: No limit

Attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit murder; attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit kidnapping; attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit treason; attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any sex offense against a child; and attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any forgery regardless of the penalty provided: No limit

Vehicular homicide and leaving the scene of an accident that resulted in the death of a person: Five years

Other felonies: Three years

Misdemeanors: Eighteen months

Class 1 and 2 misdemeanor traffic offenses: One year

Petty offenses: Six months

- (b) Repealed by Laws 1985, H.B.1380, § 8, eff. June 28, 1985.
- (c) For purposes of this section:
- (I) "Delinquent act" has the same meaning as defined in section 19-1-103(36), C.R.S.
- (II) "Juvenile" means a child as defined in section 19-1-103(18), C.R.S.
- (III) "Petition in delinquency" means any petition filed by a district attorney pursuant to section 19-2-512, C.R.S.

- (IV) "Sex offense against a child" means any "unlawful sexual offense", as defined in section 18-3-411(1), C.R.S., that is a felony.
- (1.5)(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection (1.5), the provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section concerning sex offenses against children shall apply to offenses and delinquent acts committed on or after July 1, 1996.
- (b) The provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section concerning sex offenses against children shall apply to an offense or delinquent act committed before July 1, 1996, if the applicable statute of limitations, as it existed prior to July 1, 2006, has not yet run on July 1, 2006.
- (c) It is the intent of the general assembly in enacting the provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section concerning sex offenses against children to apply an unlimited statute of limitations to sex offenses against children committed on or after July 1, 1996, and to sex offenses against children committed before July 1, 1996, for which the applicable statute of limitations in effect prior to July 1, 2006, has not yet run on July 1, 2006.
- (2) The time limitations imposed by this section shall be tolled if the adult offender or juvenile is absent from the state of Colorado, and the duration of such absence, not to exceed five years, shall be excluded from the computation of the time within which any complaint, information, indictment, or petition in delinquency must otherwise be filed or returned.
- (3)(a) The period within which a prosecution must be commenced does not include any period in which a prosecution is pending against the adult defendant or juvenile for the same conduct, even if the indictment, information, complaint, or petition in delinquency which commences the prosecution is quashed or the proceedings thereon are set aside or are reversed on appeal.
- (b) The period within which a prosecution must be commenced does not include any period in which a prosecution is pending against the adult defendant or juvenile for the same conduct, even if filed in a court without jurisdiction, when based on a reasonable belief the court possesses jurisdiction.
- (4) When an offense or delinquent act is based on a series of acts performed at different times, the period of limitation prescribed by this code or by the "Colorado Securities Act", article 51 of title 11, C.R.S., starts at the time when the last act in the series of acts is committed.
- (4.5) The period within which a prosecution must be commenced shall begin to run upon discovery of the criminal act or the delinquent act for:
- (a) Offenses relating to the "Uniform Commercial Code", pursuant to part 5 of article 5 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (b) Computer crime, pursuant to article 5.5 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (c) Theft, pursuant to section 18-4-401, C.R.S.;

- (d) Theft of trade secrets, pursuant to section 18-4-408, C.R.S.;
- (e) Defacing or destruction of written instruments, pursuant to section 18-4-507, C.R.S.;
- (f) Criminal simulation, pursuant to section 18-5-110, C.R.S.;
- (g) Obtaining signature by deception, pursuant to section 18-5-112, C.R.S.;
- (h) Criminal impersonation, pursuant to section 18-5-113, C.R.S.;
- (i) Offering a false instrument for recording, pursuant to section 18-5-114, C.R.S.;
- (j) Dual contracts to induce loan, pursuant to section 18-5-208, C.R.S.;
- (k) Issuing a false financial statement or obtaining a financial transaction device by false statements, pursuant to section 18-5-209, C.R.S.;
- (1) Unlawful activity concerning the selling of land, pursuant to section 18-5-302, C.R.S.;
- (m) Offenses relating to equity skimming, pursuant to part 8 of article 5 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (m.5) Offenses relating to identity theft, pursuant to part 9 of article 5 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (n) Offenses relating to bribery and corrupt influences, pursuant to part 3 of article 8 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (o) Offenses relating to abuse of public office, pursuant to part 4 of article 8 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (p) Offenses relating to perjury, pursuant to part 5 of article 8 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (q) Offenses relating to the "Colorado Organized Crime Control Act", pursuant to article 17 of title 18, C.R.S.;
- (r) Unlawful concealment of transactions, pursuant to section 11-107-105, C.R.S.;
- (s) Embezzlement or misapplication of funds, pursuant to section 11-107-107, C.R.S.;
- (t) Unlawful acts or omissions relating to financial institutions, pursuant to section 11-107-108, C.R.S.;
- (u) Criminal offenses relating to industrial banks, pursuant to section 11-108-801(3), C.R.S.; and
- (v) Criminal offenses relating to savings and loan associations, pursuant to section 11-41-127, C.R.S.
- (5) The period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be

- extended for an additional three years as to any offense or delinquent act charged under sections 18-8-302, 18-8-303, 18-8-306, 18-8-307, 18-8-402, 18-8-406, 18-8-407, 39-21-118, and 39-22-621(3), C.R.S.
- (6) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section pertaining to sex offenses against children, the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be extended for an additional seven years as to any offense or delinquent act charged under section 18-3-402 or 18-6-403, C.R.S., or charged as criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of the acts specified in said sections.
- (7) When the victim at the time of the commission of the offense or delinquent act is a child under fifteen years of age, the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be extended for an additional three years and six months as to a misdemeanor charged under section 18-3-404, C.R. S., or criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit such a misdemeanor.
- (8)(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section pertaining to sex offenses against children and except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (a.3) and (a.5) of this subsection (8), the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be ten years after the commission of the offense or delinquent act as to any offense or delinquent act:
- (I) Charged under section 18-3-402, C.R.S., section 18-3-403, C.R.S., as said section existed prior to July 1, 2000, or section 18-6-403, C.R.S.;
- (II) Charged as a felony under section 18-3-404, C.R.S.; or
- (III) Charged as criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of the offenses specified in subparagraphs (I) and (II) of this paragraph (a).
- (a.3) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section concerning sex offenses against children, if the victim at the time of the commission of an offense or delinquent act is a child under eighteen years of age, the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be ten years after such victim reaches the age of eighteen years as to any offense or delinquent act:
- (I) Charged as a felony under section 18-3-402, C.R.S., section 18-3-403, C.R.S., as said section existed prior to July 1, 2000, or section 18-3-404, C.R.S.; or
- (II) Charged as criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of the offenses specified in subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a.3).
- (a.5) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section concerning sex offenses against children, in any case in which the identity of the defendant is determined, in whole or in part, by patterned chemical structure of genetic information, and in which the offense has been reported to a law enforcement agency, as defined in section 26-1-114(3)(a)(III)(B), C.R.S., within ten years after the commission of the offense, there shall be no limit on the period

of time during which a person may be prosecuted after the commission of the offense as to any offense charged:

- (I) Under section 18-3-402, C.R.S., or section 18-3-403, C.R.S., as said section existed prior to July 1, 2000; or
- (II) As criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of the offenses specified in subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (a.5).
- (b) This subsection (8) shall apply to offenses and delinquent acts committed on or after July 1, 1984.
- (9) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section, the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be five years after the commission of the offense or delinquent act as to a misdemeanor charged under section 18-3-404, C.R.S., or criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit such a misdemeanor. This subsection (9) shall apply to offenses and delinquent acts committed on or after January 1, 1986.
- (10) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section, the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be three years after the date of the affected election as to a charge of any violation of any provision of the "Fair Campaign Practices Act", article 45 of title 1, C.R.S., or any criminal attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to violate any provision of the "Fair Campaign Practices Act". This subsection (10) shall apply to offenses and delinquent acts committed on or after July 1, 1991.
- (11) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section, the period of time during which an adult person or juvenile may be prosecuted shall be three years after the discovery of the offense or delinquent act as to any offense or delinquent act charged under section 18-4-408, C.R.S. This subsection (11) shall apply to offenses and delinquent acts committed on or after July 1, 1998.
- (12) The applicable period of limitations specified in subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to charges of offenses or delinquent acts brought to facilitate the disposition of a case, or to lesser included or non-included charges of offenses or delinquent acts given to the court or a jury at a trial on the merits, by the accused.

### CONNECTICUT

# CONN. GEN. STAT. § 54-193a (2012). Limitation of prosecution for offenses involving sexual abuse of minor

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 54-193, no person may be prosecuted for any offense, except a class A felony, involving sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or sexual assault of a minor except within thirty years from the date the victim attains the age of majority or within five years

from the date the victim notifies any police officer or state's attorney acting in such police officer's or state's attorney's official capacity of the commission of the offense, whichever is earlier, provided if the prosecution is for a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 53a-71, the victim notified such police officer or state's attorney not later than five years after the commission of the offense.

## CONN. GEN. STAT. § 54-193b (2012). Limitation of prosecution for sexual assault offenses when DNA evidence available

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 54-193 and 54-193a, there shall be no limitation of time within which a person may be prosecuted for a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-72a or 53a-72b, provided (1) the victim notified any police officer or state's attorney acting in such police officer's or state's attorney's official capacity of the commission of the offense not later than five years after the commission of the offense, and (2) the identity of the person who allegedly committed the offense has been established through a DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) profile comparison using evidence collected at the time of the commission of the offense.

### **DELAWARE**

## DEL. CODE ANN. tit. 11, § 205 (2012). Time limitations

- (a) A prosecution for murder or any class A felony, or any attempt to commit said crimes, may be commenced at any time.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitation:
- (1) A prosecution for any felony except murder or any class A felony, or any attempt to commit said crimes, must be commenced within 5 years after it is committed;
- (2) A prosecution for a class A misdemeanor must be commenced within 3 years after it is committed:
- (3) A prosecution for a class B misdemeanor, a class C misdemeanor, an unclassified misdemeanor or a violation must be commenced within 2 years after it is committed.
- (c) If the period prescribed by subsection (b) of this section has expired, a prosecution for any offense in which the accused's acts include or constitute forgery, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty or actively concealed theft or misapplication of property by an employee, pledgee, bailee or fiduciary may be commenced within 2 years after discovery of the offense has been made or should have been made in the exercise of ordinary diligence by an aggrieved party or by an authorized agent, fiduciary, guardian, personal representative or parent (in the case of an infant) of an aggrieved party who is not a party to the offense. In no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than an additional 3 years beyond the period specified in subsection (b) of this section.

- (d) If the period prescribed by subsection (b) of this section has expired, a prosecution for any offense based upon misconduct in office by a public officer or employee may be commenced at any time when the defendant is in public office or employment or within 2 years thereafter. In no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than an additional 3 years beyond the period specified in subsection (b) of this section.
- (e) Notwithstanding the period prescribed by subsection (b) of this section, a prosecution for any crime that is delineated in Subpart D of Subchapter II of Chapter 5 of this title, or is otherwise defined as a "sexual offense" by § 761 of this title except §§ 763, 764 or 765 of this title, or any attempt to commit said crimes, may be commenced at any time. No prosecution under this subsection shall be based upon the memory of the victim that has been recovered through psychotherapy unless there is some evidence of the corpus delicti independent of such repressed memory. This subsection applies to all causes of action arising before, on or after July 15, 1992, and to the extent consistent with this subsection, it shall revive causes of action that would otherwise be barred by this section.
- (f) An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed
- (g) For purposes of this section, a prosecution is commenced when either an indictment is found or an information is filed.
- (h) The period of limitation does not run:
- (1) During any time when the accused is fleeing or hiding from justice so that the accused's identity or whereabouts within or outside the State cannot be ascertained, despite a diligent search for the accused; or
- (2) During any time when the accused in a prosecution has become a fugitive from justice by failing to appear for any scheduled court proceeding related to such prosecution for which proper notice under the law was provided or attempted. It is no defense to a prosecution under this paragraph that the person did not receive notice of the scheduled court proceeding.
- (3) During any time when a prosecution, including a prosecution under a defective indictment or information, against the accused for the same conduct has been commenced and is pending in this State.
- (i) If the period prescribed by subsection (b) of this section has expired, a prosecution for any offense in this title may be commenced within 10 years after it is committed if based upon forensic DNA testing.
- (j) In any prosecution in which subsection (c), (d), (e), (h) or (i) of this section is sought to be invoked to avoid the limitation period of subsection (b) of this section, the State must allege and

prove the applicability of subsection (c), (d), (e), (h) or (i) as an element of the offense.

## **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

### D.C. CODE § 23-113 (2012). Limitations on actions for criminal violations.

- (a) Time Limitations. -- (1) A prosecution for the following crimes may be commenced at any time:
- (A) murder in the first or second degree (D.C. Official Code §§ 22-2101 and 2102);
- (B) murder in the second degree (D.C. Official Code § 22-2103);
- (C) murder of a law enforcement officer or public safety employee (D.C. Official Code § 22-2106);
- (D) first degree murder that constitutes an act of terrorism (D.C. Official Code § 22-3153(a));
- (E) second degree murder that constitutes an act of terrorism (D.C. Official Code § 22-3153(c)); and
- (F) murder of a law enforcement officer or public safety employee that constitutes an act of terrorism (D.C. Official Code § 22-3153(b)).
- (2) A prosecution for the following crimes and any offense that is properly joinable with any of the following crimes is barred if not commenced within fifteen (15) years after it is committed:
- (A) first degree sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3002);
- (B) second degree sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3003);
- (C) first degree child sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3008); and
- (D) second degree child sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3009).
- (3) A prosecution for the following crimes and any offense that is properly joinable with any of the following crimes is barred if not commenced within ten (10) years after it is committed:
- (A) third degree sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3004);
- (B) fourth degree sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3005);
- (C) enticing a child for the purpose of committing felony sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3010);

- (D) first degree sexual abuse of a ward (D.C. Official Code § 22-3013);
- (E) second degree sexual abuse of a ward (D.C. Official Code § 22-3014);
- (F) first degree sexual abuse of a patient or client (D.C. Official Code § 22-3015);
- (G) second degree sexual abuse of a patient or client (D.C. Official Code § 22-3016);
- (H) using a minor in a sexual performance or promoting a sexual performance by a minor (D.C. Official Code § 22-3102);
- (I) incest (D.C. Official Code § 22-1901); and
- (J) Trafficking in labor or commercial sex and sex trafficking of children as prohibited by [D.C. Official Code §§ 22-1833 and 22-1834], respectively;
- (K) Section [D.C. Official Code § 22-2704];
- (L) Section [D.C. Official Code 22-2705]; and
- (M) Sections [D.C. Official Code 22-2706 and 22-2708].
- (4) Except as provided in paragraph (6), a prosecution for a felony other than those crimes enumerated in paragraphs (1) through (3) is barred if not commenced within six (6) years after it is committed.
- (5) Except as provided in paragraph (6), a prosecution for any other criminal offense is barred if not commenced within three (3) years after it is committed.
- (6) A prosecution for a felony or a misdemeanor may be brought within three (3) years:
- (A) after a public officer or employee has left office, for any completed offense based on official conduct; or
- (B) after a fraud or breach of fiduciary trust has been, or reasonably should have been, discovered for any completed offense based on that fraud or breach of fiduciary trust; even if barred by the provisions of paragraphs (4) and (5):

Provided, that, in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitations to more than nine (9) years in the case of a felony nor more than six (6) years in the case of a misdemeanor.

(b) Time when offense committed. -- An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct, or the defendant's complicity therein, is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed or completed.

- (c) Commencement of prosecution. -- A prosecution is commenced when:
- (1) an indictment is entered;
- (2) an information is filed; or
- (3) a complaint is filed before a judicial officer empowered to issue an arrest warrant; provided, that such warrant is issued without unreasonable delay. A prosecution for an offense necessarily included in the offense charged shall be considered to have been timely commenced, even though the period of limitation for such included offense has expired, if the period of limitation has not expired for the offense charged and if there was, after the close of the evidence at trial, sufficient evidence as a matter of law to sustain a conviction for the offense charged.
- (d) Suspension of period of limitation. -- (1) The period of limitation for an offense, and any necessarily included offense, does not run during any time when a prosecution against the defendant for that offense is pending in the courts of the District of Columbia.
- (2) The period of limitation shall not begin to run until the victim reaches 21 years of age for the following offenses:
- (A) first degree child sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3008);
- (B) second degree child sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3009);
- (C) enticing a child for the purpose of committing felony sexual abuse (D.C. Official Code § 22-3010);
- (D) using a minor in a sexual performance or promoting a sexual performance by a minor (D.C. Official Code § 22-3102);
- (E) incest (D.C. Official Code § 22-1901); and
- (F) Sections [D.C. Official Code 22-3009.01 and 22-3009.02];
- (G) Section [D.C. Official Code 22-2704];
- (H) Section [D.C. Official Code 22-2705];
- (I) Section [D.C. Official Code 22-2706], where the victim is a minor; and
- (J) Forced labor, trafficking in labor or commercial sex, sex trafficking of children, and benefitting financially from human trafficking as prohibited by the Human Trafficking Act [D.C. Law 18-239], where the victim is a minor.

- (3) The period of limitation shall not begin to run for first degree sexual abuse of a ward (D.C. Official Code § 22-3013) or second degree sexual abuse of a ward (D.C. Official Code § 22-3014) until the victim is no longer a ward.
- (4) The period of limitation shall not begin to run for first degree sexual abuse of a patient or client (D.C. Official Code § 22-3015) or second degree sexual abuse of a patient or client (D.C. Official Code § 22-3016) until the victim is no longer a patient or client of the actor.
- (5) The period of limitation shall not begin to run for forced labor, trafficking in labor or commercial sex, sex trafficking of children, and benefitting financially from human trafficking until the victim is no longer subject to the means used to obtain or maintain his or her labor or services or commercial sex acts.
- (e) Extended period for commencement of new prosecution. -- If a timely complaint, indictment, or information is dismissed for any error, defect, insufficiency, or irregularity, a new prosecution may be commenced within three (3) months after the dismissal becomes final even though the period of limitation has expired at the time of the dismissal or will expire within three (3) months thereafter.
- (f) Fugitives from justice. -- No statute of limitations shall extend to any person fleeing from justice.

## **FLORIDA**

# FLA. STAT. § 775.15 (2012). Time limitations; general time limitations; exceptions

- (1) A prosecution for a capital felony, a life felony, or a felony that resulted in a death may be commenced at any time. If the death penalty is held to be unconstitutional by the Florida Supreme Court or the United States Supreme Court, all crimes designated as capital felonies shall be considered life felonies for the purposes of this section, and prosecution for such crimes may be commenced at any time.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitation:
- (a) A prosecution for a felony of the first degree must be commenced within 4 years after it is committed.
  - (b) A prosecution for any other felony must be commenced within 3 years after it is

committed.

- (c) A prosecution for a misdemeanor of the first degree must be commenced within 2 years after it is committed.
- (d) A prosecution for a misdemeanor of the second degree or a noncriminal violation must be commenced within 1 year after it is committed.
- (3) An offense is committed either when every element has occurred or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (4)(a) Prosecution on a charge on which the defendant has previously been arrested or served with a summons is commenced by the filing of an indictment, information, or other charging document.
- (b) A prosecution on a charge on which the defendant has not previously been arrested or served with a summons is commenced when either an indictment or information is filed, provided the capias, summons, or other process issued on such indictment or information is executed without unreasonable delay. In determining what is reasonable, inability to locate the defendant after diligent search or the defendant's absence from the state shall be considered. The failure to execute process on or extradite a defendant in another state who has been charged by information or indictment with a crime in this state shall not constitute an unreasonable delay.
- (c) If, however, an indictment or information has been filed within the time period prescribed in this section and the indictment or information is dismissed or set aside because of a defect in its content or form after the time period has elapsed, the period for commencing prosecution shall be extended 3 months from the time the indictment or information is dismissed or set aside
- (5) The period of limitation does not run during any time when the defendant is continuously absent from the state or has no reasonably ascertainable place of abode or work within the state. This provision shall not extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than 3 years, but shall not be construed to limit the prosecution of a defendant who has been timely charged by indictment or information or other charging document and who has not been arrested due to his or her absence from this state or has not been extradited for prosecution from another state.

- (6) A prosecution for perjury in an official proceeding that relates to the prosecution of a capital felony may be commenced at any time.
- (7) A prosecution for a felony that resulted in injury to any person, when such felony arises from the use of a "destructive device," as defined in s. 790.001, may be commenced within 10 years.
- (8) A prosecution for a felony violation of chapter 517 or s. 409.920 must be commenced within 5 years after the violation is committed.
- (9) A prosecution for a felony violation of chapter 403 must be commenced within 5 years after the date of discovery of the violation.
- (10) A prosecution for a felony violation of s. 825.102 or s. 825.103 must be commenced within 5 years after it is committed.
- (11) A prosecution for a felony violation of ss. 440.105 and 817.234 must be commenced within 5 years after the violation is committed.
- (12) If the period prescribed in subsection (2), subsection (8), subsection (9), subsection (10), or subsection (11) has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for:
- (a) Any offense, a material element of which is either fraud or a breach of fiduciary obligation, within 1 year after discovery of the offense by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party and who is himself or herself not a party to the offense, but in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than 3 years.
- (b) Any offense based upon misconduct in office by a public officer or employee at any time when the defendant is in public office or employment, within 2 years from the time he or she leaves public office or employment, or during any time permitted by any other part of this section, whichever time is greater.
- (13)(a) If the victim of a violation of s. 794.011, former s. 794.05, Florida Statutes 1995, s. 800.04, s. 826.04, or s. 847.0135(5) is under the age of 18, the applicable period of limitation, if any, does not begin to run until the victim has reached the age of 18 or the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency, whichever occurs earlier. Such law enforcement agency or other governmental agency shall promptly report such

allegation to the state attorney for the judicial circuit in which the alleged violation occurred. If the offense is a first or second degree felony violation of s. 794.011, and the offense is reported within 72 hours after its commission, the prosecution for such offense may be commenced at any time. This paragraph applies to any such offense except an offense the prosecution of which would have been barred by subsection (2) on or before December 31, 1984.

- (b) If the offense is a first degree felony violation of s. 794.011 and the victim was under 18 years of age at the time the offense was committed, a prosecution of the offense may be commenced at any time. This paragraph applies to any such offense except an offense the prosecution of which would have been barred by subsection (2) on or before October 1, 2003.
- (c) If the offense is a violation of s. 794.011 and the victim was under 16 years of age at the time the offense was committed, a prosecution of the offense may be commenced at any time. This paragraph applies to any such offense except an offense the prosecution of which would have been barred by subsection (2) on or before July 1, 2010.
- (14) A prosecution for a first or second degree felony violation of s. 794.011, if the victim is 18 years of age or older at the time of the offense and the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency within 72 hours after commission of the offense, may be commenced at any time. If the offense is not reported within 72 hours after the commission of the offense, the prosecution must be commenced within the time periods prescribed in subsection (2).
- (15)(a) In addition to the time periods prescribed in this section, a prosecution for any of the following offenses may be commenced within 1 year after the date on which the identity of the accused is established, or should have been established by the exercise of due diligence, through the analysis of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) evidence, if a sufficient portion of the evidence collected at the time of the original investigation and tested for DNA is preserved and available for testing by the accused:
  - 1. An offense of sexual battery under chapter 794.
  - 2. A lewd or lascivious offense under s. 800.04 or s. 825.1025.
- (b) This subsection applies to any offense that is not otherwise barred from prosecution between July 1, 2004, and June 30, 2006.
- (16)(a) In addition to the time periods prescribed in this section, a prosecution for any of the following offenses may be commenced at any time after the date on which the identity of the accused is established, or should have been established by the exercise of due diligence,

through the analysis of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) evidence, if a sufficient portion of the evidence collected at the time of the original investigation and tested for DNA is preserved and available for testing by the accused:

- 1. Aggravated battery or any felony battery offense under chapter 784.
- 2. Kidnapping under s. 787.01 or false imprisonment under s. 787.02.
- 3. An offense of sexual battery under chapter 794.
- 4. A lewd or lascivious offense under s. 800.04, s. 825.1025, or s. 847.0135(5).
- 5. A burglary offense under s. 810.02.
- 6. A robbery offense under s. 812.13, s. 812.131, or s. 812.135.
- 7. Carjacking under s. 812.133.
- 8. Aggravated child abuse under s. 827.03.
- (b) This subsection applies to any offense that is not otherwise barred from prosecution on or after July 1, 2006.
- (17) In addition to the time periods prescribed in this section, a prosecution for video voyeurism in violation of s. 810.145 may be commenced within 1 year after the date on which the victim of video voyeurism obtains actual knowledge of the existence of such a recording or the date on which the recording is confiscated by a law enforcement agency, whichever occurs first. Any dissemination of such a recording before the victim obtains actual knowledge thereof or before its confiscation by a law enforcement agency does not affect any provision of this subsection

#### **GEORGIA**

## GA. CODE ANN. § 17-3-1 (2012). Limitation of prosecutions

- (a) A prosecution for murder may be commenced at any time.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in Code Section 17-3-2.1, prosecution for other crimes punishable by death or life imprisonment shall be commenced within seven years after the commission of the crime except as provided by subsection (d) of this Code section; provided, however, that prosecution for the crime of forcible rape shall be commenced within 15 years after the commission of the crime.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided in Code Section 17-3-2.1, prosecution for felonies other than those specified in subsections (a), (b), and (d) of this Code section shall be commenced within four years after the commission of the crime, provided that prosecution for felonies committed against victims who are at the time of the commission of the offense under the age of 18 years shall be commenced within seven years after the commission of the crime.
- (d) A prosecution for the following offenses may be commenced at any time when deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) evidence is used to establish the identity of the accused:
- (1) Armed robbery, as defined in Code Section 16-8-41;
- (2) Kidnapping, as defined in Code Section 16-5-40;
- (3) Rape, as defined in Code Section 16-6-1;
- (4) Aggravated child molestation, as defined in Code Section 16-6-4;
- (5) Aggravated sodomy, as defined in Code Section 16-6-2; or
- (6) Aggravated sexual battery, as defined in Code Section 16-6-22.2;

provided, however, that a sufficient portion of the physical evidence tested for DNA is preserved and available for testing by the accused and provided, further, that, if the DNA evidence does not establish the identity of the accused, the limitation on prosecution shall be as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this Code section.

(e) Prosecution for misdemeanors shall be commenced within two years after the commission of the crime.

## GA. CODE ANN. § 17-3-2.1 (2012). Periods excluded from limitation of prosecution for certain offenses

(a) For crimes committed during the period beginning on July 1, 1992, and ending on June 30, 2012, if the victim of a violation of:

- (1) Cruelty to children, as defined in Code Section 16-5-70;
- (2) Rape, as defined in Code Section 16-6-1;
- (3) Sodomy or aggravated sodomy, as defined in Code Section 16-6-2;
- (4) Statutory rape, as defined in Code Section 16-6-3;
- (5) Child molestation or aggravated child molestation, as defined in Code Section 16-6-4;
- (6) Enticing a child for indecent purposes, as defined in Code Section 16-6-5; or
- (7) Incest, as defined in Code Section 16-6-22,

is under 16 years of age on the date of the violation, the applicable period within which a prosecution shall be commenced under Code Section 17-3-1 or other applicable statute shall not begin to run until the victim has reached the age of 16 or the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency, prosecuting attorney, or other governmental agency, whichever occurs earlier. Such law enforcement agency or other governmental agency shall promptly report such allegation to the appropriate prosecuting attorney.

- (b) For crimes committed on and after July 1, 2012, if the victim of a violation of:
- (1) Trafficking a person for sexual servitude, as defined in Code Section 16-5-46;
- (2) Cruelty to children in the first degree, as defined in Code Section 16-5-70;
- (3) Rape, as defined in Code Section 16-6-1;
- (4) Aggravated sodomy, as defined in Code Section 16-6-2;
- (5) Child molestation or aggravated child molestation, as defined in Code Section 16-6-4;
- (6) Enticing a child for indecent purposes, as defined in Code Section 16-6-5; or
- (7) Incest, as defined in Code Section 16-6-22,

is under 16 years of age on the date of the violation and the violation is not subject to punishment as provided in paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of Code Section 16-6-4, paragraph (2) of subsection (d) of Code Section 16-6-4, or subsection (c) of Code Section 16-6-5, a prosecution may be commenced at any time.

### **HAWAII**

## HAW. REV. STAT. § 701-108 (2012). Time limitations

- (1) A prosecution for murder, murder in the first and second degrees, attempted murder, and attempted murder in the first and second degrees, criminal conspiracy to commit murder in any degree, and criminal solicitation to commit murder in any degree may be commenced at any time.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitation:
- (a) A prosecution for manslaughter where the death was not caused by the operation of a motor vehicle must be commenced within ten years after it is committed;
- (b) A prosecution for a class A felony must be commenced within six years after it is committed;
- (c) A prosecution for any felony under part IX of chapter 708 must be commenced within five years after it is committed;
- (d) A prosecution for any other felony must be commenced within three years after it is committed;
- (e) A prosecution for a misdemeanor or parking violation must be commenced within two years after it is committed; and
- (f) A prosecution for a petty misdemeanor or a violation other than a parking violation must be commenced within one year after it is committed.
- (3) If the period prescribed in subsection (2) has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for:
- (a) Any offense an element of which is either fraud, deception, as defined in section 708-800, or a breach of fiduciary obligation within three years after discovery of the offense by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party and who is oneself not a party to the offense, but in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation by more than six years from the expiration of the period of limitation prescribed in subsection (2);
- (b) Any offense based on misconduct in office by a public officer or employee at any time when the defendant is in public office or employment or within two years thereafter, but in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation by more than three years from the expiration of the period of limitation prescribed in subsection (2); and
- (c) Any felony offense involving evidence containing deoxyribonucleic acid from the offender, if a test confirming the presence of deoxyribonucleic acid is performed prior to expiration of the period of limitation prescribed in subsection (2), but in no case shall this provision extend the

period of limitation by more than ten years from the expiration of the period of limitation prescribed in subsection (2).

- (4) An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (5) A prosecution is commenced either when an indictment is found or a complaint filed, or when an arrest warrant or other process is issued, provided that such warrant or process is executed without unreasonable delay.
- (6) The period of limitation does not run:
- (a) During any time when the accused is continuously absent from the State or has no reasonably ascertainable place of abode or work within the State, but in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation by more than four years from the expiration of the period of limitation prescribed in subsection (2);
- (b) During any time when a prosecution against the accused for the same conduct is pending in this State; or
- (c) For any felony offense under chapter 707, part V or VI, during any time when the victim is alive and under eighteen years of age.

#### **IDAHO**

**IDAHO CODE ANN. § 19-401 (2012). No statute of limitations for certain felonies** 

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is no limitation of time within which a prosecution for the following crimes must be commenced:

- (1) Murder;
- (2) Voluntary manslaughter;
- (3) Rape pursuant to section 18-6101(3) through (9), or section 18-6108(3) through (7), Idaho Code;
- (4) Sexual abuse of a child or lewd conduct with a child as set forth in sections 18-1506 and 18-1508, Idaho Code; or
- (5) An act of terrorism as set forth in sections 18-8102, 18-8103, 18-3322, 18-3323 and 18-3324, Idaho Code.

## IDAHO CODE ANN. § 19-402 (2012). Commencement of prosecutions for felonies

A prosecution for any felony other than those specified in section 19-401, Idaho Code, must be commenced by the filing of the complaint or the finding of an indictment within five (5) years after its commission provided however, a prosecution under section 18-1506A, Idaho Code, must be commenced within three (3) years after the date of initial disclosure by the victim.

## IDAHO CODE ANN. § 19-403 (2012). Misdemeanors

- (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, a prosecution for any misdemeanor must be commenced by the filing of the complaint or the finding of an indictment within one (1) year after its commission.
- (2) A prosecution for failure to report or failure to cause to be reported the abuse, abandonment or neglect of a child as provided for in section 16-1605, Idaho Code, must be commenced by the filing of the complaint or the finding of an indictment within four (4) years after its commission.
- (3) A prosecution for misuse of funds as provided for in section 18-5702(1), Idaho Code, must be commenced by the filing of the complaint or the finding of an indictment within five (5) years after its commission.

### **ILLINOIS**

720 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/3-5 (2012). General Limitations

#### § 3-5. General Limitations.

- (a) A prosecution for: (1) first degree murder, attempt to commit first degree murder, second degree murder, involuntary manslaughter, reckless homicide, leaving the scene of a motor vehicle accident involving death or personal injuries under Section 11-401 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, failing to give information and render aid under Section 11-403 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, concealment of homicidal death, treason, arson, aggravated arson, forgery, child pornography under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Section 11-20.1, aggravated child pornography under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Section 11-20.1B, or (2) any offense involving sexual conduct or sexual penetration, as defined by Section 11-0. 1 of this Code in which the DNA profile of the offender is obtained and entered into a DNA database within 10 years after the commission of the offense, may be commenced at any time. Clause (2) of this subsection (a) applies if either: (i) the victim reported the offense to law enforcement authorities within 3 years after the commission of the offense unless a longer period for reporting the offense to law enforcement authorities is provided in Section 3-6 or (ii) the victim is murdered during the course of the offense or within 2 years after the commission of the offense.
- (b) Unless the statute describing the offense provides otherwise, or the period of limitation is extended by Section 3-6, a prosecution for any offense not designated in Subsection (a) must be commenced within 3 years after the commission of the offense if it is a felony, or within one year and 6 months after its commission if it is a misdemeanor.

## 720 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/3-6 (2012). Extended limitations

<Text of section effective until Jan. 1, 2013. See, also, section effective Jan. 1, 2013.>

- § 3-6. Extended limitations. The period within which a prosecution must be commenced under the provisions of Section 3-5 or other applicable statute is extended under the following conditions:
- (a) A prosecution for theft involving a breach of a fiduciary obligation to the aggrieved person may be commenced as follows:
- (1) If the aggrieved person is a minor or a person under legal disability, then during the minority or legal disability or within one year after the termination thereof.
- (2) In any other instance, within one year after the discovery of the offense by an aggrieved person, or by a person who has legal capacity to represent an aggrieved person or has a legal duty to report the offense, and is not himself or herself a party to the offense; or in the absence of such discovery, within one year after the proper prosecuting officer becomes aware of the offense. However, in no such case is the period of limitation so extended more than 3 years beyond the expiration of the period otherwise applicable.
- (b) A prosecution for any offense based upon misconduct in office by a public officer or employee may be commenced within one year after discovery of the offense by a person having

a legal duty to report such offense, or in the absence of such discovery, within one year after the proper prosecuting officer becomes aware of the offense. However, in no such case is the period of limitation so extended more than 3 years beyond the expiration of the period otherwise applicable.

- (c) (Blank).
- (d) A prosecution for child pornography, aggravated child pornography, indecent solicitation of a child, soliciting for a juvenile prostitute, juvenile pimping, exploitation of a child, or promoting juvenile prostitution except for keeping a place of juvenile prostitution may be commenced within one year of the victim attaining the age of 18 years. However, in no such case shall the time period for prosecution expire sooner than 3 years after the commission of the offense. When the victim is under 18 years of age, a prosecution for criminal sexual abuse may be commenced within one year of the victim attaining the age of 18 years. However, in no such case shall the time period for prosecution expire sooner than 3 years after the commission of the offense.
- (e) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (j), a prosecution for any offense involving sexual conduct or sexual penetration, as defined in Section 11-0.1 of this Code, where the defendant was within a professional or fiduciary relationship or a purported professional or fiduciary relationship with the victim at the time of the commission of the offense may be commenced within one year after the discovery of the offense by the victim.
- (f) A prosecution for any offense set forth in Section 44 of the "Environmental Protection Act", approved June 29, 1970, as amended, [FN1] may be commenced within 5 years after the discovery of such an offense by a person or agency having the legal duty to report the offense or in the absence of such discovery, within 5 years after the proper prosecuting officer becomes aware of the offense.
- (f-5) A prosecution for any offense set forth in Section 16-30 of this Code may be commenced within 5 years after the discovery of the offense by the victim of that offense.
- (g) (Blank).
- (h) (Blank).
- (i) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (j), a prosecution for criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault, or aggravated criminal sexual abuse may be commenced within 10 years of the commission of the offense if the victim reported the offense to law enforcement authorities within 3 years after the commission of the offense.

Nothing in this subdivision (i) shall be construed to shorten a period within which a prosecution must be commenced under any other provision of this Section.

(j) When the victim is under 18 years of age at the time of the offense, a prosecution for criminal sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual assault, predatory criminal sexual assault of a child, aggravated criminal sexual abuse, or felony criminal sexual abuse, or a prosecution for

failure of a person who is required to report an alleged or suspected commission of any of these offenses under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act may be commenced within 20 years after the child victim attains 18 years of age. When the victim is under 18 years of age at the time of the offense, a prosecution for misdemeanor criminal sexual abuse may be commenced within 10 years after the child victim attains 18 years of age.

Nothing in this subdivision (j) shall be construed to shorten a period within which a prosecution must be commenced under any other provision of this Section.

(k) A prosecution for theft involving real property exceeding \$100,000 in value under Section 16-1, identity theft under subsection (a) of Section 16-30, aggravated identity theft under subsection (b) of Section 16-30, or any offense set forth in Article 16H or Section 17-10.6 may be commenced within 7 years of the last act committed in furtherance of the crime.

#### **INDIANA**

**IND. CODE § 35-41-4-2 (2012). Periods of limitation** 

- Sec. 2. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a prosecution for an offense is barred unless it is commenced:
- (1) within five (5) years after the commission of the offense, in the case of a Class B, Class C, or Class D felony; or
- (2) within two (2) years after the commission of the offense, in the case of a misdemeanor.
- (b) A prosecution for a Class B or Class C felony that would otherwise be barred under this section may be commenced within one (1) year after the earlier of the date on which the state:
- (1) first discovers evidence sufficient to charge the offender with the offense through DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis; or
- (2) could have discovered evidence sufficient to charge the offender with the offense through DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) analysis by the exercise of due diligence.
- (c) A prosecution for a Class A felony may be commenced at any time.
- (d) A prosecution for murder may be commenced:
- (1) at any time; and
- (2) regardless of the amount of time that passes between:
- (A) the date a person allegedly commits the elements of murder; and
- (B) the date the alleged victim of the murder dies.
- (e) A prosecution for the following offenses is barred unless commenced before the date that the alleged victim of the offense reaches thirty-one (31) years of age:
- (1) IC 35-42-4-3(a) (Child molesting).
- (2) IC 35-42-4-5 (Vicarious sexual gratification).
- (3) IC 35-42-4-6 (Child solicitation).
- (4) IC 35-42-4-7 (Child seduction).
- (5) IC 35-46-1-3 (Incest).

- (f) A prosecution for forgery of an instrument for payment of money, or for the uttering of a forged instrument, under IC 35-43-5-2, is barred unless it is commenced within five (5) years after the maturity of the instrument.
- (g) If a complaint, indictment, or information is dismissed because of an error, defect, insufficiency, or irregularity, a new prosecution may be commenced within ninety (90) days after the dismissal even if the period of limitation has expired at the time of dismissal, or will expire within ninety (90) days after the dismissal.
- (h) The period within which a prosecution must be commenced does not include any period in which:
- (1) the accused person is not usually and publicly resident in Indiana or so conceals himself or herself that process cannot be served;
- (2) the accused person conceals evidence of the offense, and evidence sufficient to charge the person with that offense is unknown to the prosecuting authority and could not have been discovered by that authority by exercise of due diligence; or
- (3) the accused person is a person elected or appointed to office under statute or constitution, if the offense charged is theft or conversion of public funds or bribery while in public office.
- (i) For purposes of tolling the period of limitation only, a prosecution is considered commenced on the earliest of these dates:
- (1) The date of filing of an indictment, information, or complaint before a court having jurisdiction.
- (2) The date of issuance of a valid arrest warrant.
- (3) The date of arrest of the accused person by a law enforcement officer without a warrant, if the officer has authority to make the arrest.
- (j) A prosecution is considered timely commenced for any offense to which the defendant enters a plea of guilty, notwithstanding that the period of limitation has expired.
- (k) The following apply to the specified offenses:
- (1) A prosecution for an offense under IC 30-2-9-7(b) (misuse of funeral trust funds) is barred unless commenced within five (5) years after the date of death of the settlor (as described in IC 30-2-9).
- (2) A prosecution for an offense under IC 30-2-10-9(b) (misuse of funeral trust funds) is barred unless commenced within five (5) years after the date of death of the settlor (as described in IC 30-2-10).

- (3) A prosecution for an offense under IC 30-2-13-38(f) (misuse of funeral trust or escrow account funds) is barred unless commenced within five (5) years after the date of death of the purchaser (as defined in IC 30-2-13-9).
- (l) A prosecution for an offense under IC 23-14-48-9 is barred unless commenced within five (5) years after the earlier of the date on which the state:
- (1) first discovers evidence sufficient to charge the offender with the offense; or
- (2) could have discovered evidence sufficient to charge the offender with the offense by the exercise of due diligence.

#### **IOWA**

### IOWA CODE § 802.2 (2012). Sexual abuse--first, second, or third degree

- 1. An information or indictment for sexual abuse in the first, second, or third degree committed on or with a person who is under the age of eighteen years shall be found within ten years after the person upon whom the offense is committed attains eighteen years of age, or if the person against whom the information or indictment is sought is identified through the use of a DNA profile, an information or indictment shall be found within three years from the date the person is identified by the person's DNA profile, whichever is later.
- 2. An information or indictment for any other sexual abuse in the first, second, or third degree shall be found within ten years after its commission, or if the person against whom the information or indictment is sought is identified through the use of a DNA profile, an information or indictment shall be found within three years from the date the person is identified by the person's DNA profile, whichever is later.
- 3. As used in this section, "identified" means a person's legal name is known and the person has been determined to be the source of the DNA.

# IOWA CODE § 802.2A (2012). Incest -- sexual exploitation by a counselor, therapist, or school employee

- 1. An information or indictment for incest under section 726.2 committed on or with a person who is under the age of eighteen shall be found within ten years after the person upon whom the offense is committed attains eighteen years of age. An information or indictment for any other incest shall be found within ten years after its commission.
- 2. An indictment or information for sexual exploitation by a counselor, therapist, or school employee under section 709.15 committed on or with a person who is under the age of eighteen shall be found within ten years after the person upon whom the offense is committed attains

eighteen years of age. An information or indictment for any other sexual exploitation shall be found within ten years of the date the victim was last treated by the counselor or therapist, or within ten years of the date the victim was enrolled in or attended the school.

### IOWA CODE § 802.3 (2012). Felony - aggravated or serious misdemeanor

In all cases, except those enumerated in section 802.1, 802.2, 802.2A, or 802.10, an indictment or information for a felony or aggravated or serious misdemeanor shall be found within three years after its commission.

### **KANSAS**

KAN. STAT. ANN. § 21-3106 (2010). Time limitations for commencement of prosecutions\*Severe Negative Treatment. Updating document below:

**2012** Kansas Laws Ch. **157** (S.B. **307**) Approved May 25, 2012

KANSAS 2012 SESSION LAWS REGULAR SESSION

Additions are indicated by Text; deletions by Text.

Vetoes are indicated by Text; stricken material by Text.

Ch. 157 (S.B. No. 307) West's No. 157

AN ACT concerning crimes, punishment and criminal procedure; relating to the statute of limitations for sexually violent crimes when the victim is a child; lesser included crimes; murder in the first degree; intimidation of a witness; time limitations at trial; amending K.S.A. 22–3402 and K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5107, 21–5109 and 21–5909 and repealing the existing sections.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5107 is hereby amended to read as follows:

<< KS ST 21–5107 >>

- 21–5107. (a) A prosecution for murder, terrorism or illegal use of weapons of mass destruction may be commenced at any time.
- (b) Except as provided in subsection (e), a prosecution for any crime shall be commenced within 10 years after its commission if the victim is the Kansas public employees retirement system.

- (c) Except as provided in subsection (e), a prosecution for a sexually violent offense as defined in K.S.A. 22–3717, and amendments thereto, shall be commenced within the limitation of time provided by the law pertaining to such offense or one year from the date on which the identity of the suspect is conclusively established by DNA testing, whichever is later.
- (d) Except as provided by subsection (e), a prosecution for any crime, as defined in K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5102, and amendments thereto, not governed by subsections (a), (b) or (c) shall be commenced within five years after it is committed.
- (e) The period within which a prosecution shall be commenced shall not include any period in which:
- (1) The accused is absent from the state;
- (2) the accused is concealed within the state so that process cannot be served upon the accused;
- (3) the fact of the crime is concealed;
- (4) a prosecution is pending against the defendant for the same conduct, even if the indictment or information which commences the prosecution is quashed or the proceedings thereon are set aside, or are reversed on appeal;
- (5) an administrative agency is restrained by court order from investigating or otherwise proceeding on a matter before it as to any criminal conduct defined as a violation of any of the provisions of article 41 of chapter 25 and article 2 of chapter 46 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, which may be discovered as a result thereof regardless of who obtains the order of restraint; or
- (6) whether the fact of the crime is concealed by the active act or conduct of the accused, there is substantially competent evidence to believe two or more of the following factors are present:
- (A) The victim was a child under 15 years of age at the time of the crime;
- (B) the victim was of such age or intelligence that the victim was unable to determine that the acts constituted a crime;
- (C) the victim was prevented by a parent or other legal authority from making known to law enforcement authorities the fact of the crime whether or not the parent or other legal authority is the accused; and
- (D) there is substantially competent expert testimony indicating the victim psychologically repressed such witness' memory of the fact of the crime, and in the expert's professional opinion the recall of such memory is accurate and free of undue manipulation, and substantial corroborating evidence can be produced in support of the allegations contained in the complaint or information but in no event may a prosecution be commenced as provided in this section subsection (e)(6) later than the date the victim turns 28 years of age. Corroborating evidence

may include, but is not limited to, evidence the defendant committed similar acts against other persons or evidence of contemporaneous physical manifestations of the crime.

- (f) An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing offense plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed except if the offense charged is a sexually violent crime as defined in K.S.A. 22–3717, and amendments thereto, and the victim was under 18 years of age at the time of the offense, then time shall start to run on the day after the victim's 18th birthday.
- (g) A prosecution is commenced when a complaint or information is filed, or an indictment returned, and a warrant thereon is delivered to the sheriff or other officer for execution. No such prosecution shall be deemed to have been commenced if the warrant so issued is not executed without unreasonable delay.
- (h) As used in this section, "parent or other legal authority" shall include, but not be limited to, natural and stepparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or siblings.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5109 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 21–5109. (a) When the same conduct of a defendant may establish the commission of more than one crime under the laws of this state, the defendant may be prosecuted for each of such crimes. Each of such crimes may be alleged as a separate count in a single complaint, information or indictment.
- (b) Upon prosecution for a crime, the defendant may be convicted of either the crime charged or a lesser included crime, but not both. A lesser included crime is:
- (1) A lesser degree of the same crime, except that there are no lesser degrees of murder in the first degree under subsection (a)(2) of K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5402, and amendments thereto;
- (2) a crime where all elements of the lesser crime are identical to some of the elements of the crime charged;
- (3) an attempt to commit the crime charged; or
- (4) an attempt to commit a crime defined under paragraph (1) or (2).
- (c) Whenever charges are filed against a person, accusing the person of a crime which includes another crime of which the person has been convicted, the conviction of the lesser included crime shall not bar prosecution or conviction of the crime charged if the crime charged was not consummated at the time of conviction of the lesser included crime, but the conviction of the lesser included crime shall be annulled upon the filing of such charges. Evidence of the person's plea or any admission or statement made by the person in connection therewith in any of the proceedings which resulted in the person's conviction of the lesser included crime shall not be

admissible at the trial of the crime charged. If the person is convicted of the crime charged, or of a lesser included crime, the person so convicted shall receive credit against any prison sentence imposed or fine to be paid for the period of confinement actually served or the amount of any fine actually paid under the sentence imposed for the annulled conviction.

- (d) Unless otherwise provided by law, when crimes differ only in that one is defined to prohibit a designated kind of conduct generally and the other to prohibit a specific instance of such conduct, the defendant:
- (1) May not be convicted of the two crimes based upon the same conduct; and
- (2) shall be sentenced according to the terms of the more specific crime.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5909 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 21–5909. (a) Intimidation of a witness or victim is preventing or dissuading, or attempting to prevent or dissuade, with an intent to vex, annoy, harm or injure in any way another person or an intent to thwart or interfere in any manner with the orderly administration of justice:
- (1) Any witness or victim from attending or giving testimony at any civil or criminal trial, proceeding or inquiry authorized by law; or
- (2) any witness, victim or person acting on behalf of a victim from:
- (A) Making any report of the victimization of a victim to any law enforcement officer, prosecutor, probation officer, parole officer, correctional officer, community correctional services officer or judicial officer, the secretary of the department of social and rehabilitation services or any agent or representative of the secretary, or any person required to make a report pursuant to K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 38–2223, and amendments thereto;
- (B) causing a complaint, indictment or information to be sought and prosecuted, or causing a violation of probation, parole or assignment to a community correctional services program to be reported and prosecuted, and assisting in its prosecution;
- (C) causing a civil action to be filed and prosecuted and assisting in its prosecution; or
- (D) arresting or causing or seeking the arrest of any person in connection with the victimization of a victim.
- (b) Aggravated intimidation of a witness or victim is intimidation of a witness or victim, as defined in subsection (a), when the:
- (1) Act is accompanied by an expressed or implied threat of force or violence against a witness, victim or other person or the property of any witness, victim or other person;

- (2) act is in furtherance of a conspiracy;
- (3) the act is committed by a person who has been previously convicted of corruptly influencing a witness or has been convicted of a violation of this section or any federal or other state's statute which, if the act prosecuted was committed in this state, would be a violation of this section;
- (4) witness or victim is under 18 years of age; or
- (5) act is committed for pecuniary gain or for any other consideration by a person acting upon the request of another person.
- (c)(1) Intimidation of a witness or victim is a class B person misdemeanor.
- (2) Aggravated intimidation of a witness or victim is a severity level 6, person felony.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 22–3402 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 22–3402. (1) (a) If any person charged with a crime and held in jail solely by reason thereof shall not be brought to trial within 90 days after such person's arraignment on the charge, such person shall be entitled to be discharged from further liability to be tried for the crime charged, unless the delay shall happen as a result of the application or fault of the defendant, or a continuance shall be ordered by the court under subsection (5) (e).
- (2) (b) If any person charged with a crime and held to answer on an appearance bond shall not be brought to trial within 180 days after arraignment on the charge, such person shall be entitled to be discharged from further liability to be tried for the crime charged, unless the delay shall happen as a result of the application or fault of the defendant, or a continuance shall be ordered by the court under subsection (5) (e).
- (3) (c) If any trial scheduled within the time limitation prescribed by subsection (1) or (2) (a) or (b) is delayed by the application of or at the request of the defendant, the trial shall be rescheduled within 90 days of the original trial deadline.
- (4) (d) After any trial date has been set within the time limitation prescribed by subsection (1) or (2) (a), (b) or (c), if the defendant fails to appear for the trial or any pretrial hearing, and a bench warrant is ordered, the trial shall be rescheduled within 90 days after the defendant has been surrendered appeared in court after apprehension or surrender on such warrant. However, if the defendant was subject to the 180–day deadline prescribed by subsection (2) (b) and more than 90 days of the original time limitation remain, then the original time limitation remains in effect.
- (5) (e) For those situations not otherwise covered by subsections (a), (b) or (c), the time for trial may be extended beyond the limitations of subsections (1) and (2) for any of the following reasons:

- (a) (1) The defendant is incompetent to stand trial. If the defendant is subsequently found to be competent to stand trial, the trial shall be scheduled as soon as practicable and in any event within 90 days of such finding;
- (b) (2) A proceeding to determine the defendant's competency to stand trial is pending and a determination thereof may not be completed within the time limitations fixed for trial by this section. If the defendant is subsequently found to be competent to stand trial, the trial shall be scheduled as soon as practicable and in any event within 90 days of such finding. However, if the defendant was subject to the 180–day deadline prescribed by subsection (b) and more than 90 days of the original time limitation remain, then the original time limitation remains in effect. The time that a decision is pending on competency shall never be counted against the state;
- (c) (3) There is material evidence which is unavailable; that reasonable efforts have been made to procure such evidence; and that there are reasonable grounds to believe that such evidence can be obtained and trial commenced within the next succeeding 90 days. Not more than one continuance may be granted the state on this ground, unless for good cause shown, where the original continuance was for less than 90 days, and the trial is commenced within 120 days from the original trial date;
- (d) (4) Because of other cases pending for trial, the court does not have sufficient time to commence the trial of the case within the time fixed for trial by this section. Not more than one continuance of not more than 30 days may be ordered upon this ground.
- (6) (f) In the event a mistrial is declared, a motion for new trial is granted or a conviction is reversed on appeal to the supreme court or court of appeals, the time limitations provided for herein shall commence to run from the date the mistrial is declared, the date a new trial is ordered or the date the mandate of the supreme court or court of appeals is filed in the district court.
- (g) If a defendant, or defendant's attorney in consultation with the defendant, requests a delay and such delay is granted, the delay shall be charged to the defendant regardless of the reasons for making the request, unless there is prosecutorial misconduct related to such delay. If a delay is initially attributed to the defendant, but is subsequently charged to the state for any reason, such delay shall not be considered against the state under subsections (a), (b) or (c) and shall not be used as a ground for dismissing a case or for reversing a conviction unless not considering such delay would result in a violation of the constitutional right to a speedy trial or there is prosecutorial misconduct related to such delay.
- (h) When a scheduled trial is scheduled within the period allowed by subsections (a), (b) or (c) and is delayed because a party has made or filed a motion, or because the court raises a concern on its own, the time elapsing from the date of the making or filing of the motion, or the court's raising a concern, until the matter is resolved by court order shall not be considered when determining if a violation under subsections (a), (b) or (c) has occurred. If the resolution of such motion or concern by court order occurs at a time when less than 30 days remains under the provisions of subsections (a), (b) or (c), the time in which the defendant shall be brought to trial is extended 30 days from the date of the court order.

(i) If the state requests and is granted a delay for any reason provided in this statute, the time elapsing because of the order granting the delay shall not be subsequently counted against the state if an appellate court later determines that the district court erred by granting the state's request unless not considering such delay would result in a violation of the constitutional right to a speedy trial or there is prosecutorial misconduct related to such delay.

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 22–3402 and K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 21–5107, 21–5109 and 21–5909 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

Approved May 25, 2012

KS LEGIS 157 (2012)

### **KENTUCKY**

### Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 500.050 (2012). Time limitations

- (1) Except as otherwise expressly provided, the prosecution of a felony is not subject to a period of limitation and may be commenced at any time.
- (2) Except as otherwise expressly provided, the prosecution of an offense other than a felony must be commenced within one (1) year after it is committed.
- (3) For a misdemeanor offense under KRS Chapter 510 when the victim is under the age of eighteen (18) at the time of the offense, the prosecution of the offense shall be commenced within five (5) years after the victim attains the age of eighteen (18) years.
- (4) For purposes of this section, an offense is committed either when every element occurs, or if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated.

### LOUISIANA

## LA. CODE CRIM. PROC. ANN. art. 571.1 (2011). Time limitation for certain sex offenses

Except as provided by Article 572 of this Chapter, the time within which to institute prosecution of the following sex offenses: sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.1), second degree sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.2), oral sexual battery (R.S. 14:43.3), felony carnal knowledge of a juvenile (R.S. 14:80), indecent behavior with juveniles (R.S. 14:81), molestation of a juvenile or a person with a physical or mental disability (R.S. 14:81.2), crime against nature (R.S. 14:89), aggravated crime against nature (R.S. 14:89.1), incest (R.S. 14:78), or aggravated incest (R.S. 14:78.1) which involves a victim under seventeen years of age, regardless of whether the crime involves force, serious physical injury, death, or is punishable by imprisonment at hard labor shall be thirty years. This thirty-year period begins to run when the victim attains the age of eighteen.

# LA. CODE CRIM. PROC. ANN. art. 573 (2011). Running of time limitations; exception

The time limitations established by Article 572 shall not commence to run as to the following offenses until the relationship or status involved has ceased to exist when:

- (1) The offense charged is based on the misappropriation of any money or thing of value by one who, by virtue of his office, employment, or fiduciary relationship, has been entrusted therewith or has control thereof.
- (2) The offense charged is extortion or false accounting committed by a public officer or employee in his official capacity.
- (3) The offense charged is public bribery.
- (4) The offense charged is aggravated battery (R.S. 14:34) and the victim is under seventeen years of age.

#### MAINE

### ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 17, § 8 (2011). Statute of limitations

1. It is a defense that prosecution was commenced after the expiration of the applicable period of limitations provided in this section; provided that a prosecution for murder or criminal homicide in the first or 2nd degree, or, if the victim had not attained the age of 16 years at the time of the crime, a prosecution for: incest; unlawful sexual contact; sexual abuse of a minor; rape or gross

sexual assault, formerly denominated as gross sexual misconduct, may be commenced at any time.

- 2. Prosecutions for crimes other than murder or criminal homicide in the first or 2nd degree, or, if the victim had not attained the age of 16 years at the time of the crime, prosecutions for: incest; unlawful sexual contact; sexual abuse of a minor; rape or gross sexual assault, formerly denominated as gross sexual misconduct, are subject to the following periods of limitations:
- A. A prosecution for a Class A, Class B or Class C crime must be commenced within 6 years after it is committed; and
- B. A prosecution for a Class D or Class E crime must be commenced within 3 years after it is committed.
- 3. The periods of limitations shall not run:
- A. During any time when the accused is absent from the State, but in no event shall this provision extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than 5 years;
- B. During any time when a prosecution against the accused for the same crime based on the same conduct is pending in this State; or
- C. During any time when a prosecution against the accused for the corresponding juvenile crime based on the same conduct is pending in the Juvenile Court. For purposes of this section, pending includes any appeal period and, if an appeal is taken, any period pending its final disposition.
- 4. If a timely complaint, information or indictment is dismissed for any error, defect, insufficiency or irregularity, a new prosecution for the same crime based on the same conduct may be commenced within 6 months after the dismissal, or during the next session of the grand jury, whichever occurs later, even though the periods of limitations have expired at the time of such dismissal or will expire within such period of time.
- 5. If the period of limitation has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for:
- A. Any crime based upon breach of fiduciary obligation, within one year after discovery of the crime by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party, and who is not a party to the crime, whichever occurs first;
- B. Any crime based upon official misconduct by a public servant, at any time when such person is in public office or employment or within 2 years thereafter.
- C. This subsection shall in no event extend the limitation period otherwise applicable by more than 5 years.
- 6. For purposes of this section:

- A. A crime is committed when every element thereof has occurred, or if the crime consists of a continuing course of conduct, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated; and
- B. A prosecution is commenced whenever one of the following occurs:
- (1) A criminal complaint is filed;
- (2) An indictment is returned; or
- (3) Following waiver of an indictment, an information is filed.
- 7. The defense established by this section shall not bar a conviction of a crime included in the crime charged, notwithstanding that the period of limitation has expired for the included crime, if as to the crime charged the period of limitation has not expired or there is no such period, and there is evidence which would sustain a conviction for the crime charged.

#### **MARYLAND**

MD. CODE ANN., CTS. & JUD. PROC. § 5-106 (2010). Prosecution for misdemeanors; manslaughter by automobile, motorboat, etc.; homicide by motor vehicle.

- (a) In general. -- Except as provided by this section and § 1-303 of the Environment Article, a prosecution for a misdemeanor shall be instituted within 1 year after the offense was committed.
- (b) Misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in penitentiary. -- Notwithstanding § 9-103(a)(3) of the Correctional Services Article or any other provision of the Code, if a statute provides that a misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary or that a person is subject to this subsection:
  - (1) The State may institute a prosecution for the misdemeanor at any time; and
  - (2) For purposes of the Maryland Constitution, the person:
- (i) Shall be deemed to have committed a misdemeanor whose punishment is confinement in the penitentiary; and
- (ii) May reserve a point or question for in banc review as provided under Article IV, § 22 of the Maryland Constitution.
- \*\* REVISOR'S NOTE

Chapter 10, Acts of 2001, which enacted the Criminal Procedure Article, also enacted this subsection, which repeals and reenacts, with amendments, CJ § 5-106(b).

#### \*\* REVISOR'S NOTE

- Item (2) of this subsection is added to ensure that if a person is made subject to this subsection by cross-reference: (1) the misdemeanor is not subject to a limitations period; and (2) the person charged has a right to an in banc review.
- (c) Violation of vehicle code. -- A prosecution under the vehicle code shall be instituted within 2 years after the offense was committed if the charge is:
  - (1) Unlawfully using a driver's license; or
  - (2) Fraudulently using a false or fictitious name when applying for a driver's license.
- (d) Sabbath breaking or drunkenness. -- A prosecution for Sabbath breaking or drunkenness shall be instituted within 30 days after the offense was committed.
- (e) Selling alcoholic beverages to minor in Allegany County. -- In Allegany County, a prosecution for selling alcoholic beverages to a person under the legal age for drinking such alcoholic beverages or for selling alcoholic beverages after hours shall be instituted within 30 days after the offense was committed.
- (f) Offenses under election laws or conflict of interest laws, criminal malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance. -- A prosecution for the commission of or the attempt to commit a misdemeanor constituting: (1) except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, a criminal offense under the State election laws; or (2) a criminal offense under the Maryland Public Ethics Law; or (3) criminal malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office committed by an officer of the State, or of an agency of the State, or of a political subdivision of the State, or of a bicounty or multicounty agency in the State shall be instituted within 2 years after the offense was committed.
- (g) Conspiracy to commit offenses enumerated in subsection (f). -- A prosecution for conspiracy to commit any of the offenses enumerated in subsection (f) of this section shall be instituted within 2 years after the offense was committed.
- (h) Election Law Article violation civil penalty. -- A prosecution to impose a civil fine for an offense arising under § 13-604 of the Election Law Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (i) Public ethics code violation civil penalty. -- A petition by the State Ethics Commission to seek a civil fine under § 15-902(b) of the State Government Article may not be initiated unless the complaint is filed by the Commission within 3 years from the time the conduct ended.
- (j) Welfare fraud. -- A prosecution for a welfare offense under §§ 8-501 through 8-504 of the Criminal Law Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.

- (k) Medicaid fraud under Criminal Law Article. -- A prosecution for a misdemeanor offense under Title 8, Subtitle 5, Part II of the Criminal Law Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (l) Tax-related offenses. -- A prosecution for an offense arising under the Tax General Article with respect to the sales and use, admissions and amusement, financial institution franchise, income, or motor fuel tax shall be instituted within 3 years after the date on which the offense was committed.
- (m) Failure to secure workers' compensation insurance. -- A prosecution for the offense of failure to secure workers' compensation insurance in accordance with Title 9, Subtitle 4 of the Labor and Employment Article shall be instituted within 1 year after the State Workers' Compensation Commission finds, by order, that the employer was uninsured or, pursuant to the authority contained in § 9-1003 of the Labor and Employment Article, within 1 year after the Uninsured Employers' Fund makes payment under § 9-1003 of the Labor and Employment Article, as directed by the Commission.
- (n) Conspiracy in general. -- Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, the statute of limitations for the prosecution of the crime of conspiracy is the statute of limitations for the prosecution of the substantive crime that is the subject of the conspiracy.
- (o) Manslaughter by automobile, motorboat, etc.; homicide by motor vehicle; stopping at scene of accident. -- A prosecution for an offense under Title 2, Subtitle 5 or § 2-209 of the Criminal Law Article or § 20-102 of the Transportation Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (p) Sex discrimination. -- A prosecution for an offense of discrimination on the basis of sex in paying wages under §§ 3-301 through 3-308 of the Labor and Employment Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the performance of the act on which the prosecution is based.
- (q) Charging or receiving compensation in adoption. -- A prosecution for an offense under § 5-362, § 5-3A-45, or § 5-3B-32 of the Family Law Article as to unlawfully charging or receiving compensation in connection with adoption shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (r) Unauthorized practice of medicine. -- A prosecution for an offense under § 14-601 of the Health Occupations Article of practicing, attempting to practice, or offering to practice medicine without a license shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (s) Charitable solicitation offenses. -- A prosecution for an offense under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act (Title 6 of the Business Regulation Article) shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (t) Straw sales or illegal sales, rentals, transfers, possession, or receipt of regulated firearms. -- A prosecution for an offense under § 5-140, § 5-141, or § 5-143 of the Public Safety Article, relating to straw sales of regulated firearms to prohibited persons or minors and to illegal sales,

rentals, transfers, possession, or receipt of regulated firearms, shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.

- (u) Fish and fisheries provisions; wildlife provisions. -- A prosecution for a violation of the fish and fisheries provisions of Title 4 of the Natural Resources Article or the wildlife provisions of Title 10 of the Natural Resources Article shall be instituted within 2 years after commission of the offense.
- (v) Computer crimes. -- A prosecution under § 7-302 of the Criminal Law Article relating to computer crimes shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (w) Abuse or neglect of vulnerable adult. -- A prosecution for an offense under § 3-605 of the Criminal Law Article relating to abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult shall be instituted within 2 years after the offense was committed.
- (x) Offenses by nursing home administrators. -- A prosecution for a misdemeanor offense under Title 1A, Title 9, or Title 17 of the Health Occupations Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (y) Violation of Insurance Article. -- A prosecution for a misdemeanor offense under the Insurance Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (z) Sexual abuse of a minor student by a person in a position of authority. -- A prosecution for a misdemeanor offense under § 3-308(c) of the Criminal Law Article shall be instituted within 3 years after the offense was committed.
- (aa) Offenses in Anne Arundel County relating to environmental protection or natural resource conservation. --
  - (1) This subsection applies in Anne Arundel County to an offense that:
- (i) Occurs in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, as defined in § 8-1807 of the Natural Resources Article; and
- (ii) Is a violation of a local law that relates to environmental protection or natural resource conservation, including a local law regulating:
  - 1. Grading;
  - 2. Sediment control;
  - 3. Stormwater management;
  - 4. Zoning;
  - 5. Construction; or

- 6. Health and public safety.
- (2) A prosecution for an offense described in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be instituted within 3 years after the commission of the offense.

### **COMMON LAW**

Smallwood v. State, 51 Md.App. 463, 467, 443 A.2d 1003, 1006 (Md.Ct.Spec.App.1982). Maryland has no statute prescribing the time in which a prosecution for a felony must be commenced. When, as here, there is no such statute, we turn to the common law in order to ascertain the applicable period of limitations, if any. The reason for our turning to the common law is found in the State Constitution. There, in Article 5 of the Declaration of Rights, Constitution of Maryland, it is mandated "[t]hat the Inhabitants of Maryland are entitled to the Common Law of England" and acts of Parliament as they existed on July 4, 1776. HN4"At common law, criminal proceedings may be instituted at any time during the life of an offender." Hochheimer, Law of Crimes and Criminal Procedure § 87 (1897); 1 Wharton, Criminal Law (14th Ed. 1978) § 90. Accord, Clark & Marshall, The Law of Crimes § 6.20 (7th Ed. 1967). See also *Archer v. State*, 145 Md. 128, 138, 125 A. 744, 750 (1924).

### **MASSACHUSETTS**

### Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 277, § 63 (2012). General provisions

An indictment for murder may be found at any time after the death of the person alleged to have been murdered. An indictment or complaint for an offense set forth in section 13B, 13B 1/2, 13B 3/4, 13F, 13L, 22A, 22B, 22C, 23, 23A, 23B, 24B or subsection (b) of section 50 of chapter 265, for conspiracy to commit any of these offenses, as an accessory thereto, or any 1 or more of them may be found and filed at any time after the date of the commission of such offense; but any indictment or complaint found and filed more than 27 years after the date of commission of such offense shall be supported by independent evidence that corroborates the victim's allegation. Such independent evidence shall be admissible during trial and shall not consist exclusively of the opinions of mental health professionals. An indictment for an offense set forth in sections 22, 24 or subsection (a) of section 50 of chapter 265, or for conspiracy to commit either of these offenses or as an accessory thereto or any 1 or more of them may be found and filed within 15 years of the date of commission of such offense. An indictment for an offense set forth in sections 17, 18, 19 and 21 of said chapter 265 or section 17 of chapter 272, for conspiracy to commit any such crime, as an accessory thereto, or any 1 or more of them may be found and filed within 10 years after the date of commission of such offense. An indictment for any other crime shall be found and filed within 6 years after such crime has been committed. Any period during which the defendant is not usually and publicly a resident within the commonwealth shall be excluded in determining the time limited.

Notwithstanding the first paragraph, if a victim of a crime set forth in section 13B, 13F, 13H, 22, 22A, 23, 24B, 26A or 50 of chapter 265, or section 1, 2, 3, 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 26, 28, 29A, 29B, 33, 34, 35 or 35A of chapter 272 is under the age of 16 at the time the crime is

committed, the period of limitation for prosecution shall not commence until the victim has reached the age of 16 or the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency, whichever occurs earlier.

### **MICHIGAN**

# MICH. COMP. LAWS § 767.24 (2012). Time limitations for finding and filing indictments; extension and tolling

- Sec. 24. (1) An indictment for murder, conspiracy to commit murder, solicitation to commit murder, criminal sexual conduct in the first degree, or a violation of the Michigan anti-terrorism act, chapter LXXXIII-A of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.543a to 750.543z, or a violation of chapter XXXIII of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.200 to 750.212a, that is punishable by life imprisonment may be found and filed at any time.
- (2) An indictment for a violation or attempted violation of section 145c, 520c, 520d, 520e, or 520g of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.145c, 750.520c, 750.520d, 750.520e, and 750.520g, may be found and filed as follows:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), an indictment may be found and filed within 10 years after the offense is committed or by the alleged victim's twenty-first birthday, whichever is later.
- (b) If evidence of the violation is obtained and that evidence contains DNA that is determined to be from an unidentified individual, an indictment against that individual for the violation may be found and filed at any time after the offense is committed. However, after the individual is identified, the indictment may be found and filed within 10 years after the individual is identified or by the alleged victim's twenty-first birthday, whichever is later.
- (c) As used in this subsection:
- (i) "DNA" means human deoxyribonucleic acid.
- (ii) "Identified" means the individual's legal name is known and he or she has been determined to be the source of the DNA.
- (3) An indictment for kidnapping, extortion, assault with intent to commit murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, or first-degree home invasion may be found and filed within 10 years after the offense is committed.
- (4) An indictment for identity theft or attempted identity theft may be found and filed as follows:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), an indictment may be found and filed within 6 years after the offense is committed.
- (b) If evidence of the violation is obtained and the individual who committed the offense has not

been identified, an indictment may be found and filed at any time after the offense is committed, but not more than 6 years after the individual is identified.

- (c) As used in this subsection:
- (i) "Identified" means the individual's legal name is known.
- (ii) "Identity theft" means 1 or more of the following:
- (A) Conduct prohibited in section 5 or 7 of the identity theft protection act, 2004 PA 452, MCL 445.65 and 445.67.
- (B) Conduct prohibited under former section 285 of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328.
- (5) An indictment for false pretenses involving real property, forgery or uttering and publishing of an instrument affecting an interest in real property, or mortgage fraud may be found and filed within 10 years after the offense was committed or within 10 years after the instrument affecting real property was recorded, whichever occurs later.
- (6) All other indictments may be found and filed within 6 years after the offense is committed.
- (7) Any period during which the party charged did not usually and publicly reside within this state is not part of the time within which the respective indictments may be found and filed.
- (8) The extension or tolling, as applicable, of the limitations period provided in this section applies to any of those violations for which the limitations period has not expired at the time the extension or tolling takes effect.

### **MINNESOTA**

### MINN. STAT. § 628.26 (2012). Limitations

- (a) Indictments or complaints for any crime resulting in the death of the victim may be found or made at any time after the death of the person killed.
- (b) Indictments or complaints for a violation of section 609.25 may be found or made at any time after the commission of the offense.
- (c) Indictments or complaints for violation of section 609.282 may be found or made at any time after the commission of the offense if the victim was under the age of 18 at the time of the offense.
- (d) Indictments or complaints for violation of section 609.282 where the victim was 18 years of

age or older at the time of the offense, or 609.42, subdivision 1, clause (1) or (2), shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within six years after the commission of the offense.

- (e) Indictments or complaints for violation of sections 609.342 to 609.345 if the victim was under the age of 18 years at the time the offense was committed, shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within the later of nine years after the commission of the offense or three years after the offense was reported to law enforcement authorities.
- (f) Notwithstanding the limitations in paragraph (e), indictments or complaints for violation of sections 609.342 to 609.344 may be found or made and filed in the proper court at any time after commission of the offense, if physical evidence is collected and preserved that is capable of being tested for its DNA characteristics. If this evidence is not collected and preserved and the victim was 18 years old or older at the time of the offense, the prosecution must be commenced within nine years after the commission of the offense.
- (g) Indictments or complaints for violation of sections 609.466 and 609.52, subdivision 2, clause (3), item (iii), shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within six years after the commission of the offense
- (h) Indictments or complaints for violation of section 609.2335, 609.52, subdivision 2, clause (3), items (i) and (ii), (4), (15), or (16), 609.631, or 609.821, where the value of the property or services stolen is more than \$35,000, shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within five years after the commission of the offense.
- (i) Except for violations relating to false material statements, representations or omissions, indictments or complaints for violations of section 609.671 shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within five years after the commission of the offense.
- (j) Indictments or complaints for violation of sections 609.561 to 609.563, shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within five years after the commission of the offense.
- (k) In all other cases, indictments or complaints shall be found or made and filed in the proper court within three years after the commission of the offense.
- (1) The limitations periods contained in this section shall exclude any period of time during which the defendant was not an inhabitant of or usually resident within this state.
- (m) The limitations periods contained in this section for an offense shall not include any period during which the alleged offender participated under a written agreement in a pretrial diversion program relating to that offense.
- (n) The limitations periods contained in this section shall not include any period of time during which physical evidence relating to the offense was undergoing DNA analysis, as defined in section 299C.155, unless the defendant demonstrates that the prosecuting or law enforcement agency purposefully delayed the DNA analysis process in order to gain an unfair advantage.

#### **MISSISSIPPI**

MISS. CODE ANN. § 99-1-5 (2010). Time limitation on prosecutions \*Severe Negative Treatment. Updating document below:

**2012** MISS. LAWS CH. **455** (S.B. **2539**) (Approved April 23, 2012)

Chapter No. 455 S.B. No. 2539

AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE GENERAL BURKS LAW; TO AMEND SECTION 99–1–5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE STATUTE OF LIMITATION FOR THE PROSECUTION OF FELONIOUS ABUSE OF VULNERABLE PERSONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. Section 99–1–5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

<< MS ST § 99– 1– 5 >>

99–1–5. The passage of time shall never bar prosecution against any person for the offenses of murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, arson, burglary, forgery, counterfeiting, robbery, larceny, rape, embezzlement, obtaining money or property under false pretenses or by fraud, felonious abuse or battery of a child as described in Section 97–5–39, touching or handling a child for lustful purposes as described in Section 97–5–23, sexual battery of a child as described in Section 97–3–95(1)(c), (d) or (2), or exploitation of children as described in Section 97–5–33. A person shall not be prosecuted for conspiracy, as described in Section 97– 1-1, \* \* \* for felonious assistance-program fraud, as described in Section 97-19-71, or for felonious abuse of vulnerable persons, as described in Sections 43–47–18 and 43–47–19, unless the prosecution for such offense be commenced within five (5) years next after the commission thereof. A person shall not be prosecuted for larceny of timber as described in Section 97–17– 59, unless the prosecution for such offense be commenced within six (6) years next after the commission thereof. A person shall not be prosecuted for any other offense not listed in this section unless the prosecution for such offense be commenced within two (2) years next after the commission thereof. Nothing contained in this section shall bar any prosecution against any person who shall abscond or flee from justice, or shall absent himself from this state or out of the jurisdiction of the court, or so conduct himself that he cannot be found by the officers of the law, or that process cannot be served upon him.

SECTION 2. [Effective date] This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2012.

APPROVED April 23, 2012

MS LEGIS 455 (2012)

### **MISSOURI**

# Mo. Rev. Stat. § 556.037 (2012). Time limitations for prosecutions for sexual offenses involving a person under eighteen

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 556.036, prosecutions for unlawful sexual offenses involving a person eighteen years of age or under must be commenced within twenty years after the victim reaches the age of eighteen unless the prosecutions are for forcible rape, attempted forcible rape, forcible sodomy, kidnapping, or attempted forcible sodomy in which case such prosecutions may be commenced at any time.

### **MONTANA**

### MONT. CODE ANN. § 45-1-205 (2011). General time limitations.

- (1)(a) A prosecution for deliberate, mitigated, or negligent homicide may be commenced at any time.
- (b) Except as provided in subsection (9), a prosecution for a felony offense under 45-5-502, 45-5-503, or 45-5-507(4) or (5) may be commenced within 10 years after it is committed, except that it may be commenced within 10 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age if the victim was less than 18 years of age at the time that the offense occurred. A prosecution for a misdemeanor offense under those provisions may be commenced within 1 year after the offense is committed, except that it may be commenced within 5 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age if the victim was less than 18 years of age at the time that the offense occurred.
- (c) Except as provided in subsection (9), a prosecution under 45-5-504, 45-5-505, 45-5-507(1), (2), (3), or (6), 45-5-625, or 45-5-627 may be commenced within 5 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age if the victim was less than 18 years of age at the time that the offense occurred.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (7)(b) or as otherwise provided by law, prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitation:
- (a) A prosecution for a felony must be commenced within 5 years after it is committed.
- (b) A prosecution for a misdemeanor must be commenced within 1 year after it is committed.
- (3) The periods prescribed in subsection (2) are extended in a prosecution for theft involving a breach of fiduciary obligation to an aggrieved person as follows:
- (a) if the aggrieved person is a minor or incompetent, during the minority or incompetency or within 1 year after the termination of the minority or incompetency;
- (b) in any other instance, within 1 year after the discovery of the offense by the aggrieved person or by a person who has legal capacity to represent an aggrieved person or has a legal duty to report the offense and is not personally a party to the offense or, in the absence of discovery, within 1 year after the prosecuting officer becomes aware of the offense.
- (4) The period prescribed in subsection (2) must be extended in a prosecution for unlawful use of a computer, and prosecution must be brought within 1 year after the discovery of the offense by the aggrieved person or by a person who has legal capacity to represent an aggrieved person or has a legal duty to report the offense and is not personally a party to the offense or, in the absence of discovery, within 1 year after the prosecuting officer becomes aware of the offense.
- (5) The period prescribed in subsection (2) is extended in a prosecution for misdemeanor fish and wildlife violations under Title 87, and prosecution must be brought within 3 years after an offense is committed.

- (6) The period prescribed in subsection (2)(b) is extended in a prosecution for misdemeanor violations of the laws regulating the activities of outfitters and guides under Title 37, chapter 47, and prosecution must be brought within 3 years after an offense is committed.
- (7)(a) An offense is committed either when every element occurs or, when the offense is based upon a continuing course of conduct, at the time when the course of conduct is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (b) A prosecution for theft under 45-6-301 may be commenced at any time during the 5 years following the date of the theft, whether or not the offender is in possession of or otherwise exerting unauthorized control over the property at the time the prosecution is commenced. After the 5-year period ends, a prosecution may be commenced at any time if the offender is still in possession of or otherwise exerting unauthorized control over the property, except that the prosecution must be commenced within 1 year after the investigating officer discovers that the offender still possesses or is otherwise exerting unauthorized control over the property.
- (8) A prosecution is commenced either when an indictment is found or an information or complaint is filed.
- (9) If a suspect is conclusively identified by DNA testing after a time period prescribed in subsection (1)(b) or (1)(c) has expired, a prosecution may be commenced within 1 year after the suspect is conclusively identified by DNA testing.
- (10) A prosecution for reckless driving resulting in death may be commenced within 3 years after the offense is committed.
- (11) A prosecution of careless driving resulting in death may be commenced within 3 years after the offense is committed.

#### **NEBRASKA**

NEB. REV. STAT. § 29-110 (2012). Prosecutions; complaint, indictment, or information; filing; time limitations; exceptions

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be prosecuted for any felony unless the indictment is found by a grand jury within three years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for the same is filed before the magistrate within three years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any misdemeanor or other indictable offense below the grade of felony or for any fine or forfeiture under any penal statute unless the suit, information, or indictment for such offense is instituted or found within one year and six months from the time of committing the offense or incurring the fine or forfeiture or within one year for any offense the punishment of which is restricted by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars and to imprisonment not exceeding three months
- (3) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be prosecuted for kidnapping under section 28-313, false imprisonment under section 28-314 or 28-315, child abuse under section 28-707, pandering under section 28-802, debauching a minor under section 28-805, or an offense under section 28-813, 28-813.01, or 28-1463.03 when the victim is under sixteen years of age at the time of the offense (a) unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within seven years next after the offense has been committed or within seven years next after the victim's sixteenth birthday, whichever is later, or (b) unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within seven years next after the offense has been committed or within seven years next after the victim's sixteenth birthday, whichever is later, and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.
- (4) No person shall be prosecuted for a violation of the Securities Act of Nebraska under section 8-1117 unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within five years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within five years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.
- (5) No person shall be prosecuted for criminal impersonation under section 28-638, identity theft under section 28-639, or identity fraud under section 28-640 unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within five years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within five years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.

- (6) No person shall be prosecuted for a violation of section 68-1017 if the aggregate value of all funds and other benefits obtained or attempted to be obtained is five hundred dollars or more unless the indictment for such offense is found by a grand jury within five years next after the offense has been done or committed or unless a complaint for such offense is filed before the magistrate within five years next after the offense has been done or committed and a warrant for the arrest of the defendant has been issued.
- (7) There shall not be any time limitations for prosecution or punishment for treason, murder, arson, forgery, sexual assault in the first or second degree under section 28-319 or 28-320, sexual assault of a child in the second or third degree under section 28-320.01, incest under section 28-703, or sexual assault of a child in the first degree under section 28-319.01; nor shall there be any time limitations for prosecution or punishment for sexual assault in the third degree under section 28-320 when the victim is under sixteen years of age at the time of the offense.
- (8) The time limitations prescribed in this section shall include all inchoate offenses pursuant to the Nebraska Criminal Code and compounding a felony pursuant to section 28-301.
- (9) The time limitations prescribed in this section shall not extend to any person fleeing from justice.
- (10) When any suit, information, or indictment for any crime or misdemeanor is limited by any statute to be brought or exhibited within any other time than is limited by this section, then the suit, information, or indictment shall be brought or exhibited within the time limited by such statute.
- (11) If any suit, information, or indictment is quashed or the proceedings set aside or reversed on writ of error, the time during the pendency of such suit, information, or indictment so quashed, set aside, or reversed shall not be reckoned within this statute so as to bar any new suit, information, or indictment for the same offense.

- (12) The changes made to this section by Laws 2004, LB 943, shall apply to offenses committed prior to April 16, 2004, for which the statute of limitations has not expired as of such date and to offenses committed on or after such date.
- (13) The changes made to this section by Laws 2005, LB 713, shall apply to offenses committed prior to September 4, 2005, for which the statute of limitations has not expired as of such date and to offenses committed on or after such date.
- (14) The changes made to this section by Laws 2009, LB 97, and Laws 2006, LB 1199, shall apply to offenses committed prior to May 21, 2009, for which the statute of limitations has not expired as of such date and to offenses committed on or after such date.
- (15) The changes made to this section by Laws 2010, LB 809, shall apply to offenses committed prior to July 15, 2010, for which the statute of limitations has not expired as of such date and to offenses committed on or after such date.

#### **NEVADA**

# NEV. REV. STAT. § 171.083 (2011). No limitation for sexual assault if written report filed with law enforcement officer during period of limitation; effect of disability on period of limitation

- 1. If, at any time during the period of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085 and 171.095, a victim of a sexual assault or a person authorized to act on behalf of a victim of a sexual assault files with a law enforcement officer a written report concerning the sexual assault, the period of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085 and 171.095 is removed and there is no limitation of the time within which a prosecution for the sexual assault must be commenced.
- 2. If a written report is filed with a law enforcement officer pursuant to subsection 1, the law enforcement officer shall provide a copy of the written report to the victim or the person authorized to act on behalf of the victim.
- 3. If a victim of a sexual assault is under a disability during any part of the period of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085 and 171.095 and a written report concerning the sexual assault is not otherwise filed pursuant to subsection 1, the period during which the victim is under the

disability must be excluded from any calculation of the period of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085 and 171.095.

- 4. For the purposes of this section, a victim of a sexual assault is under a disability if the victim is insane, mentally retarded, mentally incompetent or in a medically comatose or vegetative state.
- 5. As used in this section, "law enforcement officer" means:
- (a) A prosecuting attorney;
- (b) A sheriff of a county or the sheriff's deputy;
- (c) An officer of a metropolitan police department or a police department of an incorporated city; or
- (d) Any other person upon whom some or all of the powers of a peace officer are conferred pursuant to NRS 289.150 to 289.360, inclusive.

# NEV. REV. STAT. § 171.084 (2011). Limitation for kidnapping or attempted murder extended if written report filed with law enforcement officer during period of limitation

- 1. If, at any time during the period of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085 and 171.095, a victim of kidnapping or attempted murder, or a person authorized to act on behalf of such a victim, files with a law enforcement officer a written report concerning the offense, the period of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085 and 171.095 is extended for 5 years.
- 2. If a written report is filed with a law enforcement officer pursuant to subsection 1, the law enforcement officer shall provide a copy of the written report to the victim or the person authorized to act on behalf of the victim.
- 3. As used in this section, "law enforcement officer" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 171.083.

### NEV. REV. STAT. § 171.085 (2010). Limitations for felonies

Except as otherwise provided in NRS 171.080, 171.083, 171.084 and 171.095, an indictment for:

1. Theft, robbery, burglary, forgery, arson, sexual assault, a violation of NRS 90.570, a violation punishable pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 3 of NRS 598.0999 or a violation of NRS 205.377 must be found, or an information or complaint filed, within 4 years after the commission of the offense.

2. Any felony other than the felonies listed in subsection 1 must be found, or an information or complaint filed, within 3 years after the commission of the offense.

# NEV. REV. STAT. § 171.090 (2011). Limitations for gross and simple misdemeanors

Except as otherwise provided in NRS 171.095, 202.885 and 624.800, an indictment for:

- 1. A gross misdemeanor must be found, or an information or complaint filed, within 2 years after the commission of the offense.
- 2. Any other misdemeanor must be found, or an information or complaint filed, within 1 year after the commission of the offense.

# NEV. REV. STAT. § 171.095 (2011). Limitations for offenses committed in secret manner, offenses constituting sexual abuse of child and offenses regarding personal identifying information

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and NRS 171.083 and 171.084:
- (a) If a felony, gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor is committed in a secret manner, an indictment for the offense must be found, or an information or complaint filed, within the periods of limitation prescribed in NRS 171.085, 171.090 and 624.800 after the discovery of the offense, unless a longer period is allowed by paragraph (b) or (c) or the provisions of NRS 202.885.
- (b) An indictment must be found, or an information or complaint filed, for any offense constituting sexual abuse of a child, as defined in NRS 432B. 100, before the victim of the sexual abuse is:
- (1) Twenty-one years old if the victim discovers or reasonably should have discovered that he or she was a victim of the sexual abuse by the date on which the victim reaches that age; or
- (2) Twenty-eight years old if the victim does not discover and reasonably should not have discovered that he or she was a victim of the sexual abuse by the date on which the victim reaches 21 years of age.
- (c) If a felony is committed pursuant to NRS 205.461 to 205.4657, inclusive, against a victim who is less than 18 years of age at the time of the commission of the offense, an indictment for the offense must be found, or an information or complaint filed, within 4 years after the victim discovers or reasonably should have discovered the offense.
- 2. If any indictment found, or an information or complaint filed, within the time prescribed in subsection 1 is defective so that no judgment can be given thereon, another prosecution may be instituted for the same offense within 6 months after the first is abandoned.

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

### N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. § 625:8 (2012). Limitations.

- I. Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions are subject to the following periods of limitations:
- (a) For a class A felony, 6 years;
- (b) For a class B felony, 6 years;
- (c) For a misdemeanor, one year;
- (d) For a violation, 3 months.
- (e) For an offense defined by RSA 282-A, 6 years.
- II. Murder may be prosecuted at any time.

II-a. [Repealed.]

- III. If the period prescribed in paragraph I has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced:
- (a) Within one year after its discovery by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a duty to represent such person and who is himself not a party to the offense for a theft where possession of the property was lawfully obtained and subsequently misappropriated or for any offense, a material element of which is either fraud or a breach of fiduciary duty.
- (b) For any offense based upon misconduct in office by a public servant, at any time when the defendant is in public office or within 2 years thereafter.
- (c) For any offense under RSA 208, RSA 210, or RSA 215, within 3 years thereafter.
- (d) For any offense under RSA 632-A or for an offense under RSA 639:2, where the victim was under 18 years of age when the alleged offense occurred, within 22 years of the victim's eighteenth birthday.
- (e) For any offense where destruction or falsification of evidence, witness tampering, or other unlawful conduct delayed discovery of the offense, within one year of the discovery of the offense.
- (f) For any offense under RSA 153:24 and RSA 153:5, the state fire code, within one year of its discovery.

- (g) For any offense under RSA 641:1 through 641:7, if committed with the purpose to assist in a murder, to conceal a murder, or to conceal or hinder the investigation or apprehension of an individual responsible for murder, at any time.
- <[Paragraph III(h) effective January 1, 2013.>
- (h) For any violation-level offense involving a motor vehicle accident resulting in death or serious bodily injury, within 6 months of the accident.
- IV. Time begins to run on the day after all elements of an offense have occurred or, in the case of an offense comprised of a continuous course of conduct, on the day after that conduct or the defendant's complicity therein terminates.
- V. A prosecution is commenced on the day when a warrant or other process is issued, an indictment returned, or an information is filed, whichever is the earliest.
- VI. The period of limitations does not run:
- (a) During any time when the accused is continuously absent from the state or has no reasonably ascertained place of abode or work within this state; or
- (b) During any time when a prosecution is pending against the accused in this state based on the same conduct.

### **NEW JERSEY**

### N.J. REV. STAT. § 2C:1-6 (2012). Time limitations

- a. (1) A prosecution for any offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:11-3, N.J.S.2C:11-4, N.J.S.2C:14-2 or sections 1 through 5 of P.L.2002, c. 26 (C.2C:38-1 through C.2C:38-5) may be commenced at any time.
- (2) A prosecution for any offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:17-2, section 9 of P.L.1970, c. 39 (C.13:1E-9), section 20 of P.L.1989, c. 34 (C.13:1E-48.20), section 19 of P.L.1954, c. 212 (C.26:2C-19), section 10 of P.L.1984, c. 173 (C.34:5A-41), or section 10 of P.L.1977, c. 74 (C.58:10A-10) may be commenced at any time.
- b. Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions for other offenses are subject to the following periods of limitations:
- (1) A prosecution for a crime must be commenced within five years after it is committed;

- (2) A prosecution for a disorderly persons offense or petty disorderly persons offense must be commenced within one year after it is committed;
- (3) A prosecution for any offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:27-2, N.J.S.2C:27-4, N.J.S.2C:27-6, N.J.S.2C:27-7, N.J.S.2C:29-4, N.J.S.2C:30-2, N. J.S.2C:30-3, or any attempt or conspiracy to commit such an offense, must be commenced within seven years after the commission of the offense;
- (4) A prosecution for an offense set forth in N.J.S.2C:14-3 or N.J.S.2C:24-4, when the victim at the time of the offense is below the age of 18 years, must be commenced within five years of the victim's attaining the age of 18 or within two years of the discovery of the offense by the victim, whichever is later;
- (5) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2007, c. 131).
- c. An offense is committed either when every element occurs or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed, except that when the prosecution is supported by physical evidence that identifies the actor by means of DNA testing or fingerprint analysis, time does not start to run until the State is in possession of both the physical evidence and the DNA or fingerprint evidence necessary to establish the identification of the actor by means of comparison to the physical evidence.
- d. A prosecution is commenced for a crime when an indictment is found and for a nonindictable offense when a warrant or other process is issued, provided that such warrant or process is executed without unreasonable delay. Nothing contained in this section, however, shall be deemed to prohibit the downgrading of an offense at any time if the prosecution of the greater offense was commenced within the statute of limitations applicable to the greater offense.
- e. The period of limitation does not run during any time when a prosecution against the accused for the same conduct is pending in this State.
- f. The limitations in this section shall not apply to any person fleeing from justice.
- g. Except as otherwise provided in this code, no civil action shall be brought pursuant to this code more than five years after such action accrues.

### **NEW MEXICO**

N.M. STAT. § 30-1-8 (2012). Time limitations for commencing prosecution

A person shall not be prosecuted, tried or punished in any court of this state unless the indictment is found or information or complaint is filed within the time as provided:

- A. for a second degree felony, within six years from the time the crime was committed;
- B. for a third or fourth degree felony, within five years from the time the crime was committed;
- C. for a misdemeanor, within two years from the time the crime was committed;
- D. for a petty misdemeanor, within one year from the time the crime was committed;
- E. for any crime against or violation of Section 51-1-38 NMSA 1978, within three years from the time the crime was committed;
- F. for a felony pursuant to Section 7-1-71.3, 7-1-72 or 7-1-73 NMSA 1978, within five years from the time the crime was committed; provided that for a series of crimes involving multiple filing periods within one calendar year, the limitation shall begin to run on December 31 of the year in which the crimes occurred;
- G. for an identity theft crime pursuant to Section 30-16-24.1 NMSA 1978, within five years from the time the crime was discovered:
- H. for any crime not contained in the Criminal Code or where a limitation is not otherwise provided for, within three years from the time the crime was committed; and
- I. for a capital felony or a first degree violent felony, no limitation period shall exist and prosecution for these crimes may commence at any time after the occurrence of the crime.

# N.M. STAT. § 30-1-9.1 (2012). Offenses against children; tolling of statute of limitations

The applicable time period for commencing prosecution pursuant to Section 30-1-8 NMSA 1978 shall not commence to run for an alleged violation of Section 30-6-1, 30-9-11 or 30-9-13 NMSA 1978 until the victim attains the age of eighteen or the violation is reported to a law enforcement agency, whichever occurs first.

### N.M. STAT. § 30-1-9.2 (2012). Criminal sexual penetration; tolling of statute of limitations

- A. When DNA evidence is available and a suspect has not been identified, the applicable time period for commencing a prosecution pursuant to Section 30-1-8 NMSA 1978 shall not commence to run for an alleged violation of Section 30-9-11 NMSA 1978 until a DNA profile is matched with a suspect.
- B. As used in this section, "DNA" means deoxyribonucleic acid."

#### **NEW YORK**

## N.Y. CRIM. PROC. LAW § 30.10 (2012). Timeliness of prosecutions; periods of limitation

- 1. A criminal action must be commenced within the period of limitation prescribed in the ensuing subdivisions of this section.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subdivision three:
- (a) A prosecution for a class A felony, or rape in the first degree as defined in section 130.35 of the penal law, or a crime defined or formerly defined in section 130.50 of the penal law, or aggravated sexual abuse in the first degree as defined in section 130.70 of the penal law, or course of sexual conduct against a child in the first degree as defined in section 130.75 of the penal law may be commenced at any time;
- (b) A prosecution for any other felony must be commenced within five years after the commission thereof;
- (c) A prosecution for a misdemeanor must be commenced within two years after the commission thereof;
- (d) A prosecution for a petty offense must be commenced within one year after the commission thereof.
- 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision two, the periods of limitation for the commencement of criminal actions are extended as follows in the indicated circumstances:
- (a) A prosecution for larceny committed by a person in violation of a fiduciary duty may be commenced within one year after the facts constituting such offense are discovered or, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have been discovered by the aggrieved party or by a person under a legal duty to represent him who is not himself implicated in the commission of the offense.
- (b) A prosecution for any offense involving misconduct in public office by a public servant may be commenced at any time during the defendant's service in such office or within five years after the termination of such service; provided however, that in no event shall the period of limitation be extended by more than five years beyond the period otherwise applicable under subdivision two.
- (c) A prosecution for any crime set forth in title twenty-seven or [FN1] article seventy-one of the environmental conservation law may be commenced within four years after the facts constituting

such crime are discovered or, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, should have been discovered by a public servant who has the responsibility to enforce the provisions of said title and article.

- (d) A prosecution for any misdemeanor set forth in the tax law or chapter forty-six of the administrative code of the city of New York must be commenced within three years after the commission thereof.
- (e) A prosecution for course of sexual conduct against a child in the second degree as defined in section 130.80 of the penal law may be commenced within five years of the commission of the most recent act of sexual conduct.
- (f) For purposes of a prosecution involving a sexual offense as defined in article one hundred thirty of the penal law, other than a sexual offense delineated in paragraph (a) of subdivision two of this section, committed against a child less than eighteen years of age, incest in the first, second or third degree as defined in sections 255.27, 255.26 and 255.25 of the penal law committed against a child less than eighteen years of age, or use of a child in a sexual performance as defined in section 263.05 of the penal law, the period of limitation shall not begin to run until the child has reached the age of eighteen or the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency or statewide central register of child abuse and maltreatment, whichever occurs earlier
- (g) A prosecution for any felony defined in article four hundred ninety of the penal law must be commenced within eight years after the commission thereof provided, however, that in a prosecution for a felony defined in article four hundred ninety of the penal law, if the commission of such felony offense resulted in, or created a foreseeable risk of, death or serious physical injury to another person, the prosecution may be commenced at any time; provided, however, that nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to shorten or otherwise lessen the period, defined in any other applicable law, in which a prosecution for a felony designated in this paragraph may be commenced.
- 4. In calculating the time limitation applicable to commencement of a criminal action, the following periods shall not be included:
- (a) Any period following the commission of the offense during which (i) the defendant was continuously outside this state or (ii) the whereabouts of the defendant were continuously unknown and continuously unascertainable by the exercise of reasonable diligence. However, in no event shall the period of limitation be extended by more than five years beyond the period otherwise applicable under subdivision two.
- (b) When a prosecution for an offense is lawfully commenced within the prescribed period of limitation therefor, and when an accusatory instrument upon which such prosecution is based is subsequently dismissed by an authorized court under directions or circumstances permitting the lodging of another charge for the same offense or an offense based on the same conduct, the period extending from the commencement of the thus defeated prosecution to the dismissal of

the accusatory instrument does not constitute a part of the period of limitation applicable to commencement of prosecution by a new charge.

### **NORTH CAROLINA**

\*No applicable statutes of limitation pertaining specifically to child victims.

#### **COMMON LAW**

*State v. Mallett*, 125 N.C. 718, 723, 34 S.E. 651, 652 (1899), *aff'd*, 181 U.S. 589, 21 S. Ct. 730 (1901).

"By the Act of 1891, North Carolina adopted the rule, now almost universally prevalent, by which the nature of the punishment determines the classification of offenses, those which may be punished capitally or by imprisonment in the penitentiary are felonies (as to which there is no statute of limitations), and all others are misdemeanors, as to which prosecutions in this State are barred by two years."

State v. Johnson, 275 N.C. 264, 271, 167 S.E.2d 274, 279 (1969).

"In this State no statute of limitations bars the prosecution of a felony." citing *State v. Burnett*, 184 N.C. 783, 115 S.E. 57.

### NORTH DAKOTA

# N.D. CENT. CODE § 29-04-02 (2011). Prosecution for felony other than murder within three years

Except as otherwise provided by law, a prosecution for any felony other than murder must be commenced within three years after its commission. Prosecution of felony offenses under chapter 12.1-23 must be commenced within the later of three years of commission of the last act that is an element of the offense, three years of discovery of the stolen property, or three years of discovery of the loss of the property or services. Nothing in this section prevents a person prosecuted for murder from being found guilty of any included offense and punished accordingly.

# N.D. CENT. CODE § 29-04-03 (2011). Prosecution for misdemeanor or infraction within two years

A prosecution of a misdemeanor or infraction, except as otherwise provided by law, must be commenced within two years after its commission. Prosecution of misdemeanor offenses under chapter 12.1-23 must be commenced within the later of two years of commission of the last act that is an element of the offense, two years of discovery of the stolen property, or two years of discovery of the loss of the property or services.

# N.D. CENT. CODE § 29-04-03.1 (2011). Prosecution for sexual abuse of minors

A prosecution for violation of sections 12.1-20-03 through 12.1-20-08 or of section 12.1-20-11 if the victim was under eighteen years of age at the time the offense was committed must be commenced in the proper court within seven years after the commission of the offense or, if the victim failed to report the offense within this limitation period, within three years after the offense was reported to law enforcement authorities.

### N.D. CENT. CODE § 29-04-03.2 (2011). Statute of limitations as to child victim

If the victim of a violation of chapter 12.1-20 is under the age of fifteen, the applicable period of limitation, if any, does not begin to run until the victim has reached the age of fifteen.

### **OHIO**

# OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 2901.13 (2011). Limitation of criminal prosecutions

- (A)(1) Except as provided in division (A)(2) or (3) of this section or as otherwise provided in this section, a prosecution shall be barred unless it is commenced within the following periods after an offense is committed:
- (a) For a felony, six years;
- (b) For a misdemeanor other than a minor misdemeanor, two years;
- (c) For a minor misdemeanor, six months.
- (2) There is no period of limitation for the prosecution of a violation of section 2903.01 or 2903.02 of the Revised Code.
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (B) to (H) of this section, a prosecution of any of the following offenses shall be barred unless it is commenced within twenty years after the offense is committed:
- (a) A violation of section 2903.03, 2903.04, 2905.01, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.21, 2909.02, 2909.22, 2909.23, 2909.24, 2909.26, 2909.27, 2909.28, 2909.29, 2911.01,

- 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, or 2917.02 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2903.11 or 2903.12 of the Revised Code if the victim is a peace officer, a violation of section 2903.13 of the Revised Code that is a felony, or a violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code;
- (b) A conspiracy to commit, attempt to commit, or complicity in committing a violation set forth in division (A)(3)(a) of this section.
- (B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) of this section, if the period of limitation provided in division (A)(1) or (3) of this section has expired, prosecution shall be commenced for an offense of which an element is fraud or breach of a fiduciary duty, within one year after discovery of the offense either by an aggrieved person, or by the aggrieved person's legal representative who is not a party to the offense.
- (2) If the period of limitation provided in division (A)(1) or (3) of this section has expired, prosecution for a violation of section 2913.49 of the Revised Code shall be commenced within five years after discovery of the offense either by an aggrieved person or the aggrieved person's legal representative who is not a party to the offense.
- (C)(1) If the period of limitation provided in division (A)(1) or (3) of this section has expired, prosecution shall be commenced for the following offenses during the following specified periods of time:
- (a) For an offense involving misconduct in office by a public servant, at any time while the accused remains a public servant, or within two years thereafter;
- (b) For an offense by a person who is not a public servant but whose offense is directly related to the misconduct in office of a public servant, at any time while that public servant remains a public servant, or within two years thereafter.
- (2) As used in this division:
- (a) An "offense is directly related to the misconduct in office of a public servant" includes, but is not limited to, a violation of section 101.71, 101.91, 121.61 or 2921.13, division (F) or (H) of section 102.03, division (A) of section 2921.02, division (A) or (B) of section 2921.43, or division (F) or (G) of section 3517.13 of the Revised Code, that is directly related to an offense involving misconduct in office of a public servant.
- (b) "Public servant" has the same meaning as in section 2921.01 of the Revised Code.
- (D) An offense is committed when every element of the offense occurs. In the case of an offense of which an element is a continuing course of conduct, the period of limitation does not begin to run until such course of conduct or the accused's accountability for it terminates, whichever occurs first.
- (E) A prosecution is commenced on the date an indictment is returned or an information filed, or on the date a lawful arrest without a warrant is made, or on the date a warrant, summons, citation, or other process is issued, whichever occurs first. A prosecution is not commenced by

the return of an indictment or the filing of an information unless reasonable diligence is exercised to issue and execute process on the same. A prosecution is not commenced upon issuance of a warrant, summons, citation, or other process, unless reasonable diligence is exercised to execute the same.

- (F) The period of limitation shall not run during any time when the corpus delicti remains undiscovered.
- (G) The period of limitation shall not run during any time when the accused purposely avoids prosecution. Proof that the accused departed this state or concealed the accused's identity or whereabouts is prima-facie evidence of the accused's purpose to avoid prosecution.
- (H) The period of limitation shall not run during any time a prosecution against the accused based on the same conduct is pending in this state, even though the indictment, information, or process that commenced the prosecution is quashed or the proceedings on the indictment, information, or process are set aside or reversed on appeal.
- (I) The period of limitation for a violation of any provision of Title XXIX of the Revised Code that involves a physical or mental wound, injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect of a child under eighteen years of age or of a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or physically impaired child under twenty-one years of age shall not begin to run until either of the following occurs:
- (1) The victim of the offense reaches the age of majority.
- (2) A public children services agency, or a municipal or county peace officer that is not the parent or guardian of the child, in the county in which the child resides or in which the abuse or neglect is occurring or has occurred has been notified that abuse or neglect is known, suspected, or believed to have occurred.
- (J) As used in this section, "peace officer" has the same meaning as in section 2935.01 of the Revised Code.

### **OKLAHOMA**

# OKLA. STAT. tit. 22, § 152 (2012). Statute of limitations

A. Prosecutions for the crimes of bribery, embezzlement of public money, bonds, securities, assets or property of the state or any county, school district, municipality or other subdivision thereof, or of any misappropriation of public money, bonds, securities, assets or property of the state or any county, school district, municipality or other subdivision thereof, falsification of public records of the state or any county, school district, municipality or other subdivision thereof, and conspiracy to defraud the State of Oklahoma or any county, school district, municipality or other subdivision thereof in any manner or for any purpose shall be commenced

within seven (7) years after the discovery of the crime; provided, however, prosecutions for the crimes of embezzlement or misappropriation of public money, bonds, securities, assets or property of any school district, including those relating to student activity funds, or the crime of falsification of public records of any independent school district, the crime of criminal conspiracy, the crime of embezzlement, pursuant to Sections 1451 through 1462 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the crime of False Personation or Identity Theft, pursuant to Sections 1531 through 1533.3 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, or the financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult, pursuant to Sections 843.1, 843.3 and 843.4 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, shall be commenced within five (5) years after the discovery of the crime.

- B. Prosecutions for criminal violations of any state income tax laws shall be commenced within five (5) years after the commission of such violation.
- C. 1. Prosecutions for the crime of rape or forcible sodomy, sodomy, lewd or indecent proposals or acts against children, involving minors in pornography pursuant to Section 886, 888, 1111, 1111.1, 1113, 1114, 1021.2, 1021.3 or 1123 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, child abuse pursuant to Section 843.5 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and child trafficking pursuant to Section 866 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be commenced within twelve (12) years after the discovery of the crime.
- 2. However, prosecutions for the crimes listed in paragraph 1 of this subsection may be commenced at any time after the commission of the offense if:
- a. the victim notified law enforcement within twelve (12) years after the discovery of the crime,
- b. physical evidence is collected and preserved that is capable of being tested to obtain a profile from deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), and
- c. the identity of the offender is subsequently established through the use of a DNA profile using evidence listed in subparagraph b of this paragraph.

A prosecution under this exception must be commenced within three (3) years from the date on which the identity of the suspect is established by DNA testing.

- D. Prosecutions for criminal violations of any provision of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Code [FN1] shall be commenced within three (3) years after the commission of such offense.
- E. Prosecutions for the crime of criminal fraud or workers' compensation fraud pursuant to Section 1541.1, 1541.2, 1662 or 1663 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall commence within three (3) years after the discovery of the crime, but in no event greater than seven (7) years after the commission of the crime.
- F. Prosecution for the crime of false or bogus check, Section 1541.1, 1541.2, 1541.3 or 1541.4 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, shall be commenced within five (5) years after the commission of such offense.

- G. Prosecution for the crime of solicitation for murder in the first degree pursuant to Section 701.16 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be commenced within seven (7) years after the discovery of the crime. For purposes of this subsection, "discovery" means the date upon which the crime is made known to anyone other than a person involved in the solicitation.
- H. In all other cases a prosecution for a public offense must be commenced within three (3) years after its commission.
- I. Prosecution for the crime of accessory after the fact must be commenced within the same statute of limitations as that of the felony for which the person acted as an accessory.
- J. Prosecution for the crime of arson pursuant to Section 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404 or 1405 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall be commenced within seven (7) years after the commission of the crime.
- K. Prosecutions for criminal violations in which a deadly weapon is used to commit a felony or prosecutions for criminal violations in which a deadly weapon is used in an attempt to commit a felony shall be commenced within seven (7) years after the commission of the crime.
- L. As used in paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section, "discovery" means the date that a physical or sexually related crime involving a victim under the age of eighteen (18) years of age is reported to a law enforcement agency, up to and including one (1) year from the eighteenth birthday of the child.

### **OREGON**

# OR. REV. STAT. § 131.125 (2012). Limitation periods for certain crimes

<Text subject to final change by the Oregon Office of the Legislative Counsel.>

- (1) A prosecution for aggravated murder, murder, attempted murder or aggravated murder, conspiracy or solicitation to commit aggravated murder or murder or any degree of manslaughter may be commenced at any time after the commission of the attempt, conspiracy or solicitation to commit aggravated murder or murder, or the death of the person killed.
- (2) A prosecution for any of the following felonies may be commenced within six years after the commission of the crime or, if the victim at the time of the crime was under 18 years of age, anytime before the victim attains 30 years of age or within 12 years after the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services, whichever occurs first:
- (a) Strangulation under ORS 163.187 (4).
- (b) Criminal mistreatment in the first degree under ORS 163.205.

- (c) Rape in the third degree under ORS 163.355.
- (d) Rape in the second degree under ORS 163.365.
- (e) Rape in the first degree under ORS 163.375.
- (f) Sodomy in the third degree under ORS 163.385.
- (g) Sodomy in the second degree under ORS 163.395.
- (h) Sodomy in the first degree under ORS 163.405.
- (i) Unlawful sexual penetration in the second degree under ORS 163.408.
- (j) Unlawful sexual penetration in the first degree under ORS 163.411.
- (k) Sexual abuse in the second degree under ORS 163.425.
- (L) Sexual abuse in the first degree under ORS 163.427.
- (m) Using a child in a display of sexual conduct under ORS 163.670.
- (n) Encouraging child sexual abuse in the first degree under ORS 163.684.
- (o) Incest under ORS 163.525.
- (p) Promoting prostitution under ORS 167.012.
- (q) Compelling prostitution under ORS 167.017.
- (r) Luring a minor under ORS 167.057.
- (3) A prosecution for any of the following misdemeanors may be commenced within four years after the commission of the crime or, if the victim at the time of the crime was under 18 years of age, anytime before the victim attains 22 years of age or within four years after the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency or the Department of Human Services, whichever occurs first:
- (a) Strangulation under ORS 163.187 (3).
- (b) Sexual abuse in the third degree under ORS 163.415.
- (c) Exhibiting an obscene performance to a minor under ORS 167.075.
- (d) Displaying obscene materials to minors under ORS 167.080.
- (4) In the case of crimes described in subsection (2)(m) of this section, the victim is the child

engaged in sexual conduct. In the case of the crime described in subsection (2)(o) of this section, the victim is the party to the incest other than the party being prosecuted. In the case of crimes described in subsection (2)(p) and (q) of this section, the victim is the child whose acts of prostitution are promoted or compelled.

- (5) A prosecution for arson in any degree may be commenced within six years after the commission of the crime.
- (6) A prosecution for any of the following felonies may be commenced within six years after the commission of the crime if the victim at the time of the crime was 65 years of age or older:
- (a) Theft in the first degree under ORS 164.055.
- (b) Aggravated theft in the first degree under ORS 164.057.
- (c) Theft by extortion under ORS 164.075.
- (d) Robbery in the third degree under ORS 164.395.
- (e) Robbery in the second degree under ORS 164.405.
- (f) Robbery in the first degree under ORS 164.415.
- (g) Forgery in the first degree under ORS 165.013.
- (h) Fraudulent use of a credit card under ORS 165.055 (4)(b).
- (i) Identity theft under ORS 165.800.
- (7) Except as provided in subsection (8) of this section or as otherwise expressly provided by law, prosecutions for other offenses must be commenced within the following periods of limitations after their commission:
- (a) For any other felony, three years.
- (b) For any misdemeanor, two years.
- (c) For a violation, six months.
- (8) If the period prescribed in subsection (7) of this section has expired, a prosecution nevertheless may be commenced as follows:
- (a) If the offense has as a material element either fraud or the breach of a fiduciary obligation, prosecution may be commenced within one year after discovery of the offense by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party and who is not a party to the offense, but in no case shall the period of limitation otherwise applicable be extended by more than three years;

- (b) If the offense is based upon misconduct in office by a public officer or employee, prosecution may be commenced at any time while the defendant is in public office or employment or within two years thereafter, but in no case shall the period of limitation otherwise applicable be extended by more than three years; or
- (c) If the offense is an invasion of personal privacy under ORS 163.700, prosecution may be commenced within one year after discovery of the offense by the person aggrieved by the offense, by a person who has a legal duty to represent the person aggrieved by the offense or by a law enforcement agency, but in no case shall the period of limitation otherwise applicable be extended by more than three years.
- (9) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, if the defendant is identified after the period described in subsection (2) of this section on the basis of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) sample comparisons, a prosecution for:
- (a) Rape in the first degree, sodomy in the first degree, unlawful sexual penetration in the first degree or sexual abuse in the first degree may be commenced at any time after the commission of the crime.
- (b) Rape in the second degree, sodomy in the second degree or unlawful sexual penetration in the second degree may be commenced within 25 years after the commission of the crime.
- (10) Notwithstanding subsection (9) of this section, if a prosecution for a felony listed in subsection (9) of this section would otherwise be barred by subsection (2) of this section, the prosecution must be commenced within two years of the DNA-based identification of the defendant.

### PENNSYLVANIA

# 18 PA. CONS. STAT. § 108 (2012). Time limitations

- (a) General rule.--Except as set forth in subsection (b), a prosecution for any offense under this title must be commenced within the period, if any, limited by Chapter 55 of Title 42 (relating to limitation of time).
- (b) Offenses against unborn child.
- (1) A prosecution for criminal homicide of an unborn child may be commenced at any time.
- (2) A prosecution for an offense under section 2606 (relating to aggravated assault of unborn child) must be commenced within five years after it is committed.

### 42 PA. CONS. STAT. § 5552 (2012). Other offenses

- (a) General rule.--Except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, a prosecution for an offense must be commenced within two years after it is committed.
- (b) Major offenses.--A prosecution for any of the following offenses must be commenced within five years after it is committed:
- (1) Under the following provisions of Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses):

Section 901 (relating to criminal attempt) involving attempt to commit murder where no murder occurs.

Section 902 (relating to criminal solicitation) involving solicitation to commit murder where no murder occurs.

Section 903 (relating to criminal conspiracy) involving conspiracy to commit murder where no murder occurs.

Section 911 (relating to corrupt organizations).

Section 2702 (relating to aggravated assault).

Section 2706 (relating to terroristic threats).

Section 2713 (relating to neglect of care-dependent person).

Section 2901 (relating to kidnapping).

Section 3301 (relating to arson and related offenses).

Section 3502 (relating to burglary).

Section 3701 (relating to robbery).

Section 3921 (relating to theft by unlawful taking or disposition) through section 3933 (relating to unlawful use of computer).

Section 4101 (relating to forgery).

Section 4107 (relating to deceptive or fraudulent business practices).

Section 4108 (relating to commercial bribery and breach of duty to act disinterestedly).

Section 4109 (relating to rigging publicly exhibited contest).

Section 4117 (relating to insurance fraud).

Section 4701 (relating to bribery in official and political matters) through section 4703 (relating to retaliation for past official action).

Section 4902 (relating to perjury) through section 4912 (relating to impersonating a public servant).

Section 4952 (relating to intimidation of witnesses or victims).

Section 4953 (relating to retaliation against witness, victim or party).

Section 5101 (relating to obstructing administration of law or other governmental function).

Section 5111 (relating to dealing in proceeds of unlawful activities).

Section 5512 (relating to lotteries, etc.) through section 5514 (relating to pool selling and bookmaking).

Section 5902(b) (relating to prostitution and related offenses).

Section 6111(g)(2) and (4) (relating to sale or transfer of firearms).

- (2) Any offense punishable under section 13(f) of the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L. 233, No. 64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. [FN1]
- (3) Any conspiracy to commit any of the offenses set forth in paragraphs (1) and (2) and any solicitation to commit any of the offenses in paragraphs (1) and (2) if the solicitation results in the completed offense.
- (4) Under the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L. 31, No. 21), known as the Public Welfare Code. [FN2]
- (5) Under the act of November 24, 1998 (P.L. 874, No. 110), known as the Motor Vehicle Chop Shop and Illegally Obtained and Altered Property Act. [FN3]
- (b.1) Major sexual offenses.--A prosecution for any of the following offenses under Title 18 must be commenced within 12 years after it is committed:

Section 3121 (relating to rape).

Section 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault).

Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse).

Section 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault).

Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault).

Section 4302 (relating to incest).

Section 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children).

- (c) Exceptions.--If the period prescribed in subsection (a), (b) or (b.1) has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for:
- (1) Any offense a material element of which is either fraud or a breach of fiduciary obligation within one year after discovery of the offense by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party and who is himself not a party to the offense, but in no case shall this paragraph extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than three years.
- (2) Any offense committed by a public officer or employee in the course of or in connection with his office or employment at any time when the defendant is in public office or employment or within five years thereafter, but in no case shall this paragraph extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than eight years.
- (3) Any sexual offense committed against a minor who is less than 18 years of age any time up to the later of the period of limitation provided by law after the minor has reached 18 years of age or the date the minor reaches 50 years of age. As used in this paragraph, the term "sexual offense" means a crime under the following provisions of Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses):

Section 3121 (relating to rape).

Section 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault).

Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse).

Section 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault).

Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault).

Section 3126 (relating to indecent assault).

Section 3127 (relating to indecent exposure).

Section 4302 (relating to incest).

Section 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children).

Section 6301 (relating to corruption of minors).

Section 6312(b) (relating to sexual abuse of children).

Section 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children).

- (4) An offense in violation of 18 Pa.C.S. § 6111(c) or (g), within one year of its discovery by State or local law enforcement, but in no case shall this paragraph extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than eight years.
- (c.1) Genetic identification evidence.--Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if evidence of a misdemeanor sexual offense set forth in subsection (c)(3) or a felony offense is obtained containing human deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) which is subsequently used to identify an otherwise unidentified individual as the perpetrator of the offense, the prosecution of the offense may be commenced within the period of limitations provided for the offense or one year after the identity of the individual is determined, whichever is later.
- (d) Commission of offense.--An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the complicity of the defendant therein is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (e) Commencement of prosecution.--Except as otherwise provided by general rule adopted pursuant to section 5503 (relating to commencement of matters), a prosecution is commenced either when an indictment is found or an information under section 8931(b) (relating to indictment and information) is issued, or when a warrant, summons or citation is issued, if such warrant, summons or citation is executed without unreasonable delay.

# 42 PA. CONS. STAT. § 5554 (2012). Tolling of statute

Except as provided by section 5553(e) (relating to disposition of proceedings within two years), the period of limitation does not run during any time when:

- (1) the accused is continuously absent from this Commonwealth or has no reasonably ascertainable place of abode or work within this Commonwealth;
- (2) a prosecution against the accused for the same conduct is pending in this Commonwealth; or
- (3) a child is under 18 years of age, where the crime involves injuries to the person of the child caused by the wrongful act, or neglect, or unlawful violence, or negligence of the child's parents or by a person responsible for the child's welfare, or any individual residing in the same home as the child, or a paramour of the child's parent.

# **RHODE ISLAND**

# R.I. GEN. LAWS § 12-12-17 (2012). Statute of limitations

- (a) There shall be no statute of limitations for the following offenses: treason against the state, any homicide, arson, first degree arson, second degree arson, third degree arson, burglary, counterfeiting, forgery, robbery, rape, first degree sexual assault, first degree child molestation sexual assault, second degree child molestation sexual assault, bigamy, manufacturing, selling, distribution or possession with intent to manufacture, sell or distribute a controlled substance under the Uniform Controlled Substance Act, chapter 28 of title 21, or any other offense for which the maximum penalty provided is life imprisonment.
- (b) The statute of limitations for the following offenses shall be ten (10) years: larceny under § 11-41-2 (receiving stolen goods), § 11-41-3 (embezzlement and fraudulent conversion), § 11-41-4 (obtaining property by false pretenses or personation), § 11-41-11 (embezzlement by bank officer or employee), § 11-41-12 (fraudulent conversion by agent or factor), and § 11-41-13 (obtaining signature by false pretenses), or any larceny which is punishable as a felony; any violation of chapter 7 of title 11 (bribery); any violation of § 11-18-1 (giving false document to agent, employee, or public official); perjury; any violation of chapter 42 of title 11 (threats and extortion); any violation of chapter 15 of title 7 (racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations); any violation of chapter 57 of title 11 (racketeer violence); or any violation of chapter 36 of title 6 (antitrust law).
- (c) The statute of limitations for any other criminal offense shall be three (3) years unless a longer statute of limitations is otherwise provided for in the general laws.
- (d) Any person who participates in any offense, either as a principal accessory, or conspirator shall be subject to the same statute of limitations as if the person had committed the substantive offense.
- (e) The statute of limitations for any violation of chapter 18.9 of title 23 (refuse disposal), chapter 19 of title 23 (solid waste management corporation), chapter 19.1 of title 23 (hazardous waste management), chapter 12 of title 46 (water pollution), and chapter 13 of title 46 (public drinking water supply) shall be seven (7) years from the time that the facts constituting the offense or violation shall have become known to law enforcement authorities, unless a longer statute of limitations is otherwise provided for in the general laws.

### SOUTH CAROLINA

# SUMMARY COURT JUDGES BENCH BOOK, SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

http://www.judicial.state.sc.us/summaryCourtBenchBook/indexCriminal.cfm "South Carolina does not have a general statute of limitations for criminal actions; however, in a few very rare instances, a period of limitations is incorporated in specific criminal statutes."

### SOUTH DAKOTA

# S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-22-1 (2012). Rape--Degrees--Felony--Statute of limitations

Rape is an act of sexual penetration accomplished with any person under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) If the victim is less than thirteen years of age; or
- (2) Through the use of force, coercion, or threats of immediate and great bodily harm against the victim or other persons within the victim's presence, accompanied by apparent power of execution; or
- (3) If the victim is incapable, because of physical or mental incapacity, of giving consent to such act; or
- (4) If the victim is incapable of giving consent because of any intoxicating, narcotic, or anesthetic agent or hypnosis; or
- (5) If the victim is thirteen years of age, but less than sixteen years of age, and the perpetrator is at least three years older than the victim.

A violation of subdivision (1) of this section is rape in the first degree, which is a Class C felony. A violation of subdivision (2) of this section is rape in the second degree which is a Class 1 felony. A violation of subdivision (3) or (4) of this section is rape in the third degree, which is a Class 2 felony. A violation of subdivision (5) of this section is rape in the fourth degree, which is a Class 3 felony. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 23A-42-2, no statute of limitations applies to any charge brought pursuant to subdivisions (1) or (2) of this section. Otherwise a charge brought pursuant to this section may be commenced at any time prior to the time the victim becomes of age twenty-five or within seven years of the commission of the crime, whichever is longer.

# S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 22-22-7 (2012). Sexual contact with a person under sixteen – Felony or misdemeanor

Any person, sixteen years of age or older, who knowingly engages in sexual contact with another person, other than that person's spouse if the other person is under the age of sixteen years is guilty of a Class 3 felony. If the victim is at least thirteen years of age and the actor is less than five years older than the victim, the actor is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. Notwithstanding § 23A-42-2, a charge brought pursuant to this section may be commenced at any time before the victim becomes age twenty-five or within seven years of the commission of the crime, whichever is longer.

### S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 23A-42-1 (2012). No limitation on certain felonies.

There is no limitation on the time within which a prosecution for Class A, Class B, or Class C felony must be commenced.

### **TENNESSEE**

TENN. CODE ANN. § 40-2-101 (2010). Felonies \*Severe Negative Treatment. Updating document below:

### 2012 TENNESSEE LAWS PUB. CH. 1027 (H.B. 2278) (Approved May 15, 2012)

Pub. Ch. 1027 H.B. No. 2278

CRIMES AND OFFENSES--LIMITATION OF ACTIONS--CHILDREN AND MINORS

By Representatives Floyd, Maggart, Gilmore, Hardaway, Parkinson, Lollar, Moore

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2182

By Senators Watson, Burks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 2, relative to certain crimes committed against children.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40–2–101, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

<< TN ST § 40– 2– 101 >>

(j) A person may be prosecuted, tried and punished for any offense committed against a child on or after July 1, 2012, that constitutes a criminal offense under the provisions of § 39–17–902, § 39–17–1003, § 39–17–1004, or § 39–17–1005, no later than twenty-five (25) years from the date the child becomes eighteen (18) years of age.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.

Approved this 15th day of May, 2012

TN LEGIS 1027 (2012)

### **TEXAS**

# TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC. ANN. art. 12.01 (2011). Felonies

Except as provided in Article 12.03, felony indictments may be presented within these limits, and not afterward:

- (1) no limitation:
- (A) murder and manslaughter;
- (B) sexual assault under Section 22.011(a)(2), Penal Code, or aggravated sexual assault under Section 22.021(a)(1)(B), Penal Code;
- (C) sexual assault, if during the investigation of the offense biological matter is collected and subjected to forensic DNA testing and the testing results show that the matter does not match the victim or any other person whose identity is readily ascertained;
- (D) continuous sexual abuse of young child or children under Section 21.02, Penal Code;
- (E) indecency with a child under Section 21.11, Penal Code;
- (F) an offense involving leaving the scene of an accident under Section 550.021, Transportation Code, if the accident resulted in the death of a person; or
- <Text of subd. (1)(G), as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 1 (S.B. 24), § 2.03>
- (G) trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02(a)(7) or (8), Penal Code;
- <Text of subd. (1)(G), as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 122 (H.B. 3000), § 2>
- (G) continuous trafficking of persons under Section 20A.03, Penal Code;
- (2) ten years from the date of the commission of the offense:
- (A) theft of any estate, real, personal or mixed, by an executor, administrator, guardian or trustee, with intent to defraud any creditor, heir, legatee, ward, distributee, beneficiary or settlor of a trust interested in such estate;
- (B) theft by a public servant of government property over which he exercises control in his official capacity;
- (C) forgery or the uttering, using or passing of forged instruments;
- (D) injury to an elderly or disabled individual punishable as a felony of the first degree under Section 22.04, Penal Code;

- (E) sexual assault, except as provided by Subdivision (1);
- (F) arson;
- (G) trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02(a)(1), (2), (3), or (4), Penal Code; or
- (H) compelling prostitution under Section 43.05(a)(1), Penal Code;
- (3) seven years from the date of the commission of the offense:
- (A) misapplication of fiduciary property or property of a financial institution;
- (B) securing execution of document by deception;
- (C) a felony violation under Chapter 162, Tax Code;
- (D) false statement to obtain property or credit under Section 32.32, Penal Code;
- (E) money laundering;
- (F) credit card or debit card abuse under Section 32.31, Penal Code;
- (G) fraudulent use or possession of identifying information under Section 32.51, Penal Code; or
- <Text of subd. (3)(H), as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 222 (H.B. 253), § 1>
- (H) bigamy under Section 25.01, Penal Code, except as provided by Subdivision (6);
- <Text of subd. (3)(H), as added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 620 (S.B. 688), § 1>
- (H) Medicaid fraud under Section 35A.02, Penal Code;
- (4) five years from the date of the commission of the offense:
- (A) theft or robbery;
- (B) except as provided by Subdivision (5), kidnapping or burglary;
- (C) injury to an elderly or disabled individual that is not punishable as a felony of the first degree under Section 22.04, Penal Code;
- (D) abandoning or endangering a child; or
- (E) insurance fraud;
- (5) if the investigation of the offense shows that the victim is younger than 17 years of age at the

time the offense is committed, 20 years from the 18th birthday of the victim of one of the following offenses:

- (A) sexual performance by a child under Section 43.25, Penal Code;
- (B) aggravated kidnapping under Section 20.04(a)(4), Penal Code, if the defendant committed the offense with the intent to violate or abuse the victim sexually; or
- (C) burglary under Section 30.02, Penal Code, if the offense is punishable under Subsection (d) of that section and the defendant committed the offense with the intent to commit an offense described by Subdivision (1)(B) or (D) of this article or Paragraph (B) of this subdivision;
- <Text of subd. (6), as amended by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 1 (S.B. 24), § 2.03>
- (6) ten years from the 18th birthday of the victim of the offense:
- (A) trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02(a)(5) or (6), Penal Code;
- (B) injury to a child under Section 22.04, Penal Code; or
- (C) compelling prostitution under Section 43.05(a)(2), Penal Code; or
- <Text of subd. (6), as amended by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., ch. 222 (H.B. 253), § 1>
- (6) ten years from the 18th birthday of the victim of the offense:
- (A) injury to a child under Section 22.04, Penal Code; or
- (B) bigamy under Section 25.01, Penal Code, if the investigation of the offense shows that the person, other than the legal spouse of the defendant, whom the defendant marries or purports to marry or with whom the defendant lives under the appearance of being married is younger than 18 years of age at the time the offense is committed; or
- (7) three years from the date of the commission of the offense: all other felonies.

### UTAH

# UTAH CODE ANN. § 76-1-301 (2012). Offenses for which prosecution may be commenced at any time

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, prosecution for the following offenses may be commenced at any time:

(1) capital felony;

(2) aggravated murder;
(3) murder;
(4) manslaughter;
(5) child abuse homicide;
(6) aggravated kidnapping;
(7) child kidnapping;
(8) rape;
(9) rape of a child;
(10) object rape;
(11) object rape of a child;
(12) forcible sodomy;
(13) sodomy on a child;
(14) sexual abuse of a child;
(15) aggravated sexual abuse of a child; or
(16) aggravated sexual assault.

# UTAH CODE ANN. § 76-1-302 (2012). Time limitations for prosecution of offenses -- Provisions if DNA evidence would identify the defendant -- Commencement of prosecution

- (1) Except as otherwise provided, a prosecution for:
- (a) a felony or negligent homicide shall be commenced within four years after it is committed, except that prosecution for:
- (i) forcible sexual abuse shall be commenced within eight years after the offense is committed, if within four years after its commission the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency; and
- (ii) incest shall be commenced within eight years after the offense is committed, if within four years after its commission the offense is reported to a law enforcement agency;
- (b) a misdemeanor other than negligent homicide shall be commenced within two years after it is committed; and
- (c) any infraction shall be commenced within one year after it is committed.
- (2)(a) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), prosecution for the offenses listed in Subsections 76-3-203.5(1)(c)(i)(A) through (BB) may be commenced at any time if the identity of the person who committed the crime is unknown but DNA evidence is collected that would identify the person at a later date.
- (b) Subsection (2)(a) does not apply if the statute of limitations on a crime has run as of May 5, 2003, and no charges have been filed.
- (3) If the statute of limitations would have run but for the provisions of Subsection (2) and identification of a perpetrator is made through DNA, a prosecution shall be commenced within one year of the discovery of the identity of the perpetrator.
- (4) A prosecution is commenced upon:
- (a) the finding and filing of an indictment by a grand jury;
- (b) the filing of a complaint or information; or
- (c) the issuance of a citation.

### VERMONT

# VT. STAT. ANN. tit. 13, § 4501 (2012). Limitation of prosecutions for certain felonies

- (a) Prosecutions for aggravated sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault of a child, human trafficking, aggravated human trafficking, murder, arson causing death, and kidnapping may be commenced at any time after the commission of the offense.
- (b) Prosecutions for manslaughter, sexual assault, lewd and lascivious conduct, sexual exploitation of children, sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult, grand larceny, robbery, burglary, embezzlement, forgery, bribery offenses, false claims, fraud under 33 V.S.A. § 141(d), and felony tax offenses shall be commenced within six years after the commission of the offense, and not after.
- (c) Prosecutions for sexual assault, lewd and lascivious conduct, sexual exploitation of a minor as defined in subsection 3258(b) of this title, and lewd or lascivious conduct with a child, alleged to have been committed against a child under 18 years of age, shall be commenced within the earlier of the date the victim attains the age of 24 or 10 years from the date the offense is reported, and not after. For purposes of this subsection, an offense is reported when a report of the conduct constituting the offense is made to a law enforcement officer by the victim.
- (d) Prosecutions for arson shall be commenced within 11 years after the commission of the offense, and not after.
- (e) Prosecutions for other felonies and for misdemeanors shall be commenced within three years after the commission of the offense, and not after.

### VIRGINIA

# VA. CODE ANN. § 19.2-8 (2012). Limitation of prosecutions

A prosecution for a misdemeanor, or any pecuniary fine, forfeiture, penalty or amercement, shall be commenced within one year next after there was cause therefor, except that a prosecution for petit larceny may be commenced within five years, and for an attempt to produce abortion, within two years after commission of the offense.

A prosecution for any misdemeanor violation of § 54.1-3904 shall be commenced within two years of the discovery of the offense.

A prosecution for violation of laws governing the placement of children for adoption without a license pursuant to § 63.2-1701 shall be commenced within one year from the date of the filing of the petition for adoption.

A prosecution for making a false statement or representation of a material fact knowing it to be false or knowingly failing to disclose a material fact, to obtain or increase any benefit or other

payment under the Virginia Unemployment Compensation Act (§ 60.2-100 et seq.) shall be commenced within three years next after the commission of the offense.

A prosecution for any violation of § 10.1-1320, 62.1-44.32 (b), 62.1-194.1, or Article 11 (§ 62.1-44.34:14 et seq.) of Chapter 3.1 of Title 62.1 that involves the discharge, dumping or emission of any toxic substance as defined in § 32.1-239 shall be commenced within three years next after the commission of the offense.

Prosecution of Building Code violations under § 36-106 shall commence within one year of discovery of the offense by the building official; provided that such discovery occurs within two years of the date of initial occupancy or use after construction of the building or structure, or the issuance of a certificate of use and occupancy for the building or structure, whichever is later. However, prosecutions under § 36-106 relating to the maintenance of existing buildings or structures as contained in the Uniform Statewide Building Code shall commence within one year of the discovery of the offense by the building official.

Prosecution of any misdemeanor violation of § 54.1-111 shall commence within one year of the discovery of the offense by the complainant, but in no case later than five years from occurrence of the offense.

Prosecution of any misdemeanor violation of any professional licensure requirement imposed by a locality shall commence within one year of the discovery of the offense by the complainant, but in no case later than five years from occurrence of the offense.

Prosecution of nonfelonious offenses which constitute malfeasance in office shall commence within two years next after the commission of the offense.

Prosecution of any violation of § 55-79.87, 55-79.88, 55-79.89, 55-79.90, 55-79.93, 55-79.94, 55-79.95, 55-79.103, or any rule adopted under or order issued pursuant to § 55-79.98, shall commence within three years next after the commission of the offense.

Prosecution of illegal sales or purchases of wild birds, wild animals and freshwater fish under § 29.1-553 shall commence within three years after commission of the offense.

Prosecution of violations under Title 58.1 for offenses involving false or fraudulent statements, documents or returns, or for the offense of willfully attempting in any manner to evade or defeat any tax or the payment thereof, or for the offense of willfully failing to pay any tax, or willfully failing to make any return at the time or times required by law or regulations shall commence within three years next after the commission of the offense, unless a longer period is otherwise prescribed.

Prosecution of violations of subsection A or B of § 3.2-6570 shall commence within five years of the commission of the offense, except violations regarding agricultural animals shall commence within one year of the commission of the offense.

A prosecution for a violation of § 18.2-386.1 shall be commenced within five years of the commission of the offense.

A prosecution for any violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, Chapter 9.3 (§ 24.2-945 et seq.) of Title 24.2, shall commence within one year of the discovery of the offense but in no case more than three years after the date of the commission of the offense.

A prosecution of a crime that is punishable as a misdemeanor pursuant to the Virginia Computer Crimes Act (§ 18.2-152.1 et seq.) or pursuant to § 18.2-186.3 for identity theft shall be commenced before the earlier of (i) five years after the commission of the last act in the course of conduct constituting a violation of the article or (ii) one year after the existence of the illegal act and the identity of the offender are discovered by the Commonwealth, by the owner, or by anyone else who is damaged by such violation.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to any person fleeing from justice or concealing himself within or without the Commonwealth to avoid arrest or be construed to limit the time within which any prosecution may be commenced for desertion of a spouse or child or for neglect or refusal or failure to provide for the support and maintenance of a spouse or child.

### **COMMON LAW**

*Anderson v. Commonwealth*, 48 Va.App. 704, 711, 634 S.E.2d 372, 375 (Va.Ct.App. 2006), *aff'd*, 274 Va. 469, 650 S.E.2d 702 (2007).

"The common law imposed no time limitation on the state's initiation of felony prosecutions. See 1 Charles E. Torcia, Wharton's Criminal Law § 92, at 628 (15th ed. 1993); Joel Prentiss Bishop, Commentaries on the Law of Statutory Crimes § 257, at 243 (2d ed. 1883). The imposition of a specific preindictment time limit on such prosecutions remains solely a matter of "legislative grace." Torcia, supra § 92, at 629. Consistent with the common law, Virginia has no general statute of limitation on felonies. See *Foster v. Commonwealth*, 44 Va. App. 574, 576, 606 S.E.2d 518, 519 (2004), *aff'd*, 271 Va. 235, 623 S.E.2d 902 (2006)."

### WASHINGTON

# WASH. REV. CODE § 9A.04.080 (2012). Limitation of actions

- (1) Prosecutions for criminal offenses shall not be commenced after the periods prescribed in this section.
- (a) The following offenses may be prosecuted at any time after their commission:
- (i) Murder;
- (ii) Homicide by abuse;
- (iii) Arson if a death results;
- (iv) Vehicular homicide;
- (v) Vehicular assault if a death results;
- (vi) Hit-and-run injury-accident if a death results (RCW 46.52.020(4)).
- (b) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than ten years after their commission:
- (i) Any felony committed by a public officer if the commission is in connection with the duties of his or her office or constitutes a breach of his or her public duty or a violation of the oath of office;
- (ii) Arson if no death results; or
- (iii)(A) Violations of RCW 9A.44.040 or 9A.44.050 if the rape is reported to a law enforcement agency within one year of its commission; except that if the victim is under fourteen years of age when the rape is committed and the rape is reported to a law enforcement agency within one year of its commission, the violation may be prosecuted up to the victim's twenty-eighth birthday.
- (B) If a violation of RCW 9A.44.040 or 9A.44.050 is not reported within one year, the rape may not be prosecuted: (I) More than three years after its commission if the violation was committed against a victim fourteen years of age or older; or (II) more than three years after the victim's eighteenth birthday or more than seven years after the rape's commission, whichever is later, if the violation was committed against a victim under fourteen years of age.
- (c) Violations of the following statutes may be prosecuted up to the victim's twenty-eighth birthday: RCW 9A.44.073, 9A.44.076, 9A.44.083, 9A.44.086, \*9A.44.070, 9A.44.080, 9A.44.100(1)(b), 9A.44.079, 9A.44.089, or 9A.64.020.
- (d) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than six years after their commission or their discovery, whichever occurs later:

- (i) Violations of RCW 9A.82.060 or 9A.82.080;
- (ii) Any felony violation of chapter 9A.83 RCW;
- (iii) Any felony violation of chapter 9.35 RCW;
- (iv) Theft in the first or second degree under chapter 9A.56 RCW when accomplished by color or aid of deception; or
- (v) Trafficking in stolen property in the first or second degree under chapter 9A.82 RCW in which the stolen property is a motor vehicle or major component part of a motor vehicle as defined in RCW 46.80.010.
- (e) The following offenses shall not be prosecuted more than five years after their commission: Any class C felony under chapter 74.09, 82.36, or 82.38 RCW.
- (f) Bigamy shall not be prosecuted more than three years after the time specified in RCW 9A.64.010.
- (g) A violation of RCW 9A.56.030 must not be prosecuted more than three years after the discovery of the offense when the victim is a tax exempt corporation under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3).
- (h) No other felony may be prosecuted more than three years after its commission; except that in a prosecution under RCW 9A.44.115, if the person who was viewed, photographed, or filmed did not realize at the time that he or she was being viewed, photographed, or filmed, the prosecution must be commenced within two years of the time the person who was viewed or in the photograph or film first learns that he or she was viewed, photographed, or filmed.
- (i) No gross misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than two years after its commission.
- (j) No misdemeanor may be prosecuted more than one year after its commission.
- (2) The periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section do not run during any time when the person charged is not usually and publicly resident within this state.
- (3) In any prosecution for a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, the periods of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section run from the date of commission or one year from the date on which the identity of the suspect is conclusively established by deoxyribonucleic acid testing, whichever is later.
- (4) If, before the end of a period of limitation prescribed in subsection (1) of this section, an indictment has been found or a complaint or an information has been filed, and the indictment, complaint, or information is set aside, then the period of limitation is extended by a period equal to the length of time from the finding or filing to the setting aside.

# **WEST VIRGINIA**

# **COMMON LAW**

State v. Carrico, 189 W.Va. 40, 43, 427 S.E.2d 474, 477 (1993). "West Virginia has no statute of limitations affecting felony prosecutions."

# **WISCONSIN**

# WIS. STAT. § 939.74 (2012). Time limitations on prosecutions.

- (1) Except as provided in subs. (2) and (2d) and s. 946.88(1), prosecution for a felony must be commenced within 6 years and prosecution for a misdemeanor or for adultery within 3 years after the commission thereof. Within the meaning of this section, a prosecution has commenced when a warrant or summons is issued, an indictment is found, or an information is filed.
- (2) Notwithstanding that the time limitation under sub. (1) has expired:
- (a)1. A prosecution under s. 940.01, 940.02, 940.03, 940.05, 940.225(1),948.02(1), or 948.025(1)(a), (b), (c), or (d) may be commenced at any time.
- 2. A prosecution for an attempt to commit a violation of s. 940.01, 940.05, 940.225(1), or 948.02(1) may be commenced at any time.
- (am) A prosecution under s. 940.06 may be commenced within 15 years after the commission of the violation.
- (b) A prosecution for theft against one who obtained possession of the property lawfully and subsequently misappropriated it may be commenced within one year after discovery of the loss by the aggrieved party, but in no case shall this provision extend the time limitation in sub. (1) by more than 5 years.
- (c) A prosecution for violation of s. 948.02(2), 948.025(1)(b), 948.03(2)(a), 948.05, 948.051,948.06, 948.07(1), (2), (3), or (4), 948.075, 948.08, 948.085, or 948.095 shall be commenced before the victim reaches the age of 45 years or be barred, except as provided in sub. (2d).
- (cm) A prosecution for violation of s. 948.03(2)(b) or (c), (3) or (4), 948.04 or 948.07(5) or (6) shall be commenced before the victim reaches the age of 26 years or be barred, except as provided in sub. (2d).
- (2d)(a) In this subsection, "deoxyribonucleic acid profile" means an individual's patterned chemical structure of genetic information identified by analyzing biological material that contains the individual's deoxyribonucleic acid.
- (am) For purposes of this subsection, crimes are related if they are committed against the same victim, are proximate in time, and are committed with the same intent, purpose, or opportunity so as to be part of the same course of conduct.
- (c) If, before the applicable time limitation under sub. (1) or (2)(am), (c), or (cm) for commencing prosecution of a felony under ch. 940 or 948, other than a felony specified in sub. (2)(a), expires, the state collects biological material that is evidence of the identity of the person who committed the felony, identifies a deoxyribonucleic acid profile from the biological material, and compares the deoxyribonucleic acid profile to deoxyribonucleic acid profiles of known persons, the state may commence prosecution of the person who is the source of the

biological material for the felony or a crime that is related to the felony or both within 12 months after comparison of the deoxyribonucleic acid profile relating to the felony results in a probable identification of the person or within the applicable time under sub. (1) or (2), whichever is latest

- (e) If, within 6 years after commission of a felony specified under sub. (2)(a), the state collects biological material that is evidence of the identity of the person who committed the felony, identifies a deoxyribonucleic acid profile from the biological material, and compares the deoxyribonucleic acid profile to deoxyribonucleic acid profiles of known persons, the state may commence prosecution of the person who is the source of the biological material for a crime that is related to the felony within 12 months after comparison of the deoxyribonucleic acid profile relating to the felony results in a probable identification of the person or within the applicable time under sub. (1) or (2), whichever is latest.
- (3) In computing the time limited by this section, the time during which the actor was not publicly a resident within this state or during which a prosecution against the actor for the same act was pending shall not be included. A prosecution is pending when a warrant or a summons has been issued, an indictment has been found, or an information has been filed.
- (4) In computing the time limited by this section, the time during which an alleged victim under s. 940.22(2) is unable to seek the issuance of a complaint under s. 968.02 due to the effects of the sexual contact or due to any threats, instructions or statements from the therapist shall not be included.

<< For credits, see Historical Note field.>>

**COMMENTS--1987 ACT 332** 

Extends the statute of limitations for prosecutions of certain crimes involving a child victim to the later of 6 years or the day before the victim's 21st birthday. The crimes included are sexual assault [s. 948.02], child abuse [s. 948.03], causing emotional harm [s. 948.04], sexual exploitation [s. 948.05], incest [s. 948.06] and soliciting a child for prostitution [s. 948.08].

### WYOMING

#### COMMON LAW

Story v. State, 721 P.2d 1020, 1026 (Wyo. 1986).

At common law there was no limitation period for the prosecution of any criminal offense. Where no statute of limitations pertaining to criminal offenses has been adopted, prosecution for such an offense may be commenced at any time during the life of the offender. citing *Vasquez v. State*, Tex.Cr.App., 557 S.W.2d 779 (1977); *State v. Brown*, 21 Md.App. 91, 318 A.2d 257 (1974).

# **American Territories**

### AMERICAN SAMOA

### AM. SAMOA CODE ANN. §46.3106 (2004). Time limitations.

- (a) A prosecution for any class A felony may be commenced at any time.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, prosecutions for other offenses must be commenced within the following periods of limitation:
- (1) for any felony, 3 years;
- (2) for any misdemeanor, 1 year;
- (3) for any infraction, 6 months.
- (c) If the period prescribed in subsection (b) has expired, a prosecution may nevertheless be commenced for:
- (1) any offense a material element of which is either fraud or a breach of fiduciary obligation within 1 year after discovery of the offense by an aggrieved party or by a person who has a legal duty to represent an aggrieved party and who is himself not a party to the offense, but in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation by more than 3 years; and
- (2) any offense based upon misconduct in office by a public officer or employee at any time when the defendant is in public office or employment or within 2 years thereafter but in no case shall this provision extend the period of limitation by more than 3 years.
- (d) An offense is committed either when every element occurs, or, if a legislative purpose to prohibit a continuing course of conduct plainly appears, at the time when the course of conduct or the defendant's complicity in it is terminated. Time starts to run on the day after the offense is committed.
- (e) A prosecution is commenced and is pending either when a criminal complaint or an information is filed.
- (f) The period of limitation does not run:
- (1) during anytime when the accused is absent from the territory but in no case does this provision extend the period of limitation otherwise applicable by more than 3 years; or
- (2) during any time when the accused is concealing himself from justice either within or outside this territory; or
- (3) during any time when a prosecution against the accused for the offense is pending in this territory.

### **GUAM**

GUAM CODE ANN. tit. 8, § 10.10 (2009). No Limit on Murder Prosecutions.

A prosecution for murder may be commenced at any time.

GUAM CODE ANN. tit. 8, § 10.15 (2009). Limitation on Sex Crimes, Kidnapping, Child Pornography and Family Violence.

A prosecution for a violation of Chapters 22, 25, 25.1, 28 and 30 of Title 9 GCA, or a violation of Chapter 13 of Title 9 GCA, committed in conjunction with a violation of Chapters 22, 25, 25.1 and 30 of Title 9 GCA, involving a person under the age of majority, may be commenced up to three (3) years after the minor reaches the age of majority.

### GUAM CODE ANN. tit. 8, §10.20 (2009). Statute of Limitation of Felonies.

- (a) A prosecution of murder shall have no statute of limitation;
- (b) A prosecution of criminal sexual conduct involving persons under the age of consent shall be in accordance with § 10.15 of this Title;
- (c) A prosecution for any other felony shall be commenced within three (3) years after it is committed.

GUAM CODE ANN. tit. 8, § 10.30 (2009). All Other Non-Felonies - Limitation.

A prosecution for any offense which is not a felony shall be commenced within (1) year after it is committed.

### **PUERTO RICO**

# P.R. LAWS ANN. tit. 33, § 3412 (2009). Prescription

The criminal action shall prescribe:

(a) After five (5) years in felony cases, except murder, misappropriation of public funds, kidnapping, stealing of children and forgery of public documents, which do not prescribe. Neither will the following crimes identified as crimes against public property, public functions, public funds, the judicial function or the public trust; aggravated misappropriation, aggravated burglary; extortion; aggravated damages; sabotage of essential public services; aggravated construction fraud; fraud in the performance of construction works in its felony mode; fraud in the delivery of things; taking advantage of public office or services by an official; negotiation incompatible with the exercise of a public office; improper intervention during contracting through bids or in government operations; withholding of documents that should be furnished to the successor; destruction or mutilation of documents by public officials; filing of forged documents; bribery; (aggravated) [sic]; bribery of a witness; offer to bribe; undue influence; crimes against public funds; illegal possession of tax receipts; drafting of bogus documents; presentation of

bogus documents; forgery of documents; possession and transfer of forged documents; forgery of registry entries; forgery of seals; forgery of licenses, certificates and other documentation; and possession of tools used for forgery, as long as they refer to crimes committed by public officials or employees in the performance of their functions. These crimes are stipulated in §§ 4272, 4277, 4281, 4286, 4288, 4306 (in its felony mode), 4306a (in its felony mode), 4307, 4352, 4353, 4353a, 4355, 4356, 4357, 4359, 4360, 4361, 4362, 4363, 4364, 4391, 4396, 4437, 4438, 4591, 4592, 4593, 4594, 4595 and 4596, respectively, of this title. The crimes of concealment and conspiracy shall prescribe after ten (10) years when committed in connection with the crime of murder in all of its modalities. These crimes are stipulated in §§ 3173 and 4523, respectively, of this title.

- (b) After one year in misdemeanors, except those rising from violations of the fiscal laws and §§ 4283, 4306 in their misdemeanor modality, 4306a in its misdemeanor modality, 4309, 4351, 4354, 4358, 4365, 4366, 4392, 4393, 4394, 4395, 4397, 4398, and 4399 of this title, which refer to usurpation; construction fraud (in its misdemeanor modality); fraud in the performance of construction works (in its misdemeanor modality); impersonation; illegal enrichment by a public official; usurpation of public office; bogus certificates issued by public officials; omission in the performance of his/her duty; negligence in the performance of his/her duty; fraudulent lists and other illegal acts; refusal to present a list of assets or name; hindering the collection of debts by a public official; non-compliance related to furnishing a receipt; bribing of the collector of sold assets to pay taxes; illegal sale of assets; and failure to allow an inspection of books and documents, respectively, whenever they refer to crimes committed by public officials or employees in the performance of their duties, that shall prescribe after five (5) years.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section for the crimes, or the attempts to commit the crimes of incest, rape, sodomy, lewd or indecent acts, indecent exposure, perversion of minors, shipping, sale, distribution, publication or display of obscene material for or in the presence of minors, or shows for or in the presence of minors and using minors for prostitution or abuse, the action shall prescribe after five (5) years if the victim is older than twenty-one (21) years of age when the crime was committed. Should the victim be under twenty-one (21) years of age or mentally disabled, the prescriptive period shall be of five (5) years from the date the victim has attained twenty-one (21) years of age, or the disability has ceased. The crime of seduction shall prescribe after five (5) years counted from the date the victim has attained eighteen (18) years of age.

### VIRGIN ISLANDS

# V.I. CODE ANN. tit. 5, § 3541 (2010). Time of commencement of criminal action

- (a) A criminal action shall be commenced within the following periods:
- (1) For murder, felony child abuse, felony child neglect, any felony sexual offense perpetrated against a victim, embezzlement of public moneys, and the falsification of public records, there is no limitation of the time within which a prosecution shall be commenced.
- (2) For any felony other than specified above, action shall be commenced with three years after its commission.

- (3) For any misdemeanor, action shall be commenced within one year after its commission.
- (b) If the defendant is out of the Virgin Islands when the offense is committed, the information may be filed within the term herein limited after his coming within the Virgin Islands, and no time during which the defendant is not an inhabitant of, or usually resident within, the Virgin Islands is a part of the limitation.
- (c) Nothing in this section extends to persons fleeing from justice.

### **FEDERAL**

# 18 USCS § 3283 (2012). Offenses against children

No statute of limitations that would otherwise preclude prosecution for an offense involving the sexual or physical abuse, or kidnaping, of a child under the age of 18 years shall preclude such prosecution during the life of the child, or for ten years after the offense, whichever is longer.