

(2) Relief by Comptroller General

The Comptroller General may, at the Comptroller General's discretion, relieve such certifying officer or employee of liability for any payment otherwise proper if the Comptroller General finds—

(A) that the certification was based on official records and that the certifying officer or employee did not know, and by reasonable diligence and inquiry could not have ascertained, the actual facts; or

(B) that the obligation was incurred in good faith, that the payment was not contrary to any statutory provision specifically prohibiting payments of the character involved, and the United States has received value for such payment.

(c) Enforcement of liability

The liability of the certifying officers of the United States Capitol Police shall be enforced in the same manner and to the same extent as currently provided with respect to the enforcement of the liability of disbursing and other accountable officers, and such officers shall have the right to apply for and obtain a decision by the Comptroller General on any question of law involved in a payment on any vouchers presented to them for certification.

(Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(2) [title I, §107], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-103.)

§ 208. Suspension of Capitol Police members

The captain of the Capitol police may suspend any member of the force, subject to the approval of the two Sergeants at Arms and of the Architect of the Capitol.

(R.S. §1823; Mar. 3, 1921, ch. 124, §1, 41 Stat. 1291.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. §1823 derived from acts Mar. 3, 1873, ch. 226, 17 Stat. 488; June 20, 1874, ch. 328, 18 Stat. 86; Mar. 3, 1875, ch. 129, 18 Stat. 345.

CHANGE OF NAME

Change of name of Architect of the Capitol, functions abolished, transferred etc., by prior acts, see Codification and Prior Provisions notes set out under section 161 of this title.

§ 209. Pay of Capitol Police members under suspension

On and after March 3, 1875, whenever a member of the Capitol police or watch force is suspended from duty for cause, said policeman or watchman shall receive no compensation for the time of such suspension if he shall not be reinstated.

(Mar. 3, 1875, ch. 129, 18 Stat. 345.)

CODIFICATION

Section is based on a proviso in act Mar. 3, 1875, popularly known as the "Legislature, Executive, and Judicial Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1876".

§ 210. Uniform, belts and arms; Capitol Police

The Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives shall select and regulate the pattern for a uniform for the Capitol police and watchmen,

and furnish each member of the force with the necessary belts and arms, payable out of the contingent fund of the Senate and House of Representatives upon the certificate of the officers above named. Such arms so furnished shall be carried by each officer and member of the Capitol Police, while in the Capitol Buildings (as defined in section 193m(1) of this title), and while within or outside of the boundaries of the United States Capitol Grounds (as defined in section 193a of this title), in such manner and at such times as the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives may, by regulations, prescribe.

(R.S. §1824; Pub. L. 92-607, ch. V, §507, Oct. 31, 1972, 86 Stat. 1508; Pub. L. 95-26, title I, §112, May 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 87.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. §1824 derived from act Mar. 30, 1867, ch. 20, §1, 15 Stat. 11.

AMENDMENTS

1977—Pub. L. 95-26 struck out "at a cost not to exceed twenty dollars per man," after "furnish each member of the force with the necessary belts and arms,".

1972—Pub. L. 92-607 directed that the arms be carried in the Capitol Buildings and within and without the boundaries of the United States Capitol Grounds according to regulations prescribed by the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate and the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives.

§ 210a. Uniforms to display United States flag or colors

(a) The uniform of officers and members of the United States Park Police force, the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, the Capitol Police, and the Metropolitan Police force of the District of Columbia shall bear a distinctive patch, pin, or other emblem depicting the flag of the United States or the colors thereof.

(b) The Secretary of the Interior in the case of the United States Park Police force, the Secretary of the Treasury in the case of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division, the Capitol Police Board in the case of the Capitol Police, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia in the case of the Metropolitan Police force shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(Pub. L. 91-297, title II, §201(a), (b), June 30, 1970, 84 Stat. 357; Pub. L. 93-198, title IV, §421, Dec. 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 789; Pub. L. 95-179, Nov. 15, 1977, 91 Stat. 1371.)

AMENDMENTS

1977—Pub. L. 95-179 substituted "United States Secret Service Uniformed Division" for "Executive Protective Service" wherever appearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 201(c) of Pub. L. 91-297 provided that: "This section [enacting this section] shall take effect one hundred and eighty days after the date of enactment of this title [June 30, 1970]."

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Office of Commissioner of District of Columbia, as established by Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1967, abolished as of noon Jan. 2, 1975, by Pub. L. 93-198, title VII, §711, Dec.

24, 1973, 87 Stat. 818, and replaced by office of Mayor of District of Columbia by section 421 of Pub. L. 93-198. Accordingly, "Mayor" substituted in text for "commissioner".

§ 211. Uniform; at whose expense; Capitol Police

The members of the Capitol police shall furnish, at their own expense, each his own uniform, which shall be in exact conformity to that required by regulation of the Sergeants at Arms.

(R.S. § 1825.)

CODIFICATION

R.S. § 1825 derived from act July 20, 1868, ch. 176, § 1, 15 Stat. 94.

§ 212. Wearing uniform on duty; Capitol Police

The officers, privates, and watchmen of the Capitol police shall, when on duty, wear the regulation uniform.

(Mar. 18, 1904, ch. 716, § 1, 33 Stat. 89.)

CODIFICATION

The text of this section was taken from act Mar. 18, 1904, popularly known as the "Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905". Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

Feb. 25, 1903, ch. 755, § 1, 32 Stat. 857.

Mar. 3, 1901, ch. 830, § 1, 31 Stat. 963.

§ 212a. Policing of Capitol Buildings and Grounds; powers of Capitol Police; arrests by Capitol Police for crimes of violence; arrests by District of Columbia police

The Capitol Police shall police the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds under the direction of the Capitol Police Board, consisting of the Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, and the Architect of the Capitol, and shall have the power to enforce the provisions of sections 193a to 193m, 212a, 212a-2, and 212b of this title¹ and regulations promulgated under section 212b of this title, and to make arrests within the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds for any violations of any law of the United States, of the District of Columbia, or of any State, or any regulation promulgated pursuant thereto: *Provided*, That for the fiscal year for which appropriations are made by this Act the Capitol Police shall have the additional authority to make arrests within the District of Columbia for crimes of violence, as defined in section 16 of title 18, committed within the Capitol Buildings and Grounds and shall have the additional authority to make arrests, without a warrant, for crimes of violence, as defined in section 16 of title 18, committed in the presence of any member of the Capitol Police performing official duties: *Provided further*, That the Metropolitan Police force of the District of Columbia are authorized to make arrests within the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds for any violation of any such laws or regulations, but such authority shall not be construed as authorizing the Metropolitan Police force, except with the consent or upon the request of the Cap-

¹ So in original. Citation probably should include references to sections 207a and 212a-3.

itol Police Board, to enter such buildings to make arrests in response to complaints or to serve warrants or to patrol the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds. For the purpose of this section, the word "grounds" shall include the House Office Buildings parking areas and that part or parts of property which have been or hereafter are acquired in the District of Columbia by the Architect of the Capitol, or by an officer of the Senate or the House, by lease, purchase, intergovernment transfer, or otherwise, for the use of the Senate, the House, or the Architect of the Capitol.

(July 31, 1946, ch. 707, § 9, 60 Stat. 719; Pub. L. 93-198, title VII, § 739(g)(4), (5), Dec. 24, 1973, 87 Stat. 829; Pub. L. 101-520, title I, § 106, formerly § 106(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2264, renumbered § 106 and amended Pub. L. 102-392, title III, § 310, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1723; Pub. L. 102-397, title I, § 103, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1950.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in text, probably means Pub. L. 101-520, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2254, known as the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1991, which amended this section generally. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-392 and Pub. L. 102-397 amended directory language of Pub. L. 101-520 identically. See 1990 Amendment note below.

1990—Pub. L. 101-520, as amended by Pub. L. 102-392 and Pub. L. 102-397, amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows: "The Capitol Police shall police the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds under the direction of the Capitol Police Board, consisting of the Sergeant at Arms of the United States Senate, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, and the Architect of the Capitol, and shall have the power to enforce the provisions of sections 193a to 193m, 212a, 212a-2, and 212b of this title and regulations promulgated under section 212b of this title, and to make arrests within the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds for any violations of any law of the United States, of the District of Columbia, or of any State, or any regulation promulgated pursuant thereto: *Provided*, That the Metropolitan Police force of the District of Columbia are authorized to make arrests within the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds for any violations of any such laws or regulations, but such authority shall not be construed as authorizing the Metropolitan Police force, except with the consent or upon the request of the Capitol Police Board, to enter such buildings to make arrests in response to complaints or to serve warrants or to patrol the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds. For the purpose of this section, the word 'grounds' shall include the House Office Building parking area."

1973—Pub. L. 93-198 inserted reference to violations of any law of the District of Columbia and struck out "with the exception of the streets and roadways shown on the map referred to in section 193a of this title as being under the jurisdiction and control of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia" after "or to patrol the United States Capitol Buildings and Grounds".

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENTS

Section 103 of Pub. L. 102-397 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Nov. 5, 1990.

Section 310 of Pub. L. 102-392 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective Nov. 5, 1990.