PRICE FIXING SELECTED ANTITRUST AND RELATED STATUTES

The Sherman Act

Section 1. Trusts, etc., in restraint of trade illegal; penalty

Every contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations, is declared to be illegal. Every person who shall make any contract or engage in any combination or conspiracy hereby declared to be illegal shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding \$100,000,000 if a corporation, or, if any other person, \$1,000,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding 10 years, or by both said punishments, in the discretion of the court. [15 U.S.C. § 1]

Section 2. Monopolizing trade a felony; penalty

Every person who shall monopolize, or attempt to monopolize, or combine or conspire with any other person or persons, to monopolize any part of the trade or commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine not exceeding \$100,000,000 if a corporation, or, if any other person, \$1,000,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding 10 years, or by both said punishments, in the discretion of the court. [15 U.S.C. § 2]

The Clayton Act

Section 4. Suits by persons injured

(a) Amount of recovery; prejudgment interest

Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any person who shall be injured in his business or property by reason of anything forbidden in the antitrust laws may sue therefor in any district court of the United States in the district in which the defendant resides or is found or has an agent, without respect to the amount in controversy, and shall recover threefold the damages by him sustained, and the cost of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee. ^[a] [15 U.S.C. § 15(a)]

^[a] Section 4(a) continues to authorize the district court to award simple interest on actual damages for the period beginning on the date of service of the pleading containing the antitrust claim ending on the date of judgment.

Section 5. Judgments

(a) Prima facie evidence; collateral estoppel

A final judgment or decree heretofore or hereafter rendered in any civil or criminal proceeding brought by or on behalf of the United States under the antitrust laws to the effect that a defendant has violated said laws shall be prima facie evidence against such defendant in any action or proceeding brought by any other party against such defendant under said laws as to all matters respecting which said judgment or decree would be an estoppel as between the parties thereto: Provided, That this section shall not apply to consent judgments or decrees entered before any testimony has been taken. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to impose any limitation on the application of collateral estoppel, except that, in any action or proceeding brought under the antitrust laws, collateral estoppel effect shall not be given to any finding made by the Federal Trade Commission under the antitrust laws or under section 45 of this title which could give rise to a claim for relief under the antitrust laws. [15 U.S.C. § 16(a)]

Criminal Code

18 U.S.C. § 1001. Statements or entries generally

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the United States, knowingly and willfully—
 - (1) falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact;
 - (2) makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or
 - (3) makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry;
- shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 5 years or, if the offense involves international or domestic terrorism (as defined in section 2331), imprisoned not more than 8 years, or both. If the matter relates to an offense under chapter 109A, 109B, 110, or 117, or section 1591, then the term of imprisonment imposed under this section shall be not more than 8 years.
- (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to a party to a judicial proceeding, or that party's counsel, for statements, representations, writings or documents submitted by such party or counsel to a judge or magistrate in that proceeding.
- (c) With respect to any matter within the jurisdiction of the legislative branch, subsection (a) shall apply only to—
 - (1) administrative matters, including a claim for payment, a matter related to the procurement of property or services, personnel or employment practices, or

support services, or a document required by law, rule, or regulation to be submitted to the Congress or any office or officer within the legislative branch; or

(2) any investigation or review, conducted pursuant to the authority of any committee, subcommittee, commission or office of the Congress, consistent with applicable rules of the House or Senate.

18 U.S.C. § 1503. Influencing or injuring officer or juror generally

- (a) Whoever corruptly, or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, endeavors to influence, intimidate, or impede any grand or petit juror, or officer in or of any court of the United States, or officer who may be serving at any examination or other proceeding before any United States magistrate judge or other committing magistrate, in the discharge of his duty, or injures any such grand or petit juror in his person or property on account of any verdict or indictment assented to by him, or on account of his being or having been such juror, or injures any such officer, magistrate judge, or other committing magistrate in his person or property on account of the performance of his official duties, or corruptly or by threats or force, or by any threatening letter or communication, influences, obstructs, or impedes, or endeavors to influence, obstruct, or impede, the due administration of justice, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b). If the offense under this section occurs in connection with a trial of a criminal case, and the act in violation of this section involves the threat of physical force or physical force, the maximum term of imprisonment which may be imposed for the offense shall be the higher of that otherwise provided by law or the maximum term that could have been imposed for any offense charged in such case.
 - (b) The punishment for an offense under this section is—
 - (1) in the case of a killing, the punishment provided in sections 1111 and 1112;
 - (2) in the case of an attempted killing, or a case in which the offense was committed against a petit juror and in which a class A or B felony was charged, imprisonment for not more than 20 years, a fine under this title, or both; and
 - (3) in any other case, imprisonment for not more than 10 years, a fine under this title, or both.

18 U.S.C. § 1621. Perjury generally

Whoever-

(1) having taken an oath before a competent tribunal, officer, or person, in any case in which a law of the United States authorizes an oath to be administered, that he will testify, declare, depose, or certify truly, or that any written testimony, declaration, deposition, or certificate by him subscribed, is true, willfully and

Unit 1: Introduction to Price Fixing: Legal and Economic Foundations

contrary to such oath states or subscribes any material matter which he does not believe to be true; or

(2) in any declaration, certificate, verification, or statement under penalty of perjury as permitted under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, willfully subscribes as true any material matter which he does not believe to be true;

is guilty of perjury and shall, except as otherwise expressly provided by law, be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both. This section is applicable whether the statement or subscription is made within or without the United States.

18 U.S.C. § 3571. Sentence of fine

- (a) *In General.* A defendant who has been found guilty of an offense may be sentenced to pay a fine.
- (b) *Fines for Individuals*.- Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, an individual who has been found guilty of an offense may be fined not more than the greatest of—
 - (1) the amount specified in the law setting forth the offense;
 - (2) the applicable amount under subsection (d) of this section;
 - (3) for a felony, not more than \$250,000;
 - (4) for a misdemeanor resulting in death, not more than \$250,000;
 - (5) for a Class A misdemeanor that does not result in death, not more than \$100,000:
 - (6) for a Class B or C misdemeanor that does not result in death, not more than \$5,000; or
 - (7) for an infraction, not more than \$5,000.
- (c) *Fines for Organizations.* Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, an organization that has been found guilty of an offense may be fined not more than the greatest of.-
 - (1) the amount specified in the law setting forth the offense;
 - (2) the applicable amount under subsection (d) of this section;
 - (3) for a felony, not more than \$500,000;
 - (4) for a misdemeanor resulting in death, not more than \$500,000;
 - (5) for a Class A misdemeanor that does not result in death, not more than \$200,000;
 - (6) for a Class B or C misdemeanor that does not result in death, not more than \$10,000; and
 - (7) for an infraction, not more than \$10,000.
- (d) Alternative Fine Based on Gain or Loss.- If any person derives pecuniary gain from the offense, or if the offense results in pecuniary loss to a person other than the defendant, the defendant may be fined not more than the greater of twice the gross gain or twice the gross loss, unless imposition of a fine under this subsection would unduly complicate or prolong the sentencing process.

Unit 1: Introduction to Price Fixing: Legal and Economic Foundations

(e) Special Rule for Lower Fine Specified in Substantive Provision.- If a law setting forth an offense specifies no fine or a fine that is lower than the fine otherwise applicable under this section and such law, by specific reference, exempts the offense from the applicability of the fine otherwise applicable under this section, the defendant may not be fined more than the amount specified in the law setting forth the offense.