

**DC CODE §22-1705**  
**Gambling: Forfeiture**

9 of 12 DOCUMENTS

LEXIS DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CODE ANNOTATED  
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\*\*\* CURRENT THROUGH D.C. LAW 16-163, EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 19, 2006, AND THROUGH D.C. ACT  
16-474 \*\*\*

\*\*\* ANNOTATIONS CURRENT THROUGH JUNE 22, 2006 \*\*\*

TITLE 22. CRIMINAL OFFENSES AND PENALTIES  
SUBTITLE I. CRIMINAL OFFENSES  
CHAPTER 17. GAMBLING  
SUBCHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

**GO TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CODE ARCHIVE DIRECTORY**

*D.C. Code § 22-1705 (2006)*

§ 22-1705. Gambling premises; definition; prohibition against maintaining; forfeiture; liens; deposit of moneys in Treasury; penalty; subsequent offenses [Formerly § 22-1505]

(a) Any house, building, vessel, shed, booth, shelter, vehicle, enclosure, room, lot, or other premises in the District of Columbia, used or to be used in violating the provisions of § 22-1701 or § 22-1704, shall be deemed "gambling premises" for the purpose of this section.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person in the District of Columbia knowingly, as owner, lessee, agent, employee, operator, occupant, or otherwise, to maintain, or aid, or permit the maintaining of any gambling premises.

(c) All moneys, vehicles, furnishings, fixtures, equipment, stock (including, without limitation, furnishings and fixtures adaptable to nongambling uses, and equipment and stock for printing, recording, computing, transporting, safekeeping, or communication), or other things of value used or to be used: (1) in carrying on or conducting any lottery, or the game or device commonly known as a policy lottery or policy, contrary to the provisions of § 22-1701; (2) in setting up or keeping any gaming table, bank, or device contrary to the provisions of § 22-1704; or (3) in maintaining any gambling premises; shall be subject to seizure by any designated civilian employee of the Metropolitan Police Department or any member of the Metropolitan Police force, or the United States Park Police, or the United States Marshal, or any Deputy Marshal, for the District of Columbia, and any property seized regardless of its value shall be proceeded against in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia by libel action brought in the name of the District of Columbia by the Corporation Counsel or any Assistant Corporation Counsel, and shall, unless good cause be shown to the contrary, be forfeited to the District of Columbia and shall be made available for the use of any agency of the government of the District of Columbia, or otherwise disposed of as the Mayor of the District of Columbia may, by order or by regulation, provide; provided, that if there be bona fide liens against the property so forfeited, then such property shall be disposed of by public auction. The proceeds of the sale of such property shall be available, first, for the payment of all expenses incident to such sale; and, second, for the payment of such liens; and the remainder shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of the District of Columbia. To the extent necessary, liens against said property so forfeited shall, on good cause shown by the lienor, be transferred from the property to the proceeds of the sale of the property.

(d) Whoever violates this section shall be imprisoned not more than 180 days or fined not more than \$ 1,000, or both, unless the violation occurs after the person has been convicted of a violation of this section, in which case the person may be imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or fined not more than \$ 2,000, or both.