



Proceeds of Crime Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 29

PART 5

CIVIL RECOVERY OF THE PROCEEDS ETC. OF UNLAWFUL CONDUCT

CHAPTER 2

CIVIL RECOVERY IN THE HIGH COURT OR COURT OF SESSION

Exemptions etc.

281 Victims of theft, etc.

- (1) In proceedings for a recovery order, a person who claims that any property alleged to be recoverable property, or any part of the property, belongs to him may apply for a declaration under this section.
- (2) If the applicant appears to the court to meet the following condition, the court may make a declaration to that effect.
- (3) The condition is that—
 - (a) the person was deprived of the property he claims, or of property which it represents, by unlawful conduct,
 - (b) the property he was deprived of was not recoverable property immediately before he was deprived of it, and
 - (c) the property he claims belongs to him.
- (4) Property to which a declaration under this section applies is not recoverable property.

Changes to legislation: *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Section 281 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 13 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

Commencement Information

- II** S. 281 in force at 24.2.2003 by [S.I. 2003/120](#), [art. 2](#), [Sch.](#) (with [arts. 3, 4](#)) (as amended (20.2.2003) by [S.I. 2003/333](#), [art. 14](#))

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 13(5)(a)(iia) inserted by [2015 c. 30 Sch. 5 para. 15\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 323(1)(hc) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(2\)](#)
- s. 323(4)(ec) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(3\)](#)
- s. 323(5)(ec) inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 45\(4\)](#)