

18 U.S. Code § 17

Insanity defense

(a) **Affirmative Defense.**—

It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under any Federal statute that, at the time of the commission of the acts constituting the offense, the defendant, as a result of a severe mental disease or defect, was unable to appreciate the nature and quality or the wrongfulness of his acts. Mental disease or defect does not otherwise constitute a defense.

This document is only available to subscribers. Please [log in](#) or [purchase access](#).

[Purchase Login](#)