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# 18 U.S. Code § 201

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## Bribery of public officials and witnesses

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(a) For the purpose of this section—

(1) the term “public official” means Member of Congress, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner, either before or after such official has qualified, or an officer or employee or person acting for or on behalf of the United States, or any department, agency or branch of Government thereof, including the District of Columbia, in any official function, under or by authority of any such department, agency, or branch of Government, or a juror;

(2) the term “person who has been selected to be a public official” means any person who has been nominated or appointed to be a public official, or has been officially informed that such person will be so nominated or appointed;

(3) the term “official act” means any decision or action on any question, matter, cause, suit, proceeding or controversy, which may at any time be pending, or which may by law be brought before any public official, in such official’s official capacity, or in such official’s place of trust or profit;

(4) the term “foreign official” means—

(A)

(i) any official or employee of a foreign government or any department, agency, or instrumentality thereof;  
or

(ii) any senior foreign political figure, as defined in section 1010.605 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation;

(B) any official or employee of a public international organization;

(C) any person acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of—

(i) a government, department, agency, or instrumentality described in subparagraph (A)(i); or

(ii) a public international organization; or

(D) any person acting in an unofficial capacity for or on behalf of—

(i) a government, department, agency, or instrumentality described in subparagraph (A)(i); or

(ii) a public international organization; and

(5) the term “public international organization” means—

(A) an organization that is designated by Executive order pursuant to section 1 of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288); or

(B) any other international organization that is designated by the President by Executive order for the purposes of this section, effective as of the date of publication of such order in the Federal Register.

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