

(2) A person who is subject to the penalties of this subsection shall be guilty of a felony and fined a sum not to exceed \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than 15 years, or both.

(i) If a person commits a violation of this section pursuant to one scheme or continuing course of conduct, from the same or several sources, the conduct may be considered as one offense and the value of the money, goods, services, or anything else of value may be aggregated in determining if the offense is a felony or a misdemeanor.

(j) This section shall not be construed to preclude the applicability of any other provision of the criminal law of this State which presently applies or may in the future apply to any transaction which violates this section, unless such provision is inconsistent with the terms of this section.

(k) If any provision of this section or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are declared to be severable.

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In this subheading, the following words have the meanings indicated.

(n) (1) "Value" means the market value of the property or service at the time and place of the crime, or if the market value cannot be satisfactorily ascertained, the cost of the replacement of the property within a reasonable time after the crime.

(2) Whether or not they have been issued or delivered, certain written instruments, not including those having a readily ascertainable market value, shall be evaluated as follows:

(i) The value of an instrument constituting an evidence of debt, such as a check, draft, or promissory note, shall be determined as the amount due or collectible thereon or thereby, this figure ordinarily being the face amount of the indebtedness less any portion thereof which has been satisfied.

(ii) The value of any other instrument which creates, releases, discharges, or otherwise affects any valuable legal right, privilege, or obligation shall be determined as the amount of economic loss which the owner of the instrument might reasonably suffer by virtue of the loss of the instrument.

(3) The value of a trade secret which does not have a readily ascertainable market value shall be deemed any reasonable value representing the damage to the owner suffered by reason of losing an advantage over those who do not know of or use the trade secret.

(4) When it cannot be determined if the value of the property or service is more or less than ~~[\$300]~~ \$500 by the standards set forth in this subsection, its value shall be determined to be an amount less than ~~[\$300]~~ \$500.

(5) When theft is committed in violation of this subheading pursuant to one scheme or continuing course of conduct, whether from the same or several