



Customs and Excise Management Act 1979

1979 CHAPTER 2

PART II

ADMINISTRATION

Offences in connection with Commissioners, officers, etc.

16 Obstruction of officers, etc.

(1) Any person who—

- (a) obstructs, hinders, molests or assaults any person duly engaged in the performance of any duty or the exercise of any power imposed or conferred on him by or under any enactment relating to an assigned matter, or any person acting in his aid ; or
- (b) does anything which impedes or is calculated to impede the carrying out of any search for any thing liable to forfeiture under any such enactment or the detention, seizure or removal of any such thing ; or
- (c) rescues, damages or destroys any thing so liable to forfeiture or does anything calculated to prevent the procuring or giving of evidence as to whether or not any thing is so liable to forfeiture ; or
- (d) prevents the detention of any person by a person duly engaged or acting as aforesaid or rescues any person so detained,

or who attempts to do any of the aforementioned things, shall be guilty of an offence under this section.

(2) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable—

- (a) on summary conviction, to a penalty of the prescribed sum, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months, or to both ; or
- (b) on conviction on indictment, to a penalty of any amount, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years, or to both.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (3) Any person committing an offence under this section and any person aiding or abetting the commission of such an offence may be detained.