

THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

VANDALISM ACT
(CHAPTER 341)

1970 Ed. Cap. 108
Act
38 of 1966

REVISED EDITION 1985

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTER, SINGAPORE

1986

Vandalism Act

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Penalty for acts of vandalism.
4. Written authority or written consent to be produced on demand to certain persons.
5. Power to seize article or thing in respect of which offence committed.
6. Offences to be seizable and non-bailable.
7. Presumption.
8. Cancellation of secondhand dealers' licence upon conviction.

An Act to provide for exemplary punishment for acts of vandalism and to make special provisions in regard to certain offences relating to public property.

[16th September 1966]

1. This Act may be cited as the Vandalism Act. Short title.

2. In this Act — Interpre-
 “act of vandalism” means — tation.
 - (a) without the written authority of an authorised officer or representative of the Government or of the government of any Commonwealth or foreign country or of any statutory body or authority or of any armed force lawfully present in Singapore in the case of public property, or

without the written consent of the owner or occupier in the case of private property —

- (i) writing, drawing, painting, marking or inscribing on any public property or private property any word, slogan, caricature, drawing, mark, symbol or other thing;
- (ii) affixing, posting up or displaying on any public property or private property any poster, placard, advertisement, bill, notice, paper or other document; or
- (iii) hanging, suspending, hoisting, affixing or displaying on or from any public property or private property any flag, bunting, standard, banner or the like with any word, slogan, caricature, drawing, mark, symbol or other thing; or

(b) stealing, destroying or damaging any public property;

“private property” means movable or immovable property other than public property;

“public property” means movable or immovable property belonging to the Government or to the government of any Commonwealth or foreign country or to any statutory body or authority or to any armed force lawfully present in Singapore.

Penalty for acts of vandalism.

Cap. 68.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other written law, any person who commits any act of vandalism or attempts to do any such act or causes any such act to be done shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, and shall also, subject to section 231 of the Criminal Procedure Code, be punished with caning with not less than 3 strokes and not more than 8 strokes:

Provided that the punishment of caning shall not be imposed on a first conviction under this Act in the case of any act falling within —

(a) paragraph (a) (i) of the definition of “act of vandalism” in section 2, if the writing, drawing, mark or inscription is done with pencil, crayon, chalk or other delible substance or thing and not with paint, tar or other indelible substance or thing; or

(b) paragraph (a) (ii) or (a) (iii) of that definition.

4.—(1) The written authority or the written consent, as the case may be, required under paragraph (a) of the definition of “act of vandalism” in section 2 shall be produced on demand to any member of the Singapore Police Force or of the Special Constabulary or of the Auxiliary Police Force or to any member of the naval, military or air force police attached to the Singapore Armed Forces or to any armed force lawfully present in Singapore.

Written authority or written consent to be produced on demand to certain persons.

(2) Any person who fails, refuses or neglects to produce such written authority or written consent on demand as provided in subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500.

5. Any person mentioned in section 4 (1) may seize any poster, placard, bunting, paper or document or any other article or thing whatsoever in respect of which he reasonably believes an offence to have been committed under this Act or which he reasonably believes to be or to contain evidence relating to such an offence.

Power to seize article or thing in respect of which offence committed.

6. Every offence under the provisions of this Act shall be seizable and non-bailable for the purposes of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Offences to be seizable and non-bailable. Cap. 68.

7. For the purposes of any prosecution under section 411 of the Penal Code, where the stolen property is public property, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that the person who received or retained that property knew or had reason to believe that the property was stolen public property and also that such person received or retained it dishonestly.

Presumption. Cap. 224.

Cancellation
of second-
hand dealer's
licence upon
conviction.
Cap. 288.
Cap. 224.

8. Where any licensed dealer within the meaning of the Secondhand Dealers Act or any dealer in secondhand goods to whom a certificate of exemption has been granted under that Act is convicted under section 411 of the Penal Code and the stolen property concerned is public property, the court shall, in addition to any other penalty that it may impose, cancel any licence or certificate of exemption granted under that Act to such licensed dealer or such dealer in secondhand goods, as the case may be.