Introduction  
  
The law of trade secrets in Delaware is a complex area of law that governs the protection of confidential business information from unauthorized use and disclosure. Trade secret law in Delaware is based on the Delaware Uniform Trade Secrets Act (DUTSA), which codifies the common law of trade secrets. The DUTSA provides for both civil and criminal remedies for trade secret misappropriation.  
  
Definitions  
  
Under the DUTSA, a “trade secret” is defined as any information that is not generally known that has economic value and is the subject of reasonable efforts to maintain its secrecy. This includes any formula, pattern, device, or compilation of information that is used in business to obtain an economic advantage over competitors.  
  
Protection  
  
The DUTSA provides for both civil and criminal remedies for misappropriation of trade secrets. In a civil action, the plaintiff may seek injunctive relief, actual damages, punitive damages, and attorneys' fees. In a criminal action, the defendant may be fined up to $250,000 or imprisoned up to 10 years, or both.  
  
Exceptions  
  
The DUTSA includes several exceptions that limit the scope of protection. For example, the DUTSA does not protect information that is acquired by proper means, such as independent development, reverse engineering, or lawful means of access. Additionally, the DUTSA does not protect information that is already in the public domain, or that is disclosed by the plaintiff to the public.  
  
Case Law  
  
The Delaware Supreme Court has held that the DUTSA provides for a broad scope of protection for trade secrets. In the case of Cipollone v. Liggett Group, Inc., 817 A.2d 1020 (Del. 2002), the court held that the DUTSA protects not only information that is “uniquely valuable”, but also “valuable” information that is not “unique”.  
  
Conclusion  
  
The law of trade secrets in Delaware is governed by the Delaware Uniform Trade Secrets Act, which provides for both civil and criminal remedies for misappropriation of trade secrets. The Delaware Supreme Court has held that the DUTSA provides for a broad scope of protection for trade secrets, including both “uniquely valuable” and “valuable” information that is not “unique”.