

U.S. Code Citation	Offense Summary	Statutory Definition (Plain)	Example Act	Penalty / Classification
18 U.S.C. § 875(c)	Interstate threats	Transmitting a communication in interstate commerce containing a threat to injure another person	Posting or emailing a death threat across state lines	Federal felony; up to 5 years imprisonment
18 U.S.C. § 876(c)	Threatening communications by mail	Mailing communications containing threats to kidnap or injure	Sending written death threats via postal mail	Federal felony; up to 5–10 years (depending on threat)
18 U.S.C. § 844(e)	Threats involving explosives or violence	Using interstate communications to threaten damage or violence	Online threats referencing bombing or violent acts	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 241	Conspiracy against rights	Two or more persons conspiring to injure, threaten, or intimidate someone in exercising federal rights	Coordinated threats to punish refusal to cooperate in illegal acts	Federal felony; up to life if death results
18 U.S.C. § 1951 (Hobbs Act)	Extortion / coercion	Obtaining property or compliance through threats or fear affecting interstate commerce	Threatening harm to force access to property or housing	Federal felony; up to 20 years
18 U.S.C. § 371	Criminal conspiracy	Agreement to commit a federal offense plus an overt act	Planning coordinated retaliation or cyber intrusion	Federal felony; up to 5 years
18 U.S.C. § 1962 (RICO)	Racketeering activity	Conducting an enterprise through a pattern of specified crimes	Ongoing coordinated threats, trafficking, and fraud	Federal felony; up to 20 years; forfeiture
21 U.S.C. § 841	Drug trafficking	Manufacturing, distributing, or possessing controlled substances with intent to distribute	Selling or transporting amphetamines or cocaine	Federal felony; penalties vary by drug/quantity
21 U.S.C. § 846	Drug conspiracy	Conspiring to commit drug trafficking offenses	Coordinated distribution network	Federal felony; same penalty as underlying offense
18 U.S.C. § 1591	Sex / human trafficking	Recruiting or transporting persons through force, fraud, or coercion	Moving individuals for exploitation tied to threats	Federal felony; 15 years to life
18 U.S.C. § 1030 (CFAA)	Computer fraud and abuse	Unauthorized access to protected computers to obtain information or cause damage	Attempted breach of federally funded systems	Federal felony or misdemeanor; up to 10+ years
18 U.S.C. § 1343	Wire fraud	Scheme to defraud using interstate electronic communications	Using online platforms to execute financial fraud	Federal felony; up to 20 years (30 if affecting financial institutions)
18 U.S.C. § 2511	Illegal wiretapping	Intercepting electronic or oral communications without authorization	Surreptitious monitoring of calls or data	Federal felony; up to 5 years

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18 U.S.C. § 641	Theft of federal property	Stealing or converting property of the United States	Trafficking federally funded equipment or data	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 666	Theft involving federal funds	Theft or bribery involving organizations receiving federal funds	Misuse of federally funded stock or resources	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1832	Theft of trade secrets	Stealing trade secrets for economic benefit	Attempting to obtain proprietary research data	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1831	Economic espionage	Trade secret theft benefiting a foreign entity	Transferring protected data internationally	Federal felony; up to 15 years
18 U.S.C. § 1512	Witness intimidation / retaliation	Threatening or harming to influence or retaliate against reporting	Threats for refusing to conceal illegal activity	Federal felony; up to 20 years
18 U.S.C. § 875(d)	Extortionate threats	Threats to injure reputation or property to obtain something of value	Threatening harm unless favors are granted	Federal felony; up to 2 years
State Penal Codes (varies)	Terroristic threats	Threats of violence intended to cause fear or evacuation	Public death threats via social media	State felony or misdemeanor; penalties vary
State Controlled Substances Acts	Drug offenses (state)	State-level manufacture or distribution of controlled substances	Local trafficking activity	State felony; penalties vary
State Defamation / Harassment Laws	Civil or criminal liability	False statements or repeated communications causing harm	Publicly accusing individuals without proof	Civil damages; some states criminalize

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18 U.S.C. § 875(c)	Interstate death threats	Transmitting a threat to injure a person via interstate commerce	Public online death threats posted from Texas targeting persons in California	Federal felony; up to 5 years
18 U.S.C. § 844(e)	Threats via interstate communications	Using interstate communications to threaten violence or damage	Public threats accompanying hacking activity	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 371	Conspiracy	Agreement to commit federal offenses plus an overt act	Coordinating threats, hacking, and sale of data	Federal felony; up to 5 years
18 U.S.C. § 1030(a)(2),(a)(5)	Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA)	Unauthorized access to protected computers or causing damage	Hacking federally funded systems in California from Texas	Federal felony/misdemeanor; up to 10+ years depending on harm
18 U.S.C. § 641	Theft of federal property	Stealing or converting U.S. government property or records	Exfiltrating federally funded data or systems	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 666	Theft involving federal funds	Theft from organizations receiving federal funds	Misappropriating federally funded assets	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1343	Wire fraud	Scheme to defraud using interstate communications	Selling stolen data via online platforms	Federal felony; up to 20 years
18 U.S.C. § 1951 (Hobbs Act)	Extortion affecting interstate commerce	Obtaining property through threats or fear	Using threats to facilitate access or silence	Federal felony; up to 20 years
18 U.S.C. § 1832	Theft of trade secrets	Stealing trade secrets for economic benefit	Taking proprietary federally funded research	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1831	Economic espionage	Trade secret theft benefiting foreign entities	Selling stolen data abroad	Federal felony; up to 15 years
18 U.S.C. § 2314	Interstate transportation of stolen property	Transporting stolen goods or data across state or national lines	Moving stolen data from CA to TX and abroad	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 2315	Sale or receipt of stolen property	Selling or receiving stolen goods crossing borders	Selling hacked data internationally	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1956	Money laundering	Financial transactions to conceal proceeds of crime	Receiving foreign payments for stolen data	Federal felony; up to 20 years
18 U.S.C. § 1957	Monetary transactions in criminal proceeds	Spending or transferring criminal proceeds	Using proceeds from international sales	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1962 (RICO)	Racketeering	Pattern of specified crimes through an enterprise	Ongoing hacking, threats, and sales network	Federal felony; up to 20 years; forfeiture
18 U.S.C. § 1512	Witness intimidation / retaliation	Threats to influence or retaliate against reporting	Threats to deter reporting of hacks	Federal felony; up to 20 years
18 U.S.C. § 875(d)	Extortionate communications	Threats to obtain something of value	Threats tied to payment or access	Federal felony; up to 2 years

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18 U.S.C. § 1029	Access device fraud	Fraud involving access devices or credentials	Use/sale of stolen credentials	Federal felony; up to 10 years
18 U.S.C. § 1028A	Aggravated identity theft	Using another's identity during a felony	Using stolen identities to sell data	Federal felony; mandatory 2 years consecutive
18 U.S.C. § 1201 (if applicable)	Kidnapping-related threats	Interstate threats connected to kidnapping	Threats implying unlawful restraint	Federal felony; up to life
Texas Penal Code § 22.07	Terroristic threat (state)	Threats intended to cause fear or public disruption	Public threats made from Texas	State misdemeanor/felony (varies)
California Penal Code § 422	Criminal threats (state)	Willful threats causing sustained fear	Threats targeting California victims	State felony/misdemeanor (wobbler)
Extradition / MLAT (various)	International cooperation	Treaties enabling evidence sharing	Sales to Australia, Canada, China, Curaçao, England, Ireland, Jamaica, Scotland, Trinidad, Tobago	Not a penalty; enables prosecution