

RCW 48.160.080 Failure to register when required—Criminal and civil penalties—Personal liability. (1) Any person who markets, offers for sale or sells a guaranteed asset protection waiver, or acts as an obligor for a guaranteed asset protection waiver without a registration, unless otherwise exempt from registration or exempt from this chapter, is acting in violation of this section and is subject to the provisions of RCW 48.160.070. In addition, any person who knowingly violates this section is guilty of a class B felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

(2) Any criminal penalty imposed under this section is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other civil or administrative penalty or sanction otherwise authorized under state law.

(3) If the commissioner has cause to believe that any person has violated this section, the commissioner may assess a civil penalty of not more than twenty-five thousand dollars for each violation, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with chapter 48.04 RCW. Upon failure to pay this civil penalty when due, the attorney general may bring a civil action on behalf of the commissioner to recover the unpaid penalty.

(4) A person or entity that should have been registered at the time of the sale of a waiver who was not so registered pursuant to this chapter is personally liable for performance of the waiver. Any waiver sold by a person or entity that should have been registered at the time of the sale is voidable, except at the instance of the person or entity who sold the waiver. [2009 c 334 § 9.]