

An Overview of Laws and Regulations Regarding Cutting the Line

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Author Note

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I. Introduction

In most cases and in most places, cutting the line is an action that is looked down upon socially. After all, “the act, which may be taboo in some instances, stands in stark contrast to the normal policy of first come, first served that governs most queue areas.”¹ The first come first served idea is “used to say that the people who arrive earliest get served or treated before the people who arrive late”² according to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary. However, the action is usually looked down upon and is not legally unacceptable as most entities do not have a legislature regarding cutting the line. However, there are laws in some states that do regard cutting the line. Moreover, places such as amusement parks have rules within them that regard cutting the line which will be addressed in this editorial.

As mentioned before, cutting the line is not something that is mentioned officially in sets of regulations or laws. There may be laws or regulations that mention cutting the line that is not included in this paper. Please contact the Iuris Law Review³ if you find anything to be concerning, misleading, or confusing.

II. In Amusement Parks

In both amusement parks and airports, there are actually regulations that allow for the cutting of lines. In fact, in amusement parks, one can pay to cut the lines. According to a Slate article by Chris Money, “Universal and Busch offer so-called “VIP” tours that anyone willing to pay between \$130 and \$3,000 can go on. These tours brazenly let you cut to the front of all

¹ Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia Article Name: “Cutting the line”

² Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, “Definition of First come first serve” Unknown date of publishment

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lines.”⁴ While this is not the case in every single amusement park, cutting the line is actually something that is “legal” in terms of regulations at parks if one has the money.

III. Washington State, USA

Interestingly enough though, there seems to be one state that the United States that regards cutting the line: Washington state. According to the HERO program of the Washington State Department of Transportation, “The fine for cutting in line at a ferry terminal is \$139. In both cases, additional local court costs may be added to the fines.”⁵ While this rule doesn’t apply in other places, it is important to note that Washington State actually has a rule regarding cutting the line for at least ferries.

⁴ Chris Money, “Changing Lines, Paying to skip the queues at parks” Slate, Published June 3rd 2002

⁵ Washington State Department of Transportation, Hero Program, Unknown date of publishment

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