

## **Ontario: Revised Statutes**

1960

# c 126 Execution Act

Ontario

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#### CHAPTER 126

#### The Execution Act

#### 1. In this Act.

Interpre-

- (a) "execution" includes a writ of *fieri facias* and every subsequent writ for giving effect thereto;
- (b) "sheriff" includes an officer to whom an execution is directed. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 1.
- 2. The following chattels are exempt from seizure under Chattels exempt from seizure under Chattels any writ issued out of any court:
  - 1. The household furniture, utensils and equipment that are contained in and form part of the permanent home of the debtor, provided that this paragraph does not apply to furniture, utensils or equipment purchased for defeating the claims of creditors, and provided further that, in the case of a writ issued upon a judgment given upon a claim for clothing, food, fuel or shelter supplied for the debtor or his family, the exemption under this paragraph is limited to household furniture, utensils and equipment not exceeding \$1,000 in value.
  - The necessary and ordinary wearing apparel of the debtor and his family.
  - 3. In the case of a debtor other than a person engaged in the tillage of the soil or farming, such food as the debtor actually has in his possession for the purposes of consumption by himself and his family, and in the case of a person engaged solely in the tillage of the soil or farming, such food as is necessary for consumption by himself and his family until the next harvest whether such food is in a consumable state or requires to be milled, slaughtered or otherwise processed.
  - 4. Such fuel as is in the debtor's home.

- 5. In the case of a debtor other than a person engaged in the tillage of the soil or farming, live stock, fowl, bees, books, tools and implements and other chattels necessary to and actually in use by the debtor in his business, profession or calling, to the extent of \$1,000.
- 6. In the case of a person engaged solely in the tillage of the soil or farming, live stock, fowl, bees, books, tools and implements and other chattels necessary to and actually in use by the debtor in his business, profession or calling, to the extent of \$3,000.
- 7. In the case of a person engaged solely in the tillage of the soil or farming, sufficient seed to seed all his land under cultivation, not exceeding 100 acres, as selected by the debtor, and fourteen bushels of potatoes, and where seizure is made between the 1st day of October and the 30th day of April, such food and bedding as is necessary to feed and bed the live stock and fowl that are exempt under this section until the 30th day of April next following. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 2; 1957, c. 31, s. 1 (2); 1959, c. 32, s. 1.

Right of debtor to part of proceeds of sale of implements

**3.** The debtor may, in lieu of the chattels referred to in paragraph 6 of section 2, elect to receive the proceeds of the sale thereof up to \$3,000, in which case the officer executing the writ shall pay the net proceeds of the sale if they do not exceed \$3,000 or, if they exceed \$3,000, shall pay that sum to the debtor in satisfaction of the debtor's right to exemption under that paragraph. 1957, c. 31, s. 2; 1959, c. 32, s. 2.

Money derived from sale of exempted goods **4.** The sum to which a debtor is entitled under paragraph 5 or 6 of section 2 or under section 3 is exempt from attachment or seizure at the instance of a creditor. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 4; 1957, c. 31, s. 3.

Disposal of exempted goods after death of the debtor

5. Chattels exempt from seizure are, after the death of the debtor, exempt from the claims of his creditors, and his widow is entitled to retain them for the benefit of herself and his family, or, if there is no widow, the family of the debtor is entitled to them. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 5.

Right of selection

**6.** The debtor, his widow or family, or, in the case of infants, their guardian, may select out of any larger number the chattels exempt from seizure. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 6.

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- 7. Nothing in this Act exempts any article including fuel, Beds and except beds, bedding and bedsteads (including cradles) in apparel ordinary use by the debtor and his family and the necessary and ordinary wearing apparel of the debtor and his family, from seizure to satisfy a debt contracted for such article. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 7.
- 8. The sheriff to whom a writ of execution against lands is Sheriff may delivered for execution may seize and sell thereunder the lands of lands of the execution debtor, including any lands whereof debtor any other person is seized or possessed in trust for the execution debtor and including any interest of the execution debtor in lands held in joint tenancy. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 8; 1957, c. 31, s. 4.
- 9.—(1) Subject to The Land Titles Act, a writ of executon Writs binds the goods and lands against which it is issued from the lands and time of the delivery thereof to the sheriff for execution, but goods R.S.O. 1960, save as to bills of sale and chattel mortgages, no writ of c. 204 execution against goods prejudices the title to such goods acquired by a person in good faith and for valuable consideration unless such person had, at the time when he acquired his title, notice that such writ or any other writ by virtue of which the goods of the execution debtor might be seized or attached has been delivered to the sheriff and remains in his hands unexecuted.
- (2) The sheriff shall, upon the receipt of the writ and Endorsewithout fee, endorse thereon the day of the year, the month, the hour and the minute when it was received.
- (3) Subsection 1 does not apply to an execution against Execution goods issued out of a division court, which binds only from of division court the time of the seizure. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 9.
- 10. Subject to *The Judicature Act* and the rules of court, Liability of land and other hereditaments and real estate belonging to execution any person indebted are liable to and chargeable with all R.S.O. 1960, just debts, duties and demands of whatsoever nature or kind owing by any such person to Her Majesty or to any of her subjects and are assets for the satisfaction thereof and are subject to the like remedies, proceedings and process for seizing, selling or disposing of them towards the satisfaction of such debts, duties and demands, and in like manner as personal estate is seized, sold or disposed of. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 10.

Seizure of shares and dividends under execution 11.—(1) Shares and dividends and any equitable or other right, property, interest or equity of redemption in or in respect of shares or dividends in a chartered bank or a corporation having transferable shares shall be deemed to be personal property found in the place where notice of the seizure thereof is served, and may be seized under execution and sold thereunder in like manner as other personal property. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 11.

Notice of

(2) The sheriff on being informed on behalf of the execution creditor that the execution debtor has such shares, and on being required to seize them, shall forthwith serve a copy of the execution on the bank or corporation with a notice that all the shares of the execution debtor are seized thereunder, and from the time of service the seizure shall be deemed to be made and no transfer of the shares by the execution debtor is valid unless and until the seizure has been discharged, and every seizure and sale made under the execution shall include all dividends, premiums, bonuses or other pecuniary profits upon the shares seized, and they shall not, after notice as aforesaid, be paid by the bank or corporation to anyone except the person to whom the shares have been sold.

How seizure made (3) Such seizure may be made and notice given by the sheriff where the bank or corporation has within his bailiwick a place at which service of process may be made, or where a share register is kept. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 12.

Provisions for the case of more than one place of service (4) If the bank or corporation has more than one place where service of process may be made, and there is some place where transfers of shares may be notified to and entered by the bank or corporation, so as to be valid as regards the bank or corporation, or where dividends or profits as aforesaid on stock may be paid other than the place where service of such notice has been made, the notice does not affect any transfer or payment of dividends or profits duly made and entered at any such other place, so as to subject the bank or corporation to pay twice, or so as to affect the rights of a *bona fide* purchaser, until after the expiration of a period from the time of service sufficient for the transmission of notice of service by post from the place where it has been made to such other place, which notice it is the duty of the bank or corporation to so transmit. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 13.

Mode of proceeding after sale (5) Where any such share is sold, the sheriff shall within ten days after the sale serve upon the bank or corporation at a place where service of process may be made a copy of the execution with his certificate endorsed thereon certifying the sale and the name of the purchaser who shall have the same rights and be under the same obligations as if he had purchased the share from the execution debtor at the time of the service of notice under subsection 2. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 14.

- (6) Nothing in this Act affects any remedy that the execu-Saving of all other tion creditor might, without this Act, have had against any remedies such share or the dividends, premiums, bonuses or other pecuniary profits in respect thereof, and subsections 1 to 4 apply to such remedy in so far as they can be applied thereto. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 15 (1).
- 12. If a sheriff seizes the shares of an execution debtor in Seizure and a private company, he shall first offer them for sale to the shares in other shareholders or any one of them in such private com-company pany, and if none of them will purchase the shares for a reasonable price, the sheriff may then offer the debtor's interest therein for sale to the public generally and sell and convey to the highest bidder. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 15 (2).
- **13.** The procedure for seizure and sale in the case of an Procedure equitable or other right, property, interest or equity of redempequitable tion in or in respect of a share shall be the same as hereinbefore provided in the case of shares and dividends, and the same shall be held to be personal property found in the place where notice of the seizure is served. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 16.
- 14.—(1) All rights under letters patent of invention and Rights under any equitable or other right, property, interest or equity of invention redemption therein shall be deemed to be personal property and may be seized and sold under execution in like manner as other personal property.
- (2) Such seizure and sale may be made by the sheriff of How seizable any county or district having in his hands to be executed an execution against the property of the debtor who is the owner of or interested in the letters patent.
- (3) Notice of the seizure shall forthwith be sent to the Notice of Patent Office, Ottawa, and the interest of the debtor shall be bound from the time when the notice is received there. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 17.
- 15. The sheriff may seize and sell any equitable or other seizure and right, property, interest or equity of redemption in or in chattels, respect of any goods, chattels or personal property, including etc. leasehold interests in any land of the execution debtor, and, except where the sale is under an execution against goods issued out of a division court, the sale conveys whatever equitable or other right, property, interest or equity of

redemption he had or was entitled to in or in respect of the goods, chattels or personal property at the time of the delivery of the execution to the sheriff for execution, and, where the sale is under an execution against goods issued out of a division court, the sale conveys whatever equitable or other right, property, interest or equity of redemption the debtor had or was entitled to in or in respect of the goods, chattels or personal property at the time of the seizure. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 18.

Money and securities for money

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16.—(1) The sheriff shall seize any money or bank-notes, including any surplus of a former execution against the debtor, and any cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes, bonds, mortgages, specialties or other securities for money belonging to the person against whom the execution has been issued, and, subject to *The Creditors' Relief Act*, shall pay or deliver to the party who sued out the execution the money or bank-notes so seized, or a sufficient part thereof, and hold such cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes, bonds, mortgages, specialties or other securities for money as security for the amount directed to be levied, or so much thereof as has not been otherwise levied or raised, and the sheriff may sue in his own name for the recovery of the sums secured thereby.

Book debts and choses in action (2) The sheriff may seize any book debts and other choses in action of the execution debtor and may sue in his own name for the recovery of the moneys payable in respect thereof.

Sale by sheriff

(3) If it appears to the sheriff that an attempt to collect the book debts, choses in action or the securities for the money referred to in subsections 1 and 2 would be less beneficial to the creditors than a sale thereof, the sheriff may proceed to sell such book debts, choses in action and securities by public auction in the same manner as the debtor's goods may be sold when taken in execution. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 19.

Effect of payment to sheriff

(4) The payment to the sheriff by the person liable on such cheque, bill of exchange, promissory note, bond, mortgage, specialty or other security, with or without suit, or recovery from him, discharges him to the extent of such payment or recovery from his liability thereon. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 20.

Payment of proceeds

(5) Subject to *The Creditors' Relief Act*, the sheriff shall pay over to the party who sued out the execution the money so paid or recovered, or a sufficient sum to discharge the

amount directed to be levied, and if, after satisfaction thereof and of the fees, poundage and expenses of the sheriff, a surplus remains, it shall be paid to the party against whom the execution issued. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 21.

- (6) A sheriff is not bound to sue any person liable upon Indemnity such cheque, bill of exchange, promissory note, bond, mortgage, specialty or other security unless the party who sued out the execution enters into a bond with two sufficient sureties to indemnify the sheriff against all costs and expenses to be incurred in the prosecution of the action, or to which he may become liable in consequence thereof, and the expenses of the bond, not exceeding \$5, may be deducted from any money recovered in the action. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 22.
- 17.—(1) A sheriff is not, without written instructions and When sheriff a bond as hereinafter mentioned, obliged to seize property in seize goods the possession of a third person claiming it and not in the third parties possession of the debtor against whose property the execution was issued.
- (2) The instructions shall specify the property in such a Instructions way as to enable the sheriff to identify it.
- (3) The bond shall be a bond of indemnity to the sheriff Bond and his assigns, with two sufficient sureties who shall justify in double the value of the property, and the value shall be stated in an affidavit by the creditor or his solicitor or agent attached to the bond.
- (4) The bond shall be assignable to the claimant, and shall of bond be conditioned that the persons executing it shall be liable for the damages, costs and expenses that the sheriff or the claimant may be put to by the seizure and subsequent proceedings, including interpleader proceedings, if any, and which he does not recover from other persons who ought to pay them.
- (5) If the sheriff is not satisfied with the bond offered, the Settlement matter in difference shall be determined by a judge of the county or district court of the county or district.
- (6) Nothing in this section limits the right of the sheriff sheriff to to apply for relief by interpleader. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, interpleader s. 23.
- 18.—(1) If a sheriff is informed on behalf of the execution oney tion creditor that the execution debtor is a mortgagee of land mortgage and that the mortgage is registered, or that he is entitled to execution

receive a sum of money charged upon land by virtue of a registered instrument, and, if the sheriff is required on behalf of the execution creditor to seize the mortgage or charge and is furnished in writing with the information necessary to enable him to give the notice hereinafter mentioned, he shall, upon payment of the proper fees, forthwith deliver or transmit to the registrar or master of titles in whose office the mortgage or other instrument is registered, who shall forthwith register it, a notice in the form or to the effect following:

Form of sheriff's notice to registrar To the Registrar of ...... (or as the case may be)

Dated this ..., day of ..., 19....

Effect of registration of sheriff's notice to registrar (2) Upon registration of the notice, the interest of the execution debtor in the mortgage or other instrument and in the land therein described and in the money thereby secured and in all covenants and stipulations for securing payment thereof is bound by the execution, and such registration is notice of the execution and seizure to all persons who may thereafter in any way acquire an interest in the mortgage, land, money or covenants, and the rights of the sheriff and of the execution creditor have priority over the rights of all such persons subject, as regards the mortgage or charge, to section 19. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 24.

Notice to mortgagor 19.—(1) A notice similar to that mentioned in section 18 shall also be served upon the mortgagor or the person who is liable to pay the money secured by the registered instrument, and after such service the person served shall pay to the sheriff all money then payable and, as it becomes due, all money that may become payable to the execution debtor so far as may be necessary to satisfy the execution.

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- (2) Service of the notice may be made personally, or by Mode of leaving it at the dwelling-house of the person to be served service with a grown-up person residing there, or by registered mail to the proper address of the person to be served.
- (3) Any payment made after service of the notice or after Payments actual knowledge of the seizure is void as against the sheriff notice and the execution creditor. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 25.
- 20. In addition to the remedies provided in this Act, the Sheriff sheriff may bring an action on any mortgage or other instru-mortgage ment seized under this Act for the sale or foreclosure of the land covered by it, and is entitled to a bond of indemnity as in the cases provided for in subsection 6 of section 16. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 26.
- 21.—(1) Upon an execution, notice whereof is registered When seizure may under section 18, expiring or being satisfied, set aside or with-be vacated drawn, a certificate of such fact shall be given by the sheriff or by the execution creditor, and it or the order to set aside, as the case may be, may be registered, and thereupon the seizure is vacated and at an end.
- (2) The order or the certificate of the sheriff does not Verification of order and certificates require verification.
- (3) The certificate of the execution creditor shall be veri-Idem fied by the oath of a subscribing witness as in the case of other instruments affecting land. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 27.
- 22. For the registration of a notice under section 18, the Fees of registrar registrar or master is entitled to a fee of 50 cents, and for and sheriff the registration of a certificate under section 21, to the fee provided by The Registry Act, and for every notice of seizure R.S.O. 1960, under section 18, the sheriff is entitled to a fee of \$1, and for every certificate under section 21 to a fee of 75 cents. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 28.
- 23. Where an execution debtor is a mortgagee of chattels Taking chattel and the mortgage is registered as required by law, sections mortgage in 18 to 22 are applicable, except that the notice to be given by execution the sheriff shall be delivered or transmitted to the clerk of the county or district court or other officer in whose office the chattel mortgage is registered. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 29.
- 24.—(1) Where the word "mortgagor" occurs in this Interpresection, it shall be read and construed as if the words "his tation heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, or person having the equity of redemption" were inserted immediately after the word "mortgagor". R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 30.

Interest of a mortgagor

(2) The sheriff to whom an execution against the lands and tenements of a mortgagor is directed may seize, sell and convey all the interest of the mortgagor in any mortgaged lands and tenements.

Equity of redemption

(3) The equity of redemption in freehold land is saleable under an execution against the lands and tenements of the owner of the equity of redemption in his lifetime, or in the hands of his executors or administrators after his death, subject to the mortgage, in the same manner as land and tenements may now be sold under an execution.

Selling lands subject to more than one mortgage in execution

(4) Where more mortgages than one of the same lands have been made to the same mortgagee or to different mortgagees, subsections 2 and 3 apply, and the equity of redemption is saleable under an execution against the lands and tenements of the owner, subject to the mortgages, in the same manner as in the case of land subject to one mortgage only. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 31.

Effect of sale

(5) The effect of the seizure or taking in execution, sale and conveyance of mortgaged lands and tenements is to vest in the purchaser, his heirs and assigns, all the interest of the mortgagor therein at the time the execution was placed in the hands of the sheriff, as well as at the time of the sale, and to vest in the purchaser, his heirs and assigns, the same rights as the mortgagor would have had if the sale had not taken place, and the purchaser, his heirs or assigns, may pay, remove or satisfy any mortgage, charge or lien that at the time of the sale existed upon the lands or tenements so sold in like manner as the mortgagor might have done, and thereupon the purchaser, his heirs and assigns, acquire the same estate, right and title as the mortgagor would have acquired in case the payment, removal or satisfaction had been effected by the mortgagor. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 32.

Effect of creditor

(6) A mortgagee of land, or the executors, administrators mortgagee or or assigns of a mortgagee, being or not being the execution creditor, may be the purchaser at the sale and acquire the same estate, interest and rights thereby as any other purchaser, but in that event he or they shall give to the mortgagor a release of the mortgage debt, and if another person becomes the purchaser, and, if the mortgagee, his executors, administrators or assigns enforce payment of the mortgage debt by the mortgagor, the purchaser shall repay the debt and interest to the mortgagor, and, in default of payment thereof within one month after demand, the mortgagor may recover the debt and interest from the purchaser, and has a charge therefor upon the mortgaged land. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 33.

- 25.—(1) Any estate, right, title or interest in land which, Contingent under section 10 of *The Conveyancing and Law of Property* liable to *Act*, may be conveyed or assigned by any person, or over which execution he has any disposing power that he may, without the assent c. 66 of any other person, exercise for his own benefit, is liable to seizure and sale under execution against such person in like manner and on like conditions as land is by law liable to seizure and sale under execution, and the sheriff selling it may convey and assign it to the purchaser in the same manner and with the same effect as the person might himself have done.
- (2) An inchoate right to dower is not liable to seizure Except inchoate right to or sale under execution.
- (3) Property over which a deceased person had a general subject to power of appointment exercisable for his own benefit without power of the assent of any other person where it is appointed by his ment will may be seized and sold under an execution against the personal representative of such deceased person after the property of the deceased has been exhausted. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 34.
- **26.**—(1) The interest of a person derived by deed, lease Interest in or licence in writing from the churchwardens or other authori-sitting ties of any church in a pew or sitting, if the interest is assignable by the holder thereof, may be sold under execution at the suit of the churchwardens or other authorities for arrears of rent or other charges to which the pew or sitting is subject, or which the holder thereof may have agreed to pay or for which he may be liable, or at the suit of any creditor of such holder, and the churchwardens or other authorities may become purchasers at such sale on behalf of the church, and may re-let or sell the right so acquired.
- (2) The sheriff may execute a deed to the purchaser of Deed the interest so sold, and the churchwardens or other authorities shall, on production of the deed, give effect to it upon payment of any arrears of rent or charge then due.
- (3) Such sale is subject to any continuing rent or charge Saving of such pew or sitting previously stipulated for or imposed, and does not prejudice the right to impose increased rent or charges on such pew or sitting pursuant to any law or custom. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 35, amended.
- 27. The title and interest of a testator or intestate in land How execution may be seized and sold under an execution upon a judgment able against recovered by a creditor of the testator or intestate against etc.

his executor or administrator in the same manner and under the same process as upon a judgment against the deceased if he were living. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 36.

Executions against municipal corporations 28.—(1) An execution against a municipal corporation may be endorsed with a direction to the sheriff to levy the amount thereof by rate, and the proceedings thereon shall then be the following:

Statement of claim to treasurer 1. The sheriff shall deliver a copy of the writ and endorsement to the treasurer of the municipal corporation, or leave such copy at the office or dwelling-place of that officer, with a statement in writing of the sheriff's fees and of the amount required to satisfy the execution, including the interest calculated to some day as near as is convenient to the day of the service.

When sheriff to strike 2. If the amount with interest thereon from the day mentioned in the statement is not paid to the sheriff within one month after the service, the sheriff shall examine the assessment roll of the municipality and shall, in like manner as rates are struck for general municipal purposes, strike a rate sufficient in the dollar to cover the amount due on the execution, with such addition as the sheriff deems sufficient to cover the interest up to the time when the rate will probably be available, and his own fees and poundage.

Sheriff's precept to collector, etc., to levy rate

3. The sheriff shall thereupon issue a precept under his hand and seal of office directed to the collector of the corporation, and shall annex to the precept the roll of such rate, and shall, by the precept after reciting the writ and that the corporation has neglected to satisfy it and referring to the roll annexed to the precept, command the collector to levy such rate at the time and in the manner by law required in respect to the general annual rates.

Rate rolls

4. If, at the time for levying the annual rates next after the receipt of such report, the collector has a general rate roll delivered to him for the year, he shall add a column thereto headed "Execution rate in A.B. vs. The Township of .....", adding a similar column for each execution if more than one, and shall insert therein the amount by such precept required to be levied upon each person respectively, and shall levy the amount of such

- execution rate as aforesaid, and shall, within the time within which he is required to make the return of the general annual rate, return to the sheriff the precept with the amount levied thereon.
- 5. The sheriff shall, after satisfying the execution and Surplus all the fees and poundage thereon, pay any surplus, within ten days after receiving it, to the treasurer of the municipal corporation.
- (2) The clerk, assessor and collector of the corporation Functions of shall, for all purposes connected with carrying into effect, or sors and permitting or assisting the sheriff to carry into effect, the collectors provisions of this Act with respect to such execution, be deemed to be officers of the court out of which the writ issued, and as such are amenable to the court and may be proceeded against by attachment, mandamus or otherwise in order to compel them to perform the duties imposed upon them. R.S.O. 1950, c. 120, s. 37.

