



# LAWS OF ALASKA

2003

**Source**

CSSB 93(JUD) am H

**Chapter No.**

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**AN ACT**

Relating to limitations on actions to quiet title to, eject a person from, or recover real property or the possession of it; relating to adverse possession; and providing for an effective date.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



AN ACT

1 Relating to limitations on actions to quiet title to, eject a person from, or recover real property  
2 or the possession of it; relating to adverse possession; and providing for an effective date.

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4 \* **Section 1.** AS 09.10.030 is amended to read:

5           **Sec. 09.10.030. Actions to recover real property [IN 10 YEARS].** **Except**  
6 **as provided in (b) of this section, a** [A] person may not bring an action for the  
7 recovery of real property [,] or for the recovery of the possession of it unless the action  
8 is commenced within 10 years. An action may not be maintained **under this**  
9 **subsection** for the recovery unless it appears that the plaintiff, an ancestor, a  
10 predecessor, or the grantor of the plaintiff was seized or possessed of the premises in  
11 question within 10 years before the commencement of the action.

12 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 09.10.030 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13           (b) An action may be brought at any time by a person who was seized or

1 possessed of the real property in question at some time before the commencement of  
2 the action or whose grantor or predecessor was seized or possessed of the real property  
3 in question at some time before commencement of the action, and whose ownership  
4 interest in the real property is recorded under AS 40.17, in order to

5 (1) quiet title to that real property; or

6 (2) eject a person from that real property.

7 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 09.45.052(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) The uninterrupted adverse notorious possession of real property under  
9 color and claim of title for seven years or more, **or the uninterrupted adverse**  
10 **notorious possession of real property for 10 years or more because of a good faith**  
11 **but mistaken belief that the real property lies within the boundaries of adjacent**  
12 **real property owned by the adverse claimant,** is conclusively presumed to give title  
13 to the property except as against the state or the United States. For the purpose of this  
14 section, land that is in the trust established by the Alaska Mental Health Enabling Act  
15 of 1956, P.L. 84-830, 70 Stat. 709, is land owned by the state.

16 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 09.45.052 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

17 (c) Notwithstanding AS 09.10.030, the uninterrupted adverse notorious use of  
18 real property by a public utility for utility purposes for a period of 10 years or more  
19 vests in that utility an easement in that property for that purpose.

20 (d) Notwithstanding AS 09.10.030, the uninterrupted adverse notorious use,  
21 including construction, management, operation, or maintenance, of private land for  
22 public transportation or public access purposes, including highways, streets, roads, or  
23 trails, by the public, the state, or a political subdivision of the state, for a period of 10  
24 years or more, vests an appropriate interest in that land in the state or a political  
25 subdivision of the state. This subsection does not limit or expand the rights of a state  
26 or political subdivision under adverse possession or prescription as the law existed on  
27 the day before the effective date of this subsection.

28 \* **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
29 read:

30 **APPLICABILITY.** AS 09.10.030, as amended in secs. 1 and 2 of this Act, applies to  
31 actions that have not been barred before the effective date of this Act by AS 09.10.030 as it

1 read before the effective date of this Act.

2 \* **Sec. 6.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).