

Instruction concerning the Sworn Affidavit

The German text is legally binding.

The universities in the state of Baden-Württemberg request a sworn affidavit concerning the sole authorship of the scientific achievements, in assurance that the doctoral student's work is his or her own individual research.

The legal system associates a particular meaning and serious consequences with a sworn affidavit, and thus penalizes false sworn affidavits. Intentional (consciously made) false affidavits can be punished with up to 3 years of imprisonment or a fine.

A negligent offence (an affidavit made in spite of the fact that you should have noticed that the declaration is not true) can result in imprisonment for up to one year or a fine.

The corresponding penal provisions to be found in § 156 StGB (German Criminal Code) for false sworn affidavits and § 161 StGB for negligent offences.

§ 156 StGB: False sworn affidavits

Whosoever before a public authority competent to administer sworn affidavits, falsely makes such an affidavit or falsely testifies while referring to such an affidavit shall be liable to imprisonment of not more than three years or a fine.

§ 161 StGB: Negligent offences

(1) If a person commits one of the offences listed in §§ 154 to 156 negligently the penalty shall be imprisonment of not more than one year or a fine.

(2) The offender shall be exempt from liability if he corrects his false testimony in time. The provisions of § 158 (2) and (3) shall apply accordingly.

Acknowledged on _____

Date

Signature