

PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 368 of 1978

333.7524 Disposition of forfeited property; donation of lights and scales for educational purposes; appointment, compensation, and authority of receiver to dispose of forfeited real property; expenses of forfeiture proceedings; court order.

Sec. 7524. (1) When property is forfeited under this article, the local unit of government that seized the property may do any of the following, or if the property is seized by or in the custody of this state, the state may do any of the following, subject to section 7523(1)(d):

(a) Retain the property for official use.

(b) Sell the property that is not required to be destroyed by law and that is not harmful to the public. The proceeds and any money, negotiable instruments, securities, or any other thing of value as described in section 7521(1)(f) that are forfeited under this article shall be deposited with the treasurer of the entity having budgetary authority over the seizing agency and applied as follows:

(i) For the payment of proper expenses of the proceedings for forfeiture and sale, including expenses incurred during the seizure process, maintenance of custody, advertising, and court costs, except as otherwise provided in subsection (4).

(ii) The balance remaining after the payment of expenses shall be distributed by the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings to the treasurer of the entity having budgetary authority over the seizing agency. If more than 1 agency was substantially involved in effecting the forfeiture, the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceeding shall equitably distribute the money among the treasurers of the entities having budgetary authority over the seizing agencies. A seizing agency may direct that the funds or a portion of the funds it would otherwise have received under this subsection be paid to nonprofit organizations whose primary activity is to assist law enforcement agencies with drug-related criminal investigations and obtaining information for solving crimes. The money received by a seizing agency under this subparagraph and all interest and other earnings on money received by the seizing agency under this subparagraph shall be used only for law enforcement purposes, as appropriated by the entity having budgetary authority over the seizing agency. A distribution made under this subparagraph shall serve as a supplement to, and not a replacement for, funds otherwise budgeted for law enforcement purposes.

(c) Require the administrator to take custody of the property and remove it for disposition in accordance with law.

(d) Forward it to the bureau for disposition.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), this state or local units of government may donate lights for plant growth or scales forfeited under this article to elementary or secondary schools or institutions of higher education that request in writing to receive those lights or scales under this subsection, for educational purposes. This state or local units of government shall donate lights and scales under this subsection to elementary or secondary schools or institutions of higher education in the order in which the written requests are received. This state or local units of government may limit the number of lights and scales available to each requestor.

(3) In the course of selling real property under subsection (1)(b), the court that has entered an order of forfeiture may, on motion of the agency to whom the property has been forfeited, appoint a receiver to dispose of the real property forfeited. The receiver is entitled to reasonable compensation. The receiver has authority to do all of the following:

(a) List the forfeited real property for sale.

(b) Make whatever arrangements are necessary for the maintenance and preservation of the forfeited real property.

(c) Accept offers to purchase the forfeited real property.

(d) Execute instruments transferring title to the forfeited real property.

(4) If a court enters an order of forfeiture, the court may order a person who claimed an interest in the forfeited property under section 7523(1)(c) to pay the expenses of the proceedings of forfeiture to the entity having budgetary authority over the seizing agency.

History: 1978, Act 368, Eff. Sept. 30, 1978;—Am. 1982, Act 251, Imd. Eff. Sept. 29, 1982;—Am. 1985, Act 135, Imd. Eff. Sept. 30, 1985;—Am. 1988, Act 7, Imd. Eff. Feb. 8, 1988;—Am. 1990, Act 30, Eff. Mar. 28, 1991;—Am. 1990, Act 336, Eff. Apr. 1, 1991;—Am. 1994, Act 8, Imd. Eff. Feb. 24, 1994;—Am. 2006, Act 558, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006;—Am. 2011, Act 161, Imd. Eff. Oct. 4, 2011;—Am. 2016, Act 418, Eff. Apr. 4, 2017.

Popular name: Act 368