SENATE BILL NO. 1208

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GOODMAN.

Read 1st time February 27, 2008, and ordered printed.

5282S.01I

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal sections 513.600, 513.605, 513.607, 513.610, 513.612, 513.615, 513.617, 513.620, 513.623, 513.625, 513.630, 513.635, 513.637, 513.640, 513.645, 513.647, 513.649, 513.651, and 513.653, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof twenty-five new sections relating to criminal forfeiture, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 513.600, 513.605, 513.607, 513.610, 513.612, 513.615,

- 2 513.617, 513.620, 513.623, 513.625, 513.630, 513.635, 513.637, 513.640, 513.645,
- 3 513.647, 513.649, 513.651, and 513.653, RSMo, are repealed and twenty-five new
- 4 sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 546.2000, 546.2003,
- 5 546.2006, 546.2009, 546.2012, 546.2015, 546.2018, 546.2021, 546.2024, 546.2027,
- 6 546.2030, 546.2033, 546.2036, 546.2039, 546.2042, 546.2045, 546.2048, 546.2051,
- 7 546.2054, 546.2057, 546.2060, 546.2063, 546.2066, 546.2069, and 546.2072, to
- 8 read as follows:

546.2000. As used in sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, the following

- 2 terms shall mean:
- 3 (1) "Attorney for the state", any prosecuting or circuit attorney
- 4 authorized to investigate, commence, and prosecute an action under
- 5 sections 546.2000 to 546.2072;
- 6 (2) "Conveyance", includes any vehicle, trailer, vessel, aircraft,
- 7 or other means of transportation;
- 8 (3) "Interest holder", a secured party within the meaning of the
- 9 Uniform Commercial Code, a mortgagee, lien creditor, or the
- 10 beneficiary of a security interest or encumbrance pertaining to an

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20

21

2223

24

25

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36 37

38

39

40

41

42

interest in property, whose interest would be perfected against a good faith purchaser for value. A person who holds property for the benefit of or as an agent or nominee for another person, or who is not in substantial compliance with any statute requiring an interest in 14property to be recorded or reflected in public records in order to 15perfect the interest against a good faith purchaser for value, is not an 16 interest holder; 17

- 18 (4) "Omission", the failure to perform an act that is required by 19 law;
 - (5) "Owner", a person, other than an interest holder, who has an interest in property. A person who holds property for the benefit of or as an agent or nominee for another person, or who is not in substantial compliance with any statute requiring an interest in property to be recorded or reflected in public records in order to perfect the interest against a good faith purchaser for value, is not an owner;
- 26 (6) "Proceeds", property acquired directly or indirectly from, 27produced through, realized through, or caused by an act or omission 28and includes any property of any kind without reduction for expenses incurred for acquisition, maintenance, production, or any other purpose;
 - (7) "Property", anything of value, which includes any interest in property, including any benefit, privilege, claim, or right with respect to anything of value, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible;
 - (8) "Regulated interest holder", an interest holder that is a business authorized to do business in this state and is under the jurisdiction of an appropriate state or federal regulatory agency or agencies relating to banking, securities, insurance, and real estate;
 - (9) "Seizing agency", any department or agency of this state or its political subdivisions that regularly employs law enforcement officers, and that employs the law enforcement officer who seizes property for forfeiture, or such other agency as the agency or department may designate by its chief executive officer or their designee;
- (10) "Seizure for forfeiture", seizure of property by a law 43 enforcement officer, including a constructive seizure, accompanied by an assertion by the seizing agency or by an attorney for the state that 4546 the property is seized for forfeiture, in accordance with section 546.2015. 47

546.2003. 1. The judicial circuit court where actual or constructive seizure of the property occurs has jurisdiction under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 over:

- 4 (1) All interests in property if the property for which forfeiture 5 is sought is within this state at the time the action is filed; and
- 6 (2) The interest of an owner or interest holder in the property if 7 the owner or interest holder is subject to personal jurisdiction in this 8 state.
- 9 2. In addition to the venue provided for under state law or any other provision of law, a proceeding for forfeiture under sections 10 11 546.2000 to 546.2072 may be maintained in the judicial circuit in which any part of the property is found or in the judicial circuit in which a 12civil or criminal action could be maintained against an owner or 13 14 interest holder for the conduct alleged to give rise to the forfeiture. A 15 claimant or defendant may obtain a change of venue if there exists so great a prejudice against the party that such party cannot obtain a fair 16 17 and impartial trial.

546.2006. The following conduct gives rise to forfeiture whether or not there is a prosecution or conviction related to the conduct:

- 3 (1) An act or omission occurring in this state punishable as a 4 felony or misdemeanor;
- 5 (2) An act or omission occurring outside this state, that would be 6 punishable as a felony or misdemeanor in the place of occurrence and 7 would be described in subdivision (1) of this section if the act or 8 omission occurred in this state; or
- 9 (3) An act or omission committed in furtherance of any act or 10 omission described in subdivision (1) of this section and is punishable 11 as a felony or misdemeanor including any inchoate or preparatory 12 offense.

546.2009. The following property is subject to seizure and 2 forfeiture:

- (1) All controlled substances in section 195.017, RSMo, raw materials, controlled substance analogs, counterfeit substances, imitation controlled substances, that have been manufactured, distributed, dispensed, possessed, or acquired in violation of the laws of this state;
- 8 (2) (a) All property, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this

17

21

9 subdivision, including the whole of any lot or tract of land and any 10 appurtenances or improvements to real property that is either:

- a. Furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in an exchange that constitutes conduct giving rise to forfeiture; or
- b. Used or intended to be used in any manner or part to facilitate
 conduct giving rise to forfeiture;
- 15 (b) If the only conduct giving rise to forfeiture is possession of 16 controlled substances solely for personal consumption:
 - a. Real property is not subject to forfeiture; and
- b. Other property subject to forfeiture under subparagraph b. of paragraph (a) of subdivision (2) of this section may be forfeited only under section 546.2039;
 - (3) All proceeds of any conduct giving rise to forfeiture;
- 22 (4) All weapons possessed, used, or available for use in any 23 manner to facilitate conduct giving rise to forfeiture;
- 24 (5) Any interest or security in, claim against, or property or 25 contractual right of any kind affording a source of control over any 26 enterprise that a person has established, operated, controlled, 27 conducted, or participated in the conduct of, through conduct giving 28 rise to forfeiture; and
- 29 (6) Any property of a person up to the value of property either:
- 30 (a) Described in subdivision (2) of this section that the person 31 owned or possessed for the purpose of a use described in subdivision 32 (2) of this section; or
- 33 (b) Described in subdivision (3) of this section and is proceeds 34 of conduct engaged in by the person or for which the person is 35 criminally responsible;
- Property described in this subdivision may be seized for forfeiture 36 under a constructive seizure or an actual seizure under section 37546.2015. Actual seizure may only be done under a seizure warrant 38 39 issued on showings, in addition to the showing of probable cause for the forfeiture of the subject property, that the subject property is not 40 available for seizure for reasons described in subsection 1 of section 41 546.2042, and that the value of the property to be seized is not greater than the total value of the subject property, or under a constructive 43seizure. If property of a defendant up to the total value of all interests in the subject property is not seized prior to final judgment in an

46 action under this section, the remaining balance shall be ordered 47 forfeited as a personal judgment against the defendant;

- 48 (7) Any abandoned or unclaimed property that a law 49 enforcement officer comes into contact with during the performance of 50 his or her official duties.
 - 546.2012. 1. All property, including all interests in property, described in section 546.2009 is subject to forfeiture, except that property is exempt from forfeiture:
- 4 (1) If the owner or interest holder acquired the property before 5 or during the conduct giving rise to its forfeiture, and:
- 6 (a) Did not know and could not reasonably have known of the act
 7 or omission or that it was likely to occur; or
- 8 (b) Acted reasonably to prevent the conduct giving rise to 9 forfeiture; or
- 10 (2) If the owner or interest holder acquired the property after 11 the conduct giving rise to its forfeiture, including acquisition of 12 proceeds of conduct giving rise to forfeiture, and acquired the property 13 in good faith, for value and did not knowingly take part in an illegal 14 transaction.
- 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1 of this section, property is not exempt from forfeiture, even though the owner or interest holder lacked knowledge or reason to know that the conduct giving rise to its forfeiture had occurred or was likely to occur, if:
- 19 (1) The person whose conduct gave rise to its forfeiture had the 20 authority to convey the property of the person claiming the exemption 21 to a good faith purchaser for value at the time of the conduct;
- 22 (2) The owner or interest holder is criminally responsible for the 23 conduct giving rise to its forfeiture, whether or not there is a 24 prosecution or plea or finding of guilt; or
- 25 (3) The owner or interest holder acquired the property with notice of its actual or constructive seizure for forfeiture under section 546.2015, or with reason to believe that it was subject to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.

546.2015. 1. Property may be seized for forfeiture by law enforcement officers upon process issued by any associate circuit judge or circuit judge. The court may issue a seizure warrant on an affidavit under oath demonstrating that probable cause exists for its forfeiture

19

27

28

29

30 31

32

33

34

35

36

or that the property has been the subject of a previous final judgment of forfeiture in the courts of any state or of the United States. The court may order that the property be seized on such terms and conditions as are reasonable in the discretion of the court. The order may be made on or in connection with a search warrant.

- 2. Property may be seized for forfeiture by law enforcement officers without process on probable cause to believe that the property is subject to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.
- 3. The seizure of inhabited residential real property for forfeiture which is accompanied by removing or excluding its residents shall be done under a pre-seizure adversarial judicial determination of probable cause, except that this determination may be done ex parte when the attorney for the state has demonstrated exigent circumstances.
 - 4. Property may be seized constructively by:
- 20 (1) Posting notice of seizure for forfeiture or notice of pending 21 forfeiture on the property;
- 22 (2) Giving notice under section 546.2021; and
- (3) Filing or recording in the public records relating to that type of property notice of seizure for forfeiture, notice of pending forfeiture, a forfeiture lien or a lis pendens. Filings or recordings made under this subsection are not subject to a filing fee or other charge.
 - 5. The seizing agency, or the attorney for the state, shall make a reasonable effort to provide notice of the seizure to the person from whose possession or control the property was seized. If no person is in possession or control, the seizing agency may attach the notice to the property or to the place of its seizure or may make a reasonable effort to deliver it to the owner of the property. The notice shall contain a general description of the property seized, the date and place of seizure, the name of the seizing agency and the address and telephone number of the seizing officer or other person or agency from whom information about the seizure may be obtained.
- 6. A person who acts in good faith and in a reasonable manner to comply with an order of the court or a request of a law enforcement officer is not liable to any person for acts done in reasonable compliance with the order or request. In addition, no inference of guilt may be drawn from the fact that a person refuses a law enforcement

- 42 officer's request to deliver the property.
- 7. A possessory lien of a person from whose possession property
- 44 is seized is not affected by the seizure.
 - 546.2018. 1. Property seized for forfeiture under sections
- 2 546.2000 to 546.2072 is not subject to alienation, conveyance,
- 3 sequestration, attachment, or a motion or order under chapter 542,
- 4 RSMo, relating to the return of property seized as evidence with or
- 5 without a search warrant.
- 6 2. The seizing agency or the attorney for the state may authorize
- 7 the release of the seizure for forfeiture on the property if forfeiture or
- 8 retention of actual custody is unnecessary.
- 9 3. An owner of property seized under sections 546.2000 to
- 10 546.2072 may obtain release of the property by posting with the
- 11 attorney for the state a surety bond or cash in an amount equal to the
- 12 full fair market value of the property as determined by the attorney for
- 13 the state. The state may refuse to release the property if:
- 14 (1) The bond tendered is inadequate; or
- 15 (2) The property is retained as contraband or as evidence; or
- 16 (3) It is particularly altered or designed for use in conduct 17 giving rise to forfeiture.
- 18 If a surety bond or cash is posted and the property is forfeited, the
- 19 court shall forfeit the surety bond or cash in lieu of the property.
- 4. The seizing agency, at its discretion, may release property
- 21 seized for forfeiture to any federal agency for use in a federal criminal
- 22 prosecution or forfeiture under federal law.
- 23 5. If property is seized under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, the
- 24 attorney for the state or his designee, subject to any need to retain the
- 25 property as evidence, may:
- 26 (1) Remove the property to an appropriate place designated by
- 27 the seizing agency head or his designee;
- 28 (2) Place the property under constructive seizure;
- 29 (3) Remove the property to a storage area for safekeeping or, if
- 30 the property is a negotiable instrument or money, deposit it in an
- 31 interest bearing account;
- 32 (4) Provide for another agency or custodian, including an owner,
- 33 secured party, mortgagee, or lienholder, to take custody of the property
- 34 and service, maintain and operate it as reasonably necessary to

maintain its value, in any appropriate location within the jurisdiction of the court; or

- 37 (5) Require the seizing law enforcement agency to take custody 38 of the property and remove it to an appropriate location for disposition 39 in accordance with law.
- 6. As soon as practicable after seizure for forfeiture, the seizing agency shall conduct a written inventory and estimate the value of the property seized.
- 7. The court may order property which has been seized for forfeiture sold, leased, rented, or operated to satisfy a specified interest of any interest holder, or to preserve the interests of any party, on motion of such party. The court may enter orders under this subsection after notice to persons known to have an interest in the property, and an opportunity for a hearing, if the interest holder:
- 49 (1) Has timely filed a proper claim and is a regulated interest 50 holder; or
- 51 (2) Has an interest which the attorney for the state has 52 stipulated is exempt from forfeiture.
- 8. A sale may be ordered under subsection 7 of this section when the property is liable to perish, to waste, or to be foreclosed or significantly reduced in value, or when the expenses of maintaining the property are disproportionate to its value. A third party designated by the court shall dispose of the property by commercially reasonable public sale and distribute the proceeds in the following order of priority:
- 60 (1) For the payment of reasonable expenses incurred in 61 connection with the sale or disposal;
- 62 (2) For the satisfaction of exempt interests in the order of their 63 priority; and
- 64 (3) Any balance of the proceeds shall be preserved in the actual 65 or constructive custody of the court, in an interest bearing account, 66 subject to further proceedings under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.
 - 546.2021. 1. Forfeiture proceedings shall be commenced as follows:
- 3 (1) Property seized for forfeiture shall be released on the request 4 of an owner or interest holder to his or her custody, as custodian for 5 the court, pending further proceedings under sections 546.2000 to

15

19

24

25

 26

2728

29

30

31 32

33

3435

36

37

38 39

40

41

42

6 546.2072, if the attorney for the state fails:

- 7 (a) To file a notice of pending forfeiture against the property 8 within ninety days after seizure; or
- 9 (b) To file a judicial forfeiture proceeding within ninety days
 10 after notice of pending forfeiture of property upon which a proper
 11 claim has been timely filed.
- 12 (2) Within thirty days after the effective date of the notice of 13 pending forfeiture, an owner of or interest holder in the property may 14 elect to file with the attorney for the state:
 - (a) A claim under section 546.2030; or
- 16 (b) A petition for recognition of exemption under section 17 546.2030, except that no petition may be filed after the state commences 18 a court action.
 - (3) No extension of time for the filing of a claim shall be granted.
- (4) If a petition is timely filed, the attorney for the state may delay filing a judicial forfeiture proceeding for one hundred and eighty days after the notice of pending forfeiture, and the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The attorney for the state shall provide the seizing agency and the petitioning party with a written recognition of exemption and statement of nonexempt interests relating to any or all interests in the property in response to each petitioning party:
 - a. Within sixty days after the effective date of the notice of pending forfeiture if the petitioner is a regulated interest holder. The recognition of exemption shall recognize the interest of the petitioner to the extent of documented outstanding principal plus interest at the contract rate until paid; or
 - b. Within one hundred twenty days after the effective date of the notice of pending forfeiture for all other petitioners;
 - (b) An owner or interest holder in any property declared nonexempt may file a claim under section 546.2030 within thirty days after the effective date of the notice of the recognition of exemption and statement of nonexempt interest;
 - (c) If no petitioning party timely files a proper claim under subdivision (4) of this subsection, the recognition of exemption and statement of nonexempt interests becomes final, and the attorney for the state shall proceed as provided in sections 546.2045 and 546.2048;

52

53

54

5556

57

58

63

6465

66

67

6869

70

71 72

7374

75

77

- (d) The attorney for the state may elect to proceed herein for judicial forfeiture at any time;
- 45 (e) If a judicial forfeiture proceeding follows the application of 46 procedures in this paragraph:
- a. No duplicate or repetitive notice is required. If a proper claim
 has been timely filed under paragraph (b) of subdivision (4) of this
 subsection, the claim shall be determined in a judicial forfeiture
 proceeding after the commencement of such a proceeding under
 sections 546.2036, 546.2039, and 546.2042;
 - b. The proposed recognition of exemption and statement of nonexempt interests responsive to all petitioning parties who subsequently filed claims are void and will be regarded as rejected offers to compromise.
 - (5) If no proper petition for recognition of exemption or proper claim is timely filed, the attorney for the state shall proceed as provided in sections 546.2045 and 546.2048.
- 2. (1) Notice of pending forfeiture, service of an in rem complaint or notice of a recognition of exemption and statement of nonexempt interests required under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, shall be given in accordance with one of the following:
 - (a) If the owner's or interest holder's name and current address are known, by either personal service by any person qualified to serve process or by any law enforcement officer or by mailing a copy of the notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to that address.
 - (b) If the owner's or interest holder's name and address are required by law to be on record with the county recorder, secretary of state, department of revenue or another state or federal agency to perfect an interest in the property, and the owner's or interest holder's current address is not known, by mailing a copy of the notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to any address of record with any of the described agencies.
 - (c) If the owner's or interest holder's address is not known and is not on record as provided in paragraph (d) of subdivision (4) of subsection 1 of this section, or the owner or interest holder's interest is not known, by publication in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the seizure occurred;
- 79 (2) Notice is effective upon the earlier of personal service,

publication, or the mailing of a written notice, except that notice of pending forfeiture of real property is not effective until it is recorded. Notice of pending forfeiture shall include a description of the property, the date and place of seizure, the conduct giving rise to forfeiture or the violation of law alleged, and a summary of procedures and procedural rights applicable to the forfeiture action.

546.2024. 1. The attorney for the state may file, without a filing fee, a lien for the forfeiture of property:

- 3 (1) Upon the initiation of any civil or criminal proceeding 4 relating to conduct giving rise to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 5 546.2072;
 - (2) Upon seizure for forfeiture; or

6

- (3) In connection with a proceeding or seizure for forfeiture in any other state under a state or federal statute substantially similar to the relevant provisions of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072. The filing constitutes notice to any person claiming an interest in the seized property or in property owned by the named person.
- 2. The lienor, as soon as practical after filing a lien, shall furnish to any person named in the lien a notice of the filing of the lien. Failure to furnish notice under this subsection shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the lien.
- 16 3. The lien notice shall set forth:
- (1) The name of the person and, in the discretion of the lienor, any alias, or the name of any corporation, partnership, trust, or other entity, including nominees, that are owned entirely or in part, or controlled by the person;
- (2) The description of the seized property or the criminal or civil proceeding that has been brought relating to conduct giving rise to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072;
 - (3) The amount claimed by the lienor;
- 25 (4) The name of the court where the proceeding or action has 26 been brought; and
- 27 (5) The case number of the proceeding or action if known at the 28 time of filing.
- 4. The notice of forfeiture lien shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of the laws of this state relating to the type of property that is subject to the lien. The validity and priority of the forfeiture

- 32 lien shall be determined in accordance with applicable law pertaining 33 to liens.
- 5. A lien filed under this section applies to the described seized property or to one named person, any aliases, fictitious names, or other names, including the names of any corporation, partnership, trust, or other entity, owned entirely or in part, or controlled by the named person, and any interest in real property owned or controlled by the named person. A separate forfeiture lien shall be filed for each named person.
- 6. The notice of lien creates, upon filing, a lien in favor of the lienor as it relates to the seized property or the named person or related entities. The lien secures the amount of potential liability for civil judgment, and, if applicable, the fair market value of seized property relating to all proceedings under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 enforcing the lien.
- 7. The lienor may amend or release, in whole or in part, a lien filed under this section at any time by filing, without a filing fee, an amended lien.
 - 8. Upon entry of judgment in its favor, the state may proceed to execute on the lien as provided by law.
 - 546.2027. 1. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, a trustee, constructive or otherwise, who has notice that a notice of forfeiture lien, or a notice of pending forfeiture, or a civil forfeiture proceeding has been filed against the property or against any person or entity for whom the person holds title or appears as record owner, shall furnish within fifteen days, to the seizing agency or the attorney for the state:
- 8 (1) The name and address of each person or entity for whom the 9 property is held;
- 10 (2) The description of all other property whose legal title is held 11 for the benefit of the named person; and
- 12 (3) A copy of the applicable trust agreement or other instrument, 13 if any, under which the trustee or other person holds legal title or 14 appears as record owner of the property.
- 2. Subsection 1 of this section is inapplicable if:
- 16 (1) A trustee is acting under a recorded subdivision trust 17 agreement or a recorded deed of trust; or

18 (2) All of the information is of record in the public records giving 19 notice of liens on that type of property.

3. A trustee with notice, who knowingly fails to comply with the provisions of this section, shall be guilty of violating such provision and may, upon a finding or plea of guilt, be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two but not more than five years, and shall be fined not less than ten thousand dollars per day for each day compliance was not made.

4. A trustee with notice, who fails to comply with subsection 1 of this section, is subject to a civil penalty of three hundred dollars for each day of noncompliance. The court shall enter judgment ordering payment of three hundred dollars for each day of noncompliance from the effective date of the notice until the required information is furnished or the state executes its judgment lien under this section.

5. To the extent permitted by the Constitution of the United States, the duty to comply with subsection 1 of this section shall not be excused by any privilege or provision of law of this state or any other state or country which authorizes or directs that testimony or records required to be furnished under subsection 1 of this section are privileged or confidential or otherwise may not be disclosed.

6. A trustee who furnishes information under subsection 1 of this section is immune from civil liability for the release of the information.

7. Any employee of the seizing agency or the attorney for the state who releases the information obtained under subsection 1 of this section, except in the proper discharge of official duties, is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

8. If any information furnished under subsection 1 of this section is offered in evidence, the court may seal that portion of the record or may order that the information be disclosed in a designated way.

9. A judgment or an order of payment entered under this section becomes a judgment lien against the property alleged to be subject to forfeiture.

546.2030. 1. Only an owner of, or interest holder in, property seized for forfeiture may file a claim, and shall do so in the manner provided in this section. The claim shall be mailed to the seizing agency and to the attorney for the state by certified mail, return receipt requested, within thirty days after the effective date of notice

- 6 of pending forfeiture. No extension of time for the filing of a claim 7 shall be granted.
- 8 2. The attorney for the state may make an opportunity to file a
- 9 petition for recognition of exemption available by so indicating in the
- 10 notice of pending forfeiture described in subsection 1 of section
- 11 **546.2021.**
- 3. The claim or petition and all supporting documents shall be
- 13 in affidavit form, signed by the claimant under oath, sworn to by the
- 14 affiant before one who has authority to administer the oath, under
- 15 penalty of perjury, and shall set forth:
- 16 (1) The caption of the proceedings and identifying number, if
- 17 any, as set forth on the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint, the
- 18 name of the claimant, and the name of the attorney for the state who
- 19 authorized the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint;
- 20 (2) The address where the claimant shall accept mail;
- 21 (3) The nature and extent of the claimant's interest in the 22 property;
- 23 (4) The date, the identity of the transferor, and the
- 24 circumstances of the claimant's acquisition of the interest in the
- 25 property;
- 26 (5) The specific provision of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 relied
- 27 on in asserting that the property is not subject to forfeiture;
- 28 (6) All essential facts supporting each assertion; and
- 29 (7) The specific relief sought.
 - 546.2033. 1. A judicial forfeiture proceeding under sections
- 2 546.2000 to 546.2072 is subject to the provisions of this section.
- 3 2. The court, before or after the filing of a notice of pending
- 4 forfeiture or complaint, and on application of the attorney for the state,
- 5 may:

- (1) Enter any restraining order or injunction;
- 7 (2) Require the execution of satisfactory performance bonds;
- 8 (3) Create receiverships;
- 9 (4) Appoint conservators, custodians, appraisers, accountants, or
- 10 trustees; or
- 11 (5) Take any other action to seize, secure, maintain, or preserve
- 12 the availability of property subject to forfeiture under sections 546.2000
- 13 to 546.2072, including a writ of attachment or a warrant for its seizure.

18

19

20

24

25

2627

2829

30 31

32

33

34

35 36

37

38

3940

41

42

43

44

45

46

3. The court, after five days notice to the attorney for the state, may issue an order to show cause to the seizing agency, for a hearing on the sole issue of whether probable cause for forfeiture of the property then exists if:

- (1) Property is seized for forfeiture or a forfeiture lien is filed without a previous judicial determination of probable cause, order of forfeiture, or a hearing under subsection 4 of section 546.2039;
- 21 (2) An owner of or interest holder in the property files an 22 application within ten days after notice of its seizure for forfeiture or 23 lien, or actual knowledge of it, whichever is earlier; and
 - (3) The owner of, or interest holder in, the property complies with the requirements for claims in section 546.2030. The hearing shall be held within thirty days of the order to show cause unless continued for good cause on motion of either party.
 - 4. If the court finds in a hearing under subsection 3 of this section that there is no probable cause for forfeiture of the property, or if the state elects not to contest the issue, the property shall be released to the custody of the applicant, as custodian for the court, or from the lien pending the outcome of a judicial proceeding under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072. If the court finds that probable cause for the forfeiture of the property exists, the court shall not order the property released.
 - 5. All applications filed within the ten-day period prescribed by subsection 3 of this section shall be consolidated for a single hearing relating to each applicant's interest in the property seized for forfeiture.
 - 6. A person charged with a criminal offense may apply to the court where the forfeiture proceeding is pending for the release of property seized for forfeiture, to pay necessary expenses of the person's criminal defense. The application may be filed at any time before final judgment and shall satisfy the requirements under subsection 3 of section 546.2030. The court shall hold a probable cause hearing if the applicant establishes that:
- 47 (1) He or she has not had an opportunity to participate in a 48 previous adversarial judicial determination of probable cause;
- 49 (2) He or she has no access to other monies adequate for the 50 payment of criminal defense counsel; and

51 (3) The interest in property to be released is not subject to any 52 claim other than the forfeiture.

- 7. If the court finds in a hearing under subsection 6 of this section that there is no probable cause for forfeiture of the property, the court shall order the property released under subsection 4 of this section. If the state does not contest the hearing, the court may release a reasonable amount of property for the payment of the applicant's criminal defense costs. Property that has been released by the court and that has been paid for criminal defense services actually rendered is exempt under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.
- 8. A defendant convicted in any criminal proceeding is precluded from later denying the essential allegations of the criminal offense of which the defendant was convicted in any proceeding under this section. For the purposes of this section, a conviction results from a verdict or plea of guilty, including a plea of no contest, nolo contendere or an Alford plea.
- 9. In any proceeding under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, if a claim is based on an exemption provided for in sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, the burden of proving the existence of the exemption is on the claimant, and it is not necessary for the state to negate the exemption in any application or complaint.
 - 10. In hearings and determinations under this section, the court may receive and consider, in making any determination of probable cause or reasonable cause, all evidence admissible in determining probable cause at a preliminary hearing or by a judge under section 542.276, RSMo, together with inferences therefrom.
 - 11. The fact that money or a negotiable instrument was found in close proximity to contraband or an instrumentality of conduct giving rise to forfeiture shall give rise to the rebuttable presumption that the money or negotiable instrument was the proceeds of conduct giving rise to forfeiture or was used or intended to be used to facilitate the conduct.
- 12. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that any property of a person is subject to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 if the state establishes, by the standard of proof applicable to that proceeding, that:
 - (1) The person has engaged in conduct giving rise to forfeiture;

- 88 (2) The property was acquired by the person during that period 89 of the conduct giving rise to forfeiture or within a reasonable time 90 after that period; and
- 91 (3) There was no likely source for the property other than the 92 conduct giving rise to forfeiture.
- 13. A finding that property is the proceeds of conduct giving rise to forfeiture does not require proof that the property is the proceeds of any particular exchange or transaction.
- 96 14. A person who acquires any property subject to forfeiture is a constructive trustee of the property, and its fruits, for the benefit of 97 the state, to the extent that their interest is not exempt from forfeiture. 98 If property subject to forfeiture has been commingled with other 99 100 property, the court shall order the forfeiture of the mingled property 101 and of any fruits of the mingled property, to the extent of the property subject to forfeiture, unless an owner or interest holder proves that 102103 specified property does not contain property subject to forfeiture, or that their interest in specified property is exempt from forfeiture. 104
- 105 15. Title to all property declared forfeited under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 vests in this state on the commission of the conduct 106 107 giving rise to forfeiture together with the proceeds of the property 108 after that time. Any such property or proceeds subsequently 109 transferred to any person remain subject to forfeiture and thereafter 110 shall be ordered forfeited unless the transferee claims and establishes in a hearing under the provisions of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 that 111 the transferee's interest is exempt under section 546.2012. 112
- 113 16. An acquittal or dismissal in a criminal proceeding shall not 114 preclude civil proceedings under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.
- 17. For good cause shown, on motion by the attorney for the state, the court may stay discovery against the criminal defendant and against the state in civil forfeiture proceedings during a criminal trial for a related criminal indictment or information alleging the same conduct, after making provision to prevent loss to any party resulting from the delay. Such a stay shall not be available pending an appeal.
- 121 18. Except as otherwise provided by sections 546.2000 to 122 546.2072, all proceedings hereunder shall be governed by the Missouri 123 rules of civil procedure.
- 124 19. An action under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 shall be

125 consolidated with any other action or proceeding under sections

- 126 546.2000 to 546.2072, foreclosure, or trustee sale proceedings, relating
- 127 to the same property on motion of the attorney for the state, and may
- 128 be consolidated on motion of an owner or interest holder.
 - 546.2036. 1. A judicial in rem forfeiture proceeding may be
 - 2 brought by the attorney for the state in addition to, or in lieu of, civil
 - 3 in personam forfeiture procedures and is also subject to the provisions
 - 4 of this section. If a forfeiture is authorized by sections 546.2000 to
 - 5 546.2072, it shall be ordered by the court in the in rem action.
 - 6 2. An action in rem may be brought by the attorney for the state
 - 7 under a notice of pending forfeiture or verified complaint for
 - 8 forfeiture. The state may serve the complaint in the manner provided
 - 9 by subsection 3 of section 546.2021, or as provided by the Missouri rules
- 10 of civil procedure.
- 3. Only an owner of, or an interest holder in, the property who
- 12 has timely filed a proper claim may file an answer in an action in
- 13 rem. For the purposes of this section, an owner of, or interest holder
- 14 in, property who has filed a claim and answer shall be referred to as a
- 15 claimant.
- 16 4. The answer shall be signed by the owner or interest holder
- 17 under penalty of perjury and shall be in accordance with the Missouri
- 18 rules of civil procedure on answers and shall also set forth all of the
- 19 following:
- 20 (1) The caption of the proceedings and identifying number, if
- 21 any, as set forth on the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint and
- 22 the name of the claimant;
- 23 (2) The address where the claimant shall accept mail;
- 24 (3) The nature and extent of the claimant's interest in the
- 25 property;
- 26 (4) The date, the identity of the transferor, and the
- 27 circumstances of the claimant's acquisition of the interest in the
- 28 property;
- 29 (5) The specific provision of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 relied
- 30 on in asserting that it is not subject to forfeiture;
- 31 (6) All essential facts supporting each assertion; and
- 32 (7) The specific relief sought.
- 5. The answer, accompanied by a bond to the court, shall be filed

within twenty days after service of the civil in rem complaint. The bond amount shall be the greater of two thousand five hundred dollars or ten percent of the estimated value of the property as alleged in the complaint, or up to a maximum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars. In lieu of a cost bond, a claimant may, under penalty of perjury, move the court to proceed in forma pauperis. Any funds received by the court as cost bonds shall be placed in an interest-bearing account pending final disposition of the case. The court shall approve sureties upon condition that the claimant shall pay all costs and expenses of the forfeiture proceedings as provided in section 546.2045.

6. The state and any claimant who has timely answered the complaint may serve discovery requests on any other party at the time of filing its pleadings or at any other time not less than thirty days prior to the hearing. Answers or responses to the requests are due within twenty days of service. Depositions may be taken after the expiration of fifteen days after the filing and service of the complaint. Any party may move for a summary judgment after service of an answer or responsive pleading but not less than thirty days prior to the hearing.

7. The forfeiture hearing shall be held without a jury and within sixty days after service of the complaint unless continued for good cause. The attorney for the state shall have the initial burden of proving the property is subject to forfeiture by a preponderance of the evidence. If the state proves the property is subject to forfeiture, the claimant has the burden of proving that the claimant has an interest in the property which is exempt from forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 by a preponderance of the evidence.

8. The court shall order the interest in the property returned or conveyed to the claimant if the attorney for the state fails to meet the state's burden or the claimant establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that the claimant has an interest that is exempt from forfeiture. The court shall order all other property forfeited to this state and conduct further proceedings under sections 546.2045 and 546.2048.

546.2039. 1. A judicial in personam forfeiture proceeding 2 brought by the attorney for the state under an in personam civil action 3 alleging conduct giving rise to forfeiture is also subject to the

4 provisions of this section. If a forfeiture is authorized by sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, it shall be ordered by the court in the in personam action. This action shall be in addition to or in lieu of in rem forfeiture

procedures.

14

15

16

24

25

2728

29

34

35

36 37

38

39 40

8 2. The court, on application of the attorney for the state, may enter any order authorized by section 546.2033, or any other 9 10 appropriate order to protect the state's interest in property forfeited or subject to forfeiture. 11

12 3. The court may issue a temporary restraining order on application of the attorney for the state, if the state demonstrates that: 13

(1) There is probable cause to believe that in the event of a final judgment, the property involved would be subject to forfeiture under the provisions of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072; and

17 (2) Provision of notice would jeopardize the availability of the 18 property for forfeiture.

19 4. Notice of the issuance of a temporary restraining order and an 20 opportunity for a hearing shall be given to persons known to have an 21interest in the property. A hearing shall be held at the earliest possible 22date in accordance with the Missouri rules of civil procedure and shall 23 be limited to the issues of whether:

(1) There is a probability that the state will prevail on the issue of forfeiture;

26 (2) The failure to enter the order will result in the property being destroyed, conveyed, encumbered, removed from the jurisdiction of the court, concealed, or otherwise made unavailable for forfeiture; and

30 (3) The need to preserve the availability of property outweighs 31 the hardship on any owner or interest holder against whom the order is to be entered. 32

33 5. On a determination of liability of a person for conduct giving rise to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, the court shall:

(1) Enter a judgment of forfeiture of the property found to be subject to forfeiture described in the complaint; and

(2) Authorize the attorney for the state or his or her designee or any law enforcement officer to seize all property ordered forfeited which was not previously seized or is not then under seizure.

6. Except as provided in section 546.2033, no person claiming an

5152

53

5455

56

5758

59

60

62 63

5

8

interest in property subject to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 may intervene in a trial or appeal of a criminal action or in an in personam civil action involving the forfeiture of the property.

- 7. Following the entry of an in personam forfeiture order, the attorney for the state may proceed with an in rem action to resolve the remaining interests in the property. The following procedures shall apply:
- 48 (1) The attorney for the state may give notice of pending 49 forfeiture, in the manner provided in section 546.2021, to all owners 50 and interest holders who have not previously been given notice;
 - (2) An owner of, or interest holder in, property that has been ordered forfeited and whose claim is not precluded may file a claim as described in section 546.2030 within thirty days after initial notice of pending forfeiture or after notice under subdivision (1) of this subsection, whichever is earlier;
 - (3) If the state does not recognize the claimed exemption, the attorney for the state shall file a complaint and the court shall hold an in rem forfeiture hearing as provided for in section 546.2036; and
 - (4) In accordance with findings made at the hearing, the court may amend the order of forfeiture if it determines that any claimant has established by a preponderance of the evidence that the claimant has an interest in the property which is exempt under the provision of section 546.2012.

546.2042. 1. The court shall order the forfeiture of any other property of a person, including a claimant, up to the value of that person's property found by the court to be subject to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, if any of the person's forfeitable property:

- (1) Cannot be located;
- 6 (2) Has been transferred or conveyed to, sold to, or deposited 7 with a third party;
 - (3) Is beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- 9 (4) Has been substantially diminished in value while not in the 10 actual physical custody of the court, the seizing agency, the attorney 11 for the state, or their designee;
- 12 (5) Has been commingled with other property that cannot be 13 divided without difficulty; or
- 14 (6) Is subject to any interest of another person which is exempt

23

- 15 from forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.
- 2. (1) The attorney for the state may institute a civil action in circuit court against any person with notice or actual knowledge who destroys, conveys, encumbers, removes from the jurisdiction of the court, conceals, or otherwise renders unavailable property alleged to be subject to forfeiture if:
- 21 (a) A forfeiture lien or notice of pending forfeiture has been filed 22 and notice given under section 546.2021; or
 - (b) A complaint alleging conduct giving rise to forfeiture has been filed and notice given under such section 546.2021 or the Missouri rules of civil procedure;
- (2) The court shall enter a final judgment in an amount equal to the value of the lien not to exceed the fair market value of the property, or if there is no lien, in an amount equal to the fair market value of the property, together with reasonable investigative expenses and attorney fees;
- 31 (3) If a civil proceeding under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 is 32 pending in court, the action shall be heard by that court.
- 546.2045. 1. If notice of pending forfeiture is properly served in 2 an action in rem or in personam in which personal property is seized, 3 and no claim opposing forfeiture is filed within thirty days of service 4 of such notice, the attorney for the state shall prepare a written 5 declaration of forfeiture of the subject property to the state and 6 allocate the property according to the provisions of section 546.2048.
- 7 2. Within one hundred eighty days of the date of a declaration of forfeiture, an owner or interest holder in property declared forfeited under subsection 1 of this section may petition the court to have the declaration of forfeiture set aside, after making a prima facie showing that the state failed to serve proper notice as provided by subsection 11 1 of this section. Upon said showing the court shall allow the state to 12demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that notice was 13properly served. If the state fails to meet its burden of proof, the court 14may order the declaration of forfeiture set aside. The state may then 1516 proceed with judicial proceedings under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.
- 3. Except as provided in subsection 1 of this section, if no proper claims are timely filed in an action in rem, or if no proper answer is timely filed in response to a complaint, the attorney for the state may

27

38

39

40

41 42

43

44

4546

47

49

51

54

55

56

20 apply for an order of forfeiture and allocation of forfeited property 21 under section 546.2048. Upon a determination by the court that the state's written application established the court's jurisdiction, the giving of proper notice, and facts sufficient to show probable cause for 2324forfeiture, the court shall order the property forfeited to the state.

- 25 4. After final disposition of all claims timely filed in an action in rem, or after final judgment and disposition of all claims timely filed 26in an action in personam, the court shall enter an order that the state has clear title to the forfeited property interest. Title to the forfeited 28 property interest and its proceeds shall be deemed to have vested in 29 30 the state on the commission of the conduct giving rise to the forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072. 31
- 325. The court, on application of the attorney for the state, may release or convey forfeited personal property to a regulated interest 33 holder if: 34
- 35 (1) The attorney for the state, in his or her discretion, has recognized in writing that the interest holder has an interest that is 36 37 exempt from forfeiture;
 - (2) The interest holder's interest was acquired in the regular course of business as a regulated interest holder;
 - (3) The amount of the interest holder's encumbrance is readily determinable and it has been reasonably established by proof made available by the attorney for the state to the court; and
 - (4) The encumbrance held by the interest holder seeking possession is the only interest exempted from forfeiture and the order forfeiting the property to the state transferred all of the rights of the owner prior to forfeiture, including rights to redemption, to the state.
- 6. After the court's release or conveyance under subsection 3 of this section, the interest holder shall dispose of the property by a 48 commercially reasonable public sale. Within ten days of disposition the interest holder shall tender to the state the amount received at 50 disposition less the amount of the interest holder's encumbrance and reasonable expenses incurred by the interest holder in connection with 52the sale or disposal. For the purposes of this section, "commercially 53 reasonable" shall be a sale or disposal that would be commercially reasonable as defined under the Uniform Commercial Code.
 - 7. On order of the court or declaration of forfeiture forfeiting the

72

subject property, the state may transfer good and sufficient title to any 57subsequent purchaser or transferee. The title shall be recognized by all courts and agencies of this state, and any political subdivision. On entry of judgment in favor of a person claiming an interest in the 60 property that is subject to forfeiture proceedings under sections 61 546.2000 to 546.2072, the court shall enter an order that the property or 62interest in property shall be released or delivered promptly to that 63 person free of liens and encumbrances under sections 546.2000 to 64 546.2072, and that the person's cost bond shall be discharged. 65

- 8. Upon motion by the attorney for the state, if it appears after a hearing that there was reasonable cause for the seizure for forfeiture or for the filing of the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint, the court shall find that:
- 70 (1) Reasonable cause existed, or that any such action was taken 71 under a reasonable good faith belief that it was proper;
 - (2) The claimant is not entitled to costs or damages; and
- 73 (3) The person or seizing agency who made the seizure and the 74 attorney for the state are not liable to suit or judgment for the seizure, 75 suit or prosecution.
- 9. The court shall order a claimant who fails to establish that a substantial portion of the claimant's interest is exempt from forfeiture under section 546.2012 to pay the reasonable costs and expenses:
- 79 (1) Of any claimant who established that his entire interest is 80 exempt from forfeiture under section 546.2012; and
- 81 (2) Of the state for the investigation and prosecution of the 82 matter, including reasonable attorney fees, in connection with that 83 claimant.

546.2048. 1. When property is forfeited under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 the attorney for the state may:

- 3 (1) Upon the written approval of the attorney for the state, 4 destroy or use for investigative purposes, any illegal or controlled 5 substances or other contraband, after not less than twenty days after 6 the seizure, provided that materials necessary as evidence shall be 7 preserved; or
- 8 (2) Authorize a public or otherwise commercially reasonable sale
 9 of that which is not required by law to be destroyed and which is not
 10 harmful to the public. The proceeds of any sale and any monies

15

forfeited or obtained by judgment or settlement under this section shall be distributed as provided in subsection 2 of this section.

- 2. The office of the attorney for the state shall distribute monies in the following order of priority:
 - (1) The satisfaction of any exempt security interest or lien;
- 16 (2) The payment of all proper expenses of the proceedings for 17 forfeiture and disposition, including expenses of seizure, inventory, 18 appraisal, maintenance of custody, preservation of availability, 19 advertising, sale and court costs; and
- 20 (3) The remaining proceeds shall be distributed under section 7
 21 of article 9 of the constitution of the state of Missouri.
- 3. The attorney for the state may require the appropriate administrative agency to take custody of the property and remove it for disposition in accordance with law, and to forward controlled substances to the United States Drug Enforcement Administration for disposition.
- 546.2051. 1. An attorney for the state may conduct an investigation of any conduct that gives rise to forfeiture under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072. The attorney for the state is authorized, before the commencement of any proceeding or action under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072, to subpoena witnesses, compel such witnesses' attendance, and examine the witnesses under oath, and require the production of documentary evidence for inspection, reproducing, or copying. Except as otherwise provided by this section, the attorney for the state shall proceed under this subsection with the same powers and limitations, and judicial oversight and enforcement, and in the manner provided by 10 sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 and by the Missouri rules of civil procedure. Any person compelled to appear under a demand for oral testimony under this section may be accompanied, represented, and 13 advised by counsel. 14
- 2. The examination of all witnesses under this section shall be conducted by the attorney for the state before an officer authorized to administer oaths. The testimony shall be taken stenographically or by a sound recording device and shall be transcribed or otherwise preserved. The attorney for the state may exclude from the examination all persons except the witness, his counsel, the officer before whom the testimony is to be taken, law enforcement officials,

41

22and a stenographer. Prior to oral examination, the person shall be 23advised of his right to refuse to answer any questions on the basis of the privilege against self-incrimination. The examination shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the rules of civil procedure 2526 dealing with the taking of depositions.

- 27 3. Except as otherwise provided in this section, prior to the filing of a civil or criminal proceeding or action relating to it, no 28documentary material, or transcripts, or oral testimony, in the 2930 possession of the attorney for the state shall be available for examination by any individual other than a law enforcement official or 31 agent of such official without the consent of the person who produced 3233 the material or transcripts.
- 34 4. No person shall knowingly remove from any place, conceal, withhold, destroy, mutilate, alter, or by any other means falsify any 3536 documentary material that is the subject of a subpoena, with intent to avoid, evade, prevent, or obstruct compliance, in whole or in part, by 37any person with any duly served subpoena of the attorney for the state 3839 under this section. A violation of this subsection is a class C felony. The attorney for the state shall investigate and prosecute 40 suspected violations of this subsection.
- 42 5. Acts or omissions by the attorneys for the state in the course of their duties in the enforcement of any of the provisions of sections 43 44 546.2000 to 546.2072, including provision of any legal services prior to charging, complaint, or seizure, are prosecutorial and shall not subject 4546 the attorneys or their principals to civil liability.

546.2054. 1. If a person is or may be called to produce evidence at a deposition, hearing, or trial under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 or at an investigation brought by the attorney for the state under section 546.2051, the circuit court for the judicial circuit in which the deposition, hearing, trial, or investigation is or may be held shall, upon certification in writing of a request of the state's attorney for that judicial circuit, issue an order, ex parte or after a hearing, requiring the person to produce evidence, notwithstanding that person's refusal to do so on the basis of the privilege against self-incrimination. 9

10 2. The attorney for the state may certify in writing a request for an ex parte order under subsection 1 of this section if in his or her 11 12 judgment:

- 13 (1) The production of the evidence may be necessary to the 14 public interest; and
- 15 (2) The person has refused or is likely to refuse to produce 16 evidence on the basis of his or her privilege against self-incrimination.
- 3. A person may not refuse to comply with an order issued under subsection 1 of this section on the basis of a self-incrimination privilege. If the person refuses to comply with the order after being informed of its existence by the presiding officer, the person may be compelled or punished by the circuit court issuing an order for civil or criminal contempt.
- 4. The production of evidence compelled by order issued under subsection 1 of this section, and any information directly or indirectly derived from it, may not be used against the person in a subsequent criminal case, except in a prosecution for perjury, false swearing, or an offense otherwise involving a failure to comply with the order.

546.2057. A civil action under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 shall be commenced within seven years after the last conduct giving rise to forfeiture or the cause of action becomes known or should have become known, excluding any time during which either the property or defendant is out of the state or in confinement, or during which criminal proceedings relating to the same conduct are pending.

546.2060. Controlled substances included in section 195.017, RSMo, which are contraband and any controlled substance whose owners are unknown are summarily forfeited to the state. The court may include in any judgment under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 an order forfeiting any controlled substance involved in the offense to the extent of the defendant's interest.

546.2063. No person claiming an interest in property subject to forfeiture may commence or maintain any action against the state concerning the validity of the alleged interest other than as provided in sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.

546.2066. The provisions of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 shall be liberally construed to effectuate their remedial purposes. Civil remedies under sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 shall be supplemental and not mutually exclusive. They do not preclude and are not precluded by any other provision of law.

546.2069. 1. The provisions of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 shall

be applied and construed to effectuate their general purpose to make uniform the law with respect to the subject of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 among states enacting similar provisions.

2. The attorney general is authorized to enter into reciprocal agreements with the attorney general or chief prosecuting attorney of any state to effectuate the purposes of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072.

546.2072. If any provision of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 or the application thereof to any person or circumstance are held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of sections 546.2000 to 546.2072 which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of these sections are severable.

[513.600. Sections 513.600 to 513.645 shall be known and may be cited as the "Criminal Activity Forfeiture Act".]

[513.605. As used in sections 513.600 to 513.645, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms mean:

- (1) (a) "Beneficial interest":
- a. The interest of a person as a beneficiary under any other trust arrangement pursuant to which a trustee holds legal or record title to real property for the benefit of such person; or
- b. The interest of a person under any other form of express fiduciary arrangement pursuant to which any other person holds legal or record title to real property for the benefit of such person;
- (b) "Beneficial interest" does not include the interest of a stockholder in a corporation or the interest of a partner in either a general partnership or limited partnership. A beneficial interest shall be deemed to be located where the real property owned by the trustee is located;
- (2) "Civil proceeding", any civil suit commenced by an investigative agency under any provision of sections 513.600 to 513.645;
- (3) "Criminal activity" is the commission, attempted commission, conspiracy to commit, or the solicitation, coercion or intimidation of another person to commit any crime which is chargeable by indictment or information under the following Missouri laws:

23	(a) Chapter 195, RSMo, relating to drug regulations;
24	(b) Chapter 565, RSMo, relating to offenses against the
25	person;
26	(c) Chapter 566, RSMo, relating to sexual offenses;
27	(d) Chapter 568, RSMo, relating to offenses against the
28	family;
29	(e) Chapter 569, RSMo, relating to robbery, arson, burglary
30	and related offenses;
31	(f) Chapter 570, RSMo, relating to stealing and related
32	offenses;
33	(g) Chapter 567, RSMo, relating to prostitution;
34	(h) Chapter 573, RSMo, relating to pornography and related
35	offenses;
36	(i) Chapter 574, RSMo, relating to offenses against public
37	order;
38	(j) Chapter 575, RSMo, relating to offenses against the
39	administration of justice;
40	(k) Chapter 491, RSMo, relating to witnesses;
41	(l) Chapter 572, RSMo, relating to gambling;
42	(m) Chapter 311, RSMo, but relating only to felony
43	violations of this chapter committed by persons not duly licensed
44	by the supervisor of liquor control;
45	(n) Chapter 571, RSMo, relating to weapons offenses;
46	(o) Chapter 409, RSMo, relating to regulation of securities;
47	(p) Chapter 301, RSMo, relating to registration and
48	licensing of motor vehicles;
49	(4) "Criminal proceeding", any criminal prosecution
50	commenced by an investigative agency under any criminal law of
51	this state;
52	(5) "Investigative agency", the attorney general's office, or
53	the office of any prosecuting attorney or circuit attorney;
54	(6) "Pecuniary value":
55	(a) Anything of value in the form of money, a negotiable
56	instrument, a commercial interest, or anything else the primary
57	significance of which is economic advantage; or

(b) Any other property or service that has a value in excess

of one hundred dollars;

- (7) "Real property", any estate or legal or equitable interest in land situated in this state or any interest in such real property, including, but not limited to, any lease or deed of trust upon such real property;
- (8) "Seizing agency", the agency which is the primary employer of the officer or agent seizing the property, including any agency in which one or more of the employees acting on behalf of the seizing agency is employed by the state of Missouri or any political subdivision of this state;
- (9) "Seizure", the point at which any law enforcement officer or agent discovers and exercises any control over property that an officer or agent has reason to believe was used or intended for use in the course of, derived from, or realized through criminal activity. Seizure includes but is not limited to preventing anyone found in possession of the property from leaving the scene of the investigation while in possession of the property;
 - (10) (a) "Trustee":
- a. Any person who holds legal or record title to real property for which any other person has a beneficial interest; or
- b. Any successor trustee or trustees to any of the foregoing persons;
 - (b) "Trustee" does not include the following:
- a. Any person appointed or acting as a personal representative under chapter 475, RSMo, or under chapter 473, RSMo;
- b. Any person appointed or acting as a trustee of any testamentary trust or as trustee of any indenture of trust under which any bonds are or are to be issued.]
- [513.607. 1. All property of every kind, including cash or other negotiable instruments, used or intended for use in the course of, derived from, or realized through criminal activity is subject to civil forfeiture. Civil forfeiture shall be had by a civil procedure known as a CAFA forfeiture proceeding.
- 2. A CAFA forfeiture proceeding shall be governed by the Missouri rules of court, rules of civil procedure, except to the extent

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

1718

19

20

21

2223

24

25

2627

28

29

30

3132

33 34

3536

37

38

39

40

41

42 43

8 that special rules of procedure are stated herein.

- 3. Any property seized by a law enforcement officer or agent shall not be disposed of pursuant to section 542.301, RSMo, or by the uniform disposition of unclaimed property act, sections 447.500 through 447.595, RSMo, unless the CAFA proceeding involving the seized property does not result in a judgment of forfeiture.
- 4. In cases where the property is abandoned or unclaimed, an in rem CAFA forfeiture proceeding may be instituted by petition by the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the property is located or seized by the attorney general's office. The proceeding may be commenced before or after seizure of the property.
- 5. In lieu of, or in addition to, an in rem proceeding under subsection 4 of this section, the prosecuting attorney or attorney general may bring an in personam action for the forfeiture of property, which may be commenced by petition before or after the seizure of property.
- 6. (1) If the petition is filed before seizure, it shall state what property is sought to be forfeited, that the property is within the jurisdiction of the court, the grounds for forfeiture, and the names of all persons known to have or claim an interest in the property. The court shall determine ex parte whether there is reasonable cause to believe that the property is subject to forfeiture and that notice to those persons having or claiming an interest in the property prior to seizure would cause the loss or destruction of the property. If the court finds that reasonable cause does not exist to believe the property is subject to forfeiture, it shall dismiss the proceeding. If the court finds that reasonable cause does exist to believe the property is subject to forfeiture but there is not reasonable cause to believe that prior notice would result in loss or destruction, it shall order service on all persons known to have or claim an interest in the property prior to a further hearing on whether a writ of seizure should issue.

If the court finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that the property is subject to forfeiture and to believe that prior notice would cause loss or destruction, it shall without any further hearing or notice issue a writ of seizure directing the sheriff of the

 county or other authorized law enforcement agency where the property is found to seize it.

(2) Seizure may be effected by a law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the criminal laws of this state prior to the filing of the petition and without a writ of seizure if the seizure is incident to a lawful arrest, search, or inspection and the officer has probable cause to believe the property is subject to forfeiture and will be lost or destroyed if not seized.

Within four days of the date of seizure, such seizure shall be reported by said officer to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the seizure is effected or the attorney general; and if in the opinion of the prosecuting attorney or attorney general forfeiture is warranted, the prosecuting attorney or attorney general shall, within ten days after receiving notice of seizure, file a petition for forfeiture. The petition shall state, in addition to the information required in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the date and place of seizure. The burden of proof will be on the investigative agency to prove all allegations contained in the petition.

- 7. After the petition is filed or the seizure effected, whichever is later, every person known to have or claim an interest in the property shall be served, if not previously served, with a copy of the petition and a notice of seizure in the manner provided by the Missouri rules of court and rules of civil procedure. Service by publication may be ordered upon any party whose whereabouts cannot be determined or if there be unknown parties.
- 8. The prosecuting attorney or attorney general to whom the seizure is reported shall report annually by January thirty-first for the previous calendar year all seizures. Such report shall include the date, time, and place of seizure, the property seized, the estimated value of the property seized, the person or persons from whom the property was seized, the criminal charges filed, and the disposition of the seizure, forfeiture and criminal actions. The report shall be made to the director of the Missouri department of public safety and shall be considered an open record. The prosecuting attorney or attorney general shall submit a copy of the report to the state auditor at the time the report is made to the

director of the department of public safety.

- 9. The state auditor shall make an annual report compiling the data received from law enforcement, prosecuting attorneys and the attorney general, and shall submit the report regarding seizures for the previous calendar year to the general assembly annually by February twenty-eighth.
- 10. Intentional or knowing failure to comply with any reporting requirement contained in this section shall be a class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to one thousand dollars.]

[513.610. 1. Any person claiming an interest in the property may become a party to the action at any time prior to judgment, whether named in the petition or not. Any party claiming a valid interest in the property shall upon motion be allowed by the court to take possession of the property upon posting bond with good and sufficient security in the amount of the property's value conditioned to pay the value of any interest in the property found to be subject to forfeiture or the value of any interest of another not subject to forfeiture. Such a party taking possession shall not remove the property from the jurisdiction of the court except pursuant to court order.

- 2. The court may, upon such terms and conditions as prescribed by it, order that the property be sold by an innocent party who holds a lien on or security interest in the property at any time during the proceedings. Any proceeds from such sale over and above the amount necessary to satisfy the lien or security interest shall be paid into court pending final judgment in the forfeiture proceeding. No such sale shall be ordered, however, unless the obligation upon which the lien or security interest is based is in default.
- 3. Pending final judgment in the forfeiture proceeding, the court may make any other disposition of the property as may be provided by the laws of this state which is in the interest of justice.]

[513.612. Any party may bring one motion to dismiss at any time and such motion shall be heard and ruled on within ten days. Any party may demand a jury trial.]

2

3

4

56

7

8 9

10

1112

13

14

15

1617

18

19

 2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

11 12

13

14

15

1617

[513.615. The interest of an innocent party in the property shall not be subject to forfeiture. An "innocent party" is one who did not have actual knowledge that the property was used or intended for use in the course of, derived from or realized through a criminal activity. Any innocent party shall have a right or claim to forfeited property or to the proceeds derived therefrom superior to any right or claim the state or the county has in the same property or proceeds. To enforce such a claim, the innocent party must intervene in the forfeiture proceeding prior to its final disposition; except that, with respect to any property for which the state maintains records of ownership, if the certificate of title, the official records or other evidence of ownership indicates the existence of a lien on the seized property or the ownership of the property by someone other than the defendant, the named lienholder or owner shall be a necessary party to the action commenced under this section unless the party has by affidavit released the lien. The lienholder or owner shall have no obligation to intervene to protect his rights, but the court shall determine the validity of the lien.]

[513.617. 1. In the event criminal charges arising from the same activity giving rise to the CAFA proceeding are filed against any individual claiming an interest in the property subject to the CAFA proceeding, such CAFA proceeding shall be stayed by the court until the disposition of the criminal charges. In such cases, no property shall be forfeited unless the person charged is found guilty of or pleads guilty to a felony offense substantially related to the forfeiture. The property of persons arrested, detained or apprehended and not subsequently charged is not subject to forfeiture for that arrest, detention or apprehension. The rights of an innocent owner of property are superior to any right or claim of the state or county, and such rights shall be enforced pursuant to the provisions of sections 513.610 to 513.620.

2. In any case where the court determines that seized property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to the provisions of section 513.607 but there has not been a felony conviction, finding of guilt or plea of guilt to support such forfeiture, the court shall

stay the civil forfeiture proceedings and order the release of the property subject to the following requirements:

- (1) The person to whom the property is released shall file a bond in an amount which the court determines to be adequate to secure the property and which does not exceed the value of the property;
- (2) The court may impose other conditions that it deems reasonable and necessary to prevent the property from being made unavailable for disposition by the court;
- (3) The bond and other conditions shall terminate at such time as the released property is no longer subject to forfeiture or upon return of the property to the confiscating authority.
- 3. No action filed pursuant to sections 513.600 to 513.660 shall be compromised or otherwise settled without the express approval of the terms of the settlement by the court in which such action is pending. Nothing in this section shall prohibit or prevent the parties from contemporaneously resolving criminal charges and a CAFA proceeding arising from the same activity. However, seized property shall not be used in bargaining to defer prosecution of criminal charges, obtain a guilty plea or affect sentencing recommendations, and the court in which the CAFA proceeding is pending shall not approve any settlement without first making such a finding. No state or local government agency, nor any person, may accept any monetary payment or other thing of value in exchange for the release of property seized for forfeiture or for the settlement of any criminal charges.
- 4. No state or local government agency may hold property seized for forfeiture unless a petition for forfeiture has been filed within the time limit provided by section 513.607, unless a time extension is granted by order of the circuit court. The court may extend the time for filing a petition for up to ten days for each order, but may not extend the time for filing for more than thirty days.]

[513.620. Subject to the requirement of protecting the interest of all innocent parties, the court may after judgment of forfeiture make any of the following orders for disposition of the

4 property:

(1) Destruction of contraband, the possession of which is illegal;

- (2) Retention of the property by any innocent party having an interest therein, upon payment or approval of a plan for payment into court of the value of any forfeited interest in the property; such a plan may include, in the case of an innocent party who holds a lien on or security interest in the property, the sale of the property by said innocent party under such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the court and the payment into court of any proceeds from such sale over and above the amount necessary to satisfy the lien or security interest;
 - (3) Judicial sale of the property;
- (4) Transfer of the property to any innocent party having an interest therein equal to or greater than the value of the property; or
- (5) Any other disposition of the property as may be provided by the laws of this state which is in the interest of justice and adequately protects innocent parties.]

[513.623. The clear proceeds of any sale or disposition after satisfaction of the interest of any innocent party and after payment of the reasonable costs of the CAFA proceeding, including reasonable storage costs as assessed by the court, if any, shall be distributed pursuant to section 7 of article IX of the Constitution of the state of Missouri.]

[513.625. 1. Upon the entry of a final judgment of forfeiture in favor of the state, the title of the state to the forfeited property shall:

(1) In the case of real property or beneficial interest, relate back to the date of filing of the CAFA lien notice in the official records of the county where the real property or beneficial trust is located and, if no CAFA lien notice is filed, then to the date of the filing of any notice of lis pendens under section 527.260, RSMo, in the official records of the county where the real property or beneficial interest is located and, if no CAFA lien notice or notice of lis pendens is so filed, then to the date of recording of the final

 2

judgment of forfeiture in the official records of the county where the real property or beneficial interest is located; and

- (2) In the case of personal property, relate back to the date the personal property was seized by the investigating agency.
- 2. If property subject to forfeiture is conveyed, alienated, disposed of, or otherwise rendered unavailable for forfeiture after the filing of a CAFA lien notice or after the filing of a forfeiture petition, whichever is earlier, the investigative agency may, on behalf of the state, institute an action in the appropriate circuit court against the person named in the CAFA lien notice or the defendant in the civil proceeding and the court shall enter final judgment against the person named in the CAFA lien notice or the defendant in the civil proceeding in an amount equal to the fair market value of the property, together with investigative costs and attorney's fees incurred by the investigative agency in the action. If a civil proceeding is pending, such action shall be filed only in the court where such civil proceeding is pending.]

[513.630. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a proceeding under this act may be commenced up until five years after the conduct terminates or the cause of action accrues. If a criminal prosecution or civil action is brought by the state relating to conduct which would constitute criminal activity as defined in section 513.605, then the running of the period of limitations shall be suspended during the pendency of such prosecution or action by the state and for five years thereafter.]

[513.635. The application of one civil remedy under any provision of this act shall not preclude the application of any other remedy. Remedies under this act are supplemental and not mutually exclusive.]

[513.637. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a valid judgment rendered by a court of a jurisdiction having a law substantially similar to sections 513.600 to 513.645 will be recognized and enforced by the courts of this state to the extent that a judgment rendered by a court of this state pursuant to sections 513.600 to 513.645 would be enforced in such other jurisdiction.

8

9

10

11

12

2

3 4

5

6 7

8

9 10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22

2324

25

26

27

28 29

30

31

2. The attorney general is hereby authorized to enter into reciprocal agreements with the attorney general or chief prosecuting attorney of any jurisdiction having a law substantially similar to sections 513.600 to 513.645 so as to further the purposes of sections 513.600 to 513.645.]

[513.640. 1. Upon the institution of a civil forfeiture proceeding or, if no civil suit has been instituted, upon the return of an indictment or filing of an information of a crime which may constitute criminal activity as defined in section 513.605, the investigative agency then or at any time during the pendency of the proceeding may file in the official records of any one or more counties a CAFA lien notice. No filing fee or other charge shall be required as a condition for filing the CAFA lien notice. The recorder of deeds shall, upon the presentation of a CAFA lien notice, immediately record it in the official records.

- 2. The CAFA lien notice shall be signed by the attorney general or his designee or by a prosecuting or circuit attorney or his designee. The notice shall be in such form as the attorney general prescribes and shall set forth the following information:
- (1) The name of the person against whom the civil proceeding has been brought. The investigative agency may also name in the CAFA lien notice any other aliases, names, or fictitious names under which the person may be known. The investigative agency may also name in the CAFA lien notice any corporation, partnership, or other entity that is either controlled by or entirely owned by the person;
- (2) If known to the investigative agency, the present residence and business addresses of the person named in the CAFA lien notice and of the other names set forth in the CAFA lien notice;
- (3) A reference to the civil proceeding stating that a proceeding under this act has been brought against the person named in the CAFA lien notice, the name of the county or counties where the proceeding has been brought, and, if known to the investigative agency at the time of filing the CAFA lien notice, the case number of the proceeding;

 (4) A statement that the notice is being filed pursuant to this act; and

- (5) The name and address of the investigative agency filing the CAFA lien notice and the name of the individual signing the CAFA lien notice.
- 3. A CAFA lien notice shall apply only to one person and, to the extent applicable, any aliases, fictitious names, or other names, including names of corporations, partnerships, or other entities. A separate CAFA lien notice shall be filed for any other person against whom the investigative agency desires to file a CAFA lien notice under this section.
- 4. The investigative agency shall, as soon as practicable after the filing of each CAFA lien notice, furnish to the person named in the notice either a copy of the recorded notice or a copy of the notice with a notation thereon of the county or counties in which the notice has been recorded. The failure of the investigative agency to so furnish a copy of the notice under this subsection shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the notice.
- 5. The filing of a CAFA lien notice creates, from the time of its filing, a lien in favor of the state on the following property of the person named in the notice and against any other names set forth in the notice:
- (1) Any real property situated in the county where the notice is filed then or thereafter owned by the person; and
- (2) Any beneficial interest situated in the county where the notice is filed then or thereafter owned by the person.
- 6. The lien shall commence and attach as of the time of filing of the CAFA lien notice and shall continue thereafter until expiration, termination, or release. The lien created in favor of the state shall be superior and prior to the interest of any other person in the real property or beneficial interest if the interest is acquired subsequent to the filing of the notice.
 - 7. In conjunction with any civil proceeding:
- (1) The investigative agency may file without prior court order in any county a lis pendens and, in such case, any person acquiring an interest in the subject real property or beneficial

interest subsequent to the filing of lis pendens shall take the interest subject to the civil proceeding and any subsequent judgment of forfeiture; and

- (2) If a CAFA lien notice has been filed, the investigative agency may name as defendants, in addition to the person named in the notice, any persons acquiring an interest in the real property or beneficial interest subsequent to the filing of the notice. If a judgment of forfeiture is entered in the proceeding in favor of the state, the interest of any person in the property that was acquired subsequent to the filing of the notice shall be subject to the notice and judgment of forfeiture.
- 8. (1) A trustee who acquires actual knowledge that a CAFA lien notice or a civil proceeding under sections 513.600 to 513.645 has been filed against any person for whom he holds legal or record title to real property shall immediately furnish to the investigative agency the following:
- (a) The name and address of the beneficiary against whose interest the CAFA lien notice or the CAFA proceeding has been filed, as known to the trustee;
- (b) The name and address, as known to the trustee, of all other persons for whose benefit the trustee holds title to the real property; and
- (c) A copy of the trust agreement or other instrument pursuant to which the trustee holds legal or record title to the real property;
- (2) Any trustee who fails to comply with the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a class C misdemeanor.
- 9. Any trustee who conveys title to real property for which a CAFA lien notice has been filed at the time of the conveyance in the county where the real property is situated naming a person who, to the actual knowledge of the trustee, holds a beneficial interest in the trust shall be liable to the state for the greater of:
- (1) The amount of proceeds received directly by the person named in the CAFA lien notice as a result of the conveyance;
- (2) The amount of proceeds received by the trustee as a result of the conveyance and distributed to the person named in the

104 CAFA lien notice; or

(3) The fair market value of the interest of the person named in the CAFA lien notice in the real property so conveyed; however, if the trustee conveys the real property and holds the proceeds that would otherwise be paid or distributed to the beneficiary or at the direction of the beneficiary or his designee, the trustee's liability shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds so held for so long as the proceeds are held by the trustee.

- 10. The filing of a CAFA lien notice shall not constitute a lien on the record title to real property as owned by the trustee except to the extent the trustee is named in the CAFA lien notice. The investigative agency may bring a civil proceeding in any circuit court against the trustee to recover from the trustee the amounts set forth in subsection 9 of this section, and the state shall also be entitled to recover investigative costs and attorney's fees incurred by the investigative agency.
- 11. The filing of a CAFA lien notice shall not affect the use to which real property or a beneficial interest owned by the person named in the CAFA lien notice may be put or the right of the person to receive any avails, rents, or other proceeds resulting from the use and ownership, but not the sale, of the property until a judgment of forfeiture is entered.
- 12. (1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any conveyance by a trustee pursuant to a court order unless such court order is entered in an action between the trustee and the beneficiary;
- (2) Unless the trustee has actual knowledge that a person owning a beneficial interest in the trust is named in a CAFA lien notice or is otherwise a defendant in a civil proceeding, the provisions of this section shall not apply to:
- (a) Any conveyance by a trustee required under the terms of any trust agreement, which trust agreement is a matter of public record prior to the filing of any CAFA lien notice; or
- (b) Any conveyance by a trustee to all of the persons who own a beneficial interest in the trust.
 - 13. All forfeitures or dispositions under this section shall

be made with due provision for the rights of innocent persons.

[513.645. 1. The term of a CAFA lien notice shall be for a period of six months from the date of filing of the petition. Said lien notice may be renewed by the investigative agency one time prior to judgment. After judgment in favor of the investigative agency the CAFA lien notice shall be for a period of six years. The investigative agency shall be entitled to only one renewal of the CAFA lien notice after judgment.

- 2. The investigative agency filing the CAFA lien notice may release in whole or in part any CAFA lien notice or may release any specific real property or beneficial interest from the CAFA lien notice upon such terms and conditions as it may determine. Any release of a CAFA lien notice executed by the investigative agency may be filed in the official records of any county. No charge or fee shall be imposed for the filing of any release of a CAFA lien notice.
- 3. If no civil proceeding has been instituted by the investigative agency seeking a forfeiture of any property owned by the person named in the CAFA lien notice, the acquittal in the criminal proceeding of the person named in the CAFA lien notice or the dismissal of the criminal proceeding shall terminate the CAFA lien notice; and, in such case, the filing of the CAFA lien notice shall have no effect.
- 4. If no civil proceeding is then pending against the person named in a CAFA lien notice, any person named in a CAFA lien notice may institute an action against the investigative agency filing the notice in the county where the notice has been filed seeking a release or extinguishment of the notice; and, in such case:
- (1) The court shall, upon the motion of such person, immediately enter an order setting a date for hearing, which shall be not less than five nor more than ten days after the suit has been filed. The order, along with a copy of the complaint, shall be served on the investigative agency within three days after the institution of the suit. At the hearing, the court shall take evidence on the issue of whether any real property or beneficial interest owned by such person is covered by the CAFA lien notice

or otherwise subject to forfeiture under the Missouri CAFA act. If such person shows by the preponderance of the evidence that the CAFA lien notice is not applicable to him or that any real property or beneficial interest owned by him is not subject to forfeiture under this act, the court shall enter a judgment extinguishing the CAFA lien notice or releasing the real property or beneficial interest from the CAFA lien notice;

- (2) The court shall immediately enter its order releasing from the CAFA lien notice any specific real property or beneficial interest if a sale of the real property or beneficial interest is pending and the filing of the notice prevents the sale of the property or interest; provided, however, that the proceeds resulting from the sale of the real property or beneficial interest shall be deposited into the registry of the court, subject to the further order of the court; and
- (3) At the hearing set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the court may release from the CAFA lien notice any real property or beneficial interest upon the posting by such person of such security as is equal to the value of the real property or beneficial interest owned by such person.
- 5. In the event a civil proceeding is pending against a person named in a CAFA lien notice, the court, upon motion by said person, may grant the relief set forth herein.
- 6. Upon acquittal or dismissal of a criminal action against a person also named in a CAFA action, the civil action shall be dismissed.]

[513.647. 1. No state or local law enforcement agency may transfer any property seized by the state or local agency to any federal agency for forfeiture under federal law until the prosecuting attorney and the circuit judge of the county in which the property was seized first review the seizure and approve the transfer to a federal agency, regardless of the identity of the seizing agency. The prosecuting attorney and the circuit judge shall not approve any transfer unless it reasonably appears the activity giving rise to the investigation or seizure involves more than one state or unless it is reasonably likely to result in federal criminal

11

12

1314

15

16

17

18

19

2021

22

23

24

2526

27

2829

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

2

3

4 5

2

3

4

charges being filed, based upon a written statement of intent to prosecute from the United States attorney with jurisdiction. No transfer shall be made to a federal agency unless the violation would be a felony under Missouri law or federal law.

2. Prior to transfer, in an ex parte proceeding, the prosecuting attorney shall file with the court a statement setting forth the facts and circumstances of the event or occurrence which led to the seizure of the property and the parties involved, if known. The court shall certify the filing, and notify by mailing to the last known address of the property owner that his property is subject to being transferred to the federal government and further notify the property owner of his right to file a petition stating legitimate grounds for challenging the transfer. If within ninety-six hours after the filing of the statement by the prosecuting attorney, the property owner by petition shows by a preponderance of the evidence that the property should not be transferred to the federal government for forfeiture, the court shall delay such transfer until a hearing may be held. If the court orders a delay in transfer, no later than ten days after the filing of a petition under this section and sections 513.649 and 513.651, a hearing shall be held unless the court deems, for good cause shown, that a continuance should be granted. At the hearing, if the prosecutor has proved by a preponderance of the evidence that the investigation or seizure involved more than one state or that the nature of the investigation or seizure would be better pursued under the federal forfeiture statutes, the court shall order that the transfer shall be made.]

[513.649. Any property seized by state or local peace or reserve officers who are detached to, deputized or commissioned by or working in conjunction with the federal agency shall remain subject to the provisions of this section and sections 513.647 and 513.651.]

[513.651. The moneys acquired by law enforcement agencies pursuant to this section and sections 513.647 and 513.649 shall be used only by the law enforcement agency for the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity, the execution of court orders

arising from such activity, the enforcement of drug-related crimes, training, drug education, and the safety of both the citizens and law enforcement officers.]

[513.653. 1. Law enforcement agencies involved in using the federal forfeiture system under federal law shall be required at the end of their respective fiscal year to acquire an independent audit of the federal seizures and the proceeds received therefrom and provide this audit to their respective governing body and to the department of public safety. A copy of such audit shall be provided to the state auditor's office. This audit shall be paid for out of the proceeds of such federal forfeitures. The department of public safety shall not issue funds to any law enforcement agency that fails to comply with the provisions of this section.

2. Intentional or knowing failure to comply with the audit requirement contained in this section shall be a class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to one thousand dollars.]

Bill

