



Proposed Reforms for Federal Asset Forfeiture

We believe the reforms already implemented by the United States Department of Justice address the concerns that have been raised regarding asset forfeiture and that any further steps to reform the program should only be taken after careful consideration as to not further weaken this valuable tool that aids law enforcement in protecting our communities. We strongly urge Congress to proceed with caution when considering measures that indirectly benefit criminal organizations. Careful consideration must be taken in order to avoid any unintended consequences, which may give safe harbor to the cartels and professional criminals who engage in drug trafficking, human trafficking and child pornography.

Civil asset forfeiture and the Equitable Sharing Program also provide funding for State and local agencies that could not otherwise afford to participate in Federal task forces. While Congress examines this program and potential reforms, we call on them to maintain a method for reimbursement of State and local agencies that have committed resources to this effort, while also establishing appropriate requirements that safeguard individual rights and remove financial incentives for potential misconduct.

Our organizations look forward to being active participants in this conversation as Congress considers potential reforms. We pledge our support to find a way forward that restores public trust, reinforces ethical conduct and preserves financial reimbursement for law enforcement agencies.

- Major Cities Chiefs Association
- Major County Sheriffs' Association
- International Association of Chiefs of Police
- National Sheriffs' Association
- National District Attorneys Association
- Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies