

HOUSE BILL 391

E2, E1
HB 418/11 – JUD

2lr1951
CF 2lr2410

By: **Delegate Dumais**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2012

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Criminal Procedure – Seizure and Forfeiture – Property Used in Human**
3 **Trafficking**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a State or local law enforcement agency, on process
5 issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, to seize certain property used or
6 intended for use in connection with a violation of the law prohibiting human
7 trafficking; including in the prohibition against human trafficking a prohibition
8 against subjecting a person to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or
9 slavery under certain circumstances; creating an Anti–Human Trafficking Fund
10 to be administered by the Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Crime
11 Control and Prevention; specifying the revenue sources for the Fund; providing
12 for certain disbursements from the Fund for certain purposes; specifying certain
13 property that is subject to forfeiture; specifying certain conditions to exclude
14 property from forfeiture; authorizing the seizure of certain property with or
15 without a warrant under certain circumstances; requiring the seizing authority
16 that seizes money to take certain actions; specifying certain standards and
17 exceptions regarding the seizure of motor vehicles; requiring a certain law
18 enforcement officer to recommend that a motor vehicle be forfeited under
19 certain circumstances; requiring that a forfeiting authority surrender a motor
20 vehicle on request to the owner under certain circumstances; specifying
21 conditions under which an owner may obtain possession of seized property;
22 specifying the time when seizure of real property occurs; authorizing an owner
23 or owner’s tenant to remain in possession of seized real property under certain
24 circumstances; prohibiting an owner of real property from taking certain
25 actions; specifying certain procedures for the conduct of forfeiture proceedings,
26 including the filing of complaints and answers, posting and publishing of notice,
27 and conducting hearings for real property and other property; specifying certain
28 restrictions on forfeiture proceedings on property used as the principal family
29 residence; specifying certain powers of a court in a certain forfeiture proceeding;
30 requiring a court to issue a certain order after a full hearing under certain
31 circumstances; authorizing the governing body where the property was seized to

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 take certain actions; requiring certain proceeds to be used for certain expenses;
 2 requiring that certain proceeds of the sale of forfeited property be distributed to
 3 the Fund for a certain purpose; specifying the terms of sale of forfeited property;
 4 specifying the law governing the sale of certain collateral; requiring certain
 5 proceeds from the sale of certain property to be distributed in a certain manner;
 6 requiring lienholders to take certain actions before exercising the right to sell
 7 certain property and after the redemption of certain property; specifying the
 8 effect of this Act; defining certain terms; providing for the application of this
 9 Act; and generally relating to seizure and forfeiture of property used in
 10 connection with a violation of the human trafficking law.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 12 Article – Criminal Law
 13 Section 11–303
 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
 15 (2002 Volume and 2011 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 17 Article – Criminal Procedure
 18 Section 11–910(d)
 19 Annotated Code of Maryland
 20 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

21 BY adding to
 22 Article – Criminal Procedure
 23 Section 11–920; and 13–501 through 13–535 to be under the new subtitle
 24 “Subtitle 5. Violations of the Human Trafficking Law”
 25 Annotated Code of Maryland
 26 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

27 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
 28 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

29 **Article – Criminal Law**

30 11–303.

31 (a) (1) A person may not knowingly:

32 (i) take or cause another to be taken to any place for
 33 prostitution;

34 (ii) place, cause to be placed, or harbor another in any place for
 35 prostitution;

36 (iii) persuade, induce, entice, or encourage another to be taken to
 37 or placed in any place for prostitution;

1 (iv) receive consideration to procure for or place in a house of
2 prostitution or elsewhere another with the intent of causing the other to engage in
3 prostitution or assignation;

4 (v) engage in a device, scheme, or continuing course of conduct
5 intended to cause another to believe that if the other did not take part in a sexually
6 explicit performance, the other or a third person would suffer physical restraint or
7 serious physical harm; [or]

8 (vi) destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate, or possess an actual or
9 purported passport, immigration document, or government identification document of
10 another while otherwise violating or attempting to violate this subsection; **OR**

11 **(VII) 1. RECRUIT, HARBOR, TRANSPORT, PROVIDE, OR**
12 **OBTAIN A PERSON FOR LABOR OR SERVICES; AND**

13 **2. THROUGH FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION,**
14 **SUBJECT THE PERSON TO INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE OR DEBT BONDAGE.**

15 (2) A parent, guardian, or person who has permanent or temporary
16 care or custody or responsibility for supervision of another may not consent to the
17 taking or detention of the other for prostitution.

18 (b) (1) A person may not violate subsection (a) of this section involving a
19 victim who is a minor.

20 (2) A person may not knowingly take or detain another with the intent
21 to use force, threat, coercion, or fraud to compel the other to marry the person or a
22 third person or perform a sexual act, sexual contact, or vaginal intercourse.

23 (c) (1) (i) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a
24 person who violates subsection (a) of this section is guilty of the misdemeanor of
25 human trafficking and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years
26 or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

27 (ii) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section is subject
28 to § 5–106(b) of the Courts Article.

29 (2) A person who violates subsection (b) of this section is guilty of the
30 felony of human trafficking and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding
31 25 years or a fine not exceeding \$15,000 or both.

32 (d) A person who violates this section may be charged, tried, and sentenced
33 in any county in or through which the person transported or attempted to transport
34 the other.

1 (e) (1) A person who knowingly benefits financially or by receiving
2 anything of value from participation in a venture that includes an act described in
3 subsection (a) or (b) of this section is subject to the same penalties that would apply if
4 the person had violated that subsection.

5 (2) A person who knowingly aids, abets, or conspires with one or more
6 other persons to violate any subsection of this section is subject to the same penalties
7 that apply for a violation of that subsection.

8 Article – Criminal Procedure

9 11–910.

10 (d) “Executive Director” means the Executive Director of the Governor’s
11 Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

12 **11–920.**

13 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE
14 MEANINGS INDICATED.

15 (2) “FUND” MEANS THE ANTI–HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUND.

16 (3) “HUMAN TRAFFICKING” MEANS ANY VIOLATION OF § 11–303
17 OF THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.

18 (B) THERE IS AN ANTI–HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUND.

19 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR:

20 (1) AID FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING; AND

21 (2) FUNDING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, NONPROFIT, AND PRIVATE
22 ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES TO COMBAT HUMAN
23 TRAFFICKING.

24 (D) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

25 (E) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
26 SUBJECT TO § 7–302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

27 (2) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND
28 SEPARATELY, AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

1 **(F) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

2 **(1) REVENUE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FUND UNDER § 13-509 OF**
3 **THIS ARTICLE;**

4 **(2) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;**
5 **AND**

6 **(3) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**
7 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

8 **(G) (1) AT LEAST 50% OF THE MONEY IN THE FUND SHALL BE GIVEN**
9 **TO NONPROFIT OR PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS THAT:**

10 **(I) PROVIDE DIRECT SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF HUMAN**
11 **TRAFFICKING;**

12 **(II) CONDUCT PROGRAMS FOR THE PREVENTION OF HUMAN**
13 **TRAFFICKING; OR**

14 **(III) CONDUCT EDUCATION, TRAINING, OR PUBLIC**
15 **OUTREACH PROGRAMS ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**

16 **(2) AFTER THE DISTRIBUTION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**
17 **SUBSECTION, THE BALANCE OF THE MONEY IN THE FUND SHALL BE USED FOR**
18 **THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND TO**
19 **PROVIDE FUNDING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS THAT RESPOND**
20 **TO AND INVESTIGATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING VIOLATIONS.**

21 **(H) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE**
22 **FUND IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.**

23 **(2) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE**
24 **CREDITED TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE.**

25 **(I) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN**
26 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE BUDGET.**

27 **(J) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN**
28 **TRAFFICKING AND TO FINANCE ACTIVITIES THAT COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
29 **IS SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF FUNDING**
30 **THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN**
31 **TRAFFICKING OR ACTIVITIES THAT COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.**

1 **SUBTITLE 5. VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.**

2 **13-501.**

3 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
4 **INDICATED.**

5 **(B) “CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER” MEANS:**

6 **(1) FOR BALTIMORE CITY, THE MAYOR;**

7 **(2) FOR A CHARTER COUNTY, THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE OR, IF**
8 **THERE IS NO COUNTY EXECUTIVE, THE COUNTY COUNCIL;**

9 **(3) FOR A CODE COUNTY, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OR**
10 **COUNTY COUNCIL;**

11 **(4) FOR A COUNTY COMMISSIONER COUNTY, THE COUNTY**
12 **COMMISSIONERS; OR**

13 **(5) FOR A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY**
14 **ESTABLISHED BY MUNICIPAL CHARTER.**

15 **(C) “CONVICTED” MEANS FOUND GUILTY.**

16 **(D) “FINAL DISPOSITION” MEANS A DISMISSAL, ENTRY OF A NOLLE**
17 **PROSEQUI, THE MARKING OF A CRIMINAL CHARGE “STET” ON THE DOCKET,**
18 **ENTRY OF A NOT GUILTY VERDICT, THE PRONOUNCEMENT OF SENTENCE, OR**
19 **IMPOSITION OF PROBATION UNDER § 6-220 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

20 **(E) “FORFEITING AUTHORITY” MEANS:**

21 **(1) THE UNIT OR PERSON DESIGNATED BY AGREEMENT BETWEEN**
22 **THE STATE’S ATTORNEY FOR A COUNTY AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
23 **OF THE GOVERNING BODY HAVING JURISDICTION OVER ASSETS SUBJECT TO**
24 **FORFEITURE TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING BODY REGARDING THOSE**
25 **ASSETS; OR**

26 **(2) IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS A UNIT OF THE STATE, A UNIT**
27 **OR PERSON THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL’S**
28 **DESIGNEE DESIGNATES BY AGREEMENT WITH A STATE’S ATTORNEY, COUNTY**
29 **ATTORNEY, OR MUNICIPAL ATTORNEY TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE STATE**
30 **REGARDING ASSETS SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE BY THE STATE.**

1 (F) "GOVERNING BODY" INCLUDES:

2 (1) THE STATE, IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS A UNIT OF THE
3 STATE;

4 (2) A COUNTY, IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS A UNIT OF A
5 COUNTY;

6 (3) A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS A
7 UNIT OF A MUNICIPALITY; AND

8 (4) BALTIMORE CITY, IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS THE
9 BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

10 (G) "HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW" MEANS § 11-303 OF THE CRIMINAL
11 LAW ARTICLE.

12 (H) "LIEN" INCLUDES A MORTGAGE, A DEED OF TRUST, A PLEDGE, A
13 SECURITY INTEREST, AN ENCUMBRANCE, OR A RIGHT OF SETOFF.

14 (I) "LIENHOLDER" MEANS A PERSON WHO HAS A LIEN OR A SECURED
15 INTEREST ON PROPERTY CREATED BEFORE THE SEIZURE.

16 (J) "LOCAL FINANCIAL AUTHORITY" MEANS:

17 (1) IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS A UNIT OF A COUNTY, THE
18 TREASURER OR DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF THE COUNTY; OR

19 (2) IF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IS A UNIT OF A MUNICIPAL
20 CORPORATION, THE TREASURER OR DIRECTOR OF FINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL
21 CORPORATION.

22 (K) (1) "OWNER" MEANS A PERSON HAVING A LEGAL, EQUITABLE, OR
23 POSSESSORY INTEREST IN PROPERTY.

24 (2) "OWNER" INCLUDES:

25 (I) A CO-OWNER;

26 (II) A LIFE TENANT;

27 (III) A REMAINDERMAN TO A LIFE TENANCY IN REAL
28 PROPERTY;

1 (IV) A HOLDER OF AN INCHOATE INTEREST IN REAL
2 PROPERTY; AND

3 (V) A BONA FIDE PURCHASER FOR VALUE.

4 (L) (1) "PROPERTY" INCLUDES:

5 (I) REAL PROPERTY AND ANYTHING GROWING ON OR
6 ATTACHED TO REAL PROPERTY;

7 (II) TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY,
8 INCLUDING:

9 1. SECURITIES;

10 2. NEGOTIABLE AND NONNEGOTIABLE
11 INSTRUMENTS;

12 3. VEHICLES AND CONVEYANCES OF ANY TYPE;

13 4. PRIVILEGES;

14 5. INTERESTS;

15 6. CLAIMS; AND

16 7. RIGHTS;

17 (III) AN ITEM, OBJECT, TOOL, SUBSTANCE, DEVICE, OR
18 WEAPON USED IN CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN
19 TRAFFICKING LAW; AND

20 (IV) MONEY.

21 (2) "PROPERTY" DOES NOT INCLUDE:

22 (I) AN ITEM UNLAWFULLY IN THE POSSESSION OF A
23 PERSON OTHER THAN THE OWNER WHEN USED IN CONNECTION WITH A
24 VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW; OR

25 (II) A LESSOR'S INTEREST IN PROPERTY SUBJECT TO A
26 BONA FIDE LEASE, UNLESS THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY CAN SHOW THAT THE
27 LESSOR PARTICIPATED IN A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW OR
28 THAT THE PROPERTY WAS THE PROCEEDS OF A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN
29 TRAFFICKING LAW.

1 (M) (1) “REAL PROPERTY” MEANS LAND OR AN IMPROVEMENT TO
2 LAND.

3 (2) “REAL PROPERTY” INCLUDES:

4 (I) A LEASEHOLD OR ANY OTHER LIMITED INTEREST IN
5 PROPERTY;

6 (II) AN EASEMENT; AND

7 (III) A REVERSIONARY INTEREST IN A 99-YEAR GROUND
8 LEASE RENEWABLE FOREVER.

9 (N) “SEIZING AUTHORITY” MEANS A LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT IN THE
10 STATE THAT IS AUTHORIZED TO INVESTIGATE VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN
11 TRAFFICKING LAW AND THAT HAS SEIZED PROPERTY UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

12 **13-502.**

13 **THE FOLLOWING ARE SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE:**

14 (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 13-503 OF THIS SUBTITLE,
15 CONVEYANCES, INCLUDING AIRCRAFT, VEHICLES, OR VESSELS USED OR
16 INTENDED TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN
17 TRAFFICKING LAW;

18 (2) BOOKS, RECORDS, TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, OR
19 COMPUTERS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH A
20 VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW;

21 (3) MONEY OR WEAPONS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN
22 CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW;

23 (4) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 13-503 OF THIS SUBTITLE, REAL
24 PROPERTY USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION
25 OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW; AND

26 (5) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 13-503 OF THIS SUBTITLE,
27 EVERYTHING OF VALUE FURNISHED, OR INTENDED TO BE FURNISHED, IN
28 EXCHANGE FOR AN ACT IN VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW, ALL
29 PROCEEDS TRACEABLE TO THE EXCHANGE, AND ALL NEGOTIABLE
30 INSTRUMENTS AND SECURITIES USED, OR INTENDED TO BE USED, TO
31 FACILITATE A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.

1 **13-503.**

2 (A) PROPERTY OR AN INTEREST IN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN §
3 **13-502(1), (4), OR (5)** OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE FORFEITED IF THE OWNER
4 ESTABLISHES BY A PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE THAT THE VIOLATION
5 OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW WAS COMMITTED WITHOUT THE OWNER'S
6 ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE.

7 (B) (1) A CONVEYANCE USED AS A COMMON CARRIER OR VEHICLE
8 FOR HIRE IN THE TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS AS A COMMON CARRIER OR
9 VEHICLE FOR HIRE MAY NOT BE SEIZED OR FORFEITED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
10 UNLESS IT APPEARS THAT THE OWNER OR OTHER PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE
11 CONVEYANCE WAS A CONSENTING PARTY OR PRIVY TO A VIOLATION OF THE
12 HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.

13 (2) A CONVEYANCE MAY NOT BE FORFEITED UNDER THIS
14 SUBTITLE FOR AN ACT OR OMISSION THAT THE OWNER SHOWS WAS COMMITTED
15 OR OMITTED BY A PERSON OTHER THAN THE OWNER WHILE THE PERSON OTHER
16 THAN THE OWNER POSSESSED THE CONVEYANCE IN CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF
17 FEDERAL LAW OR THE LAW OF ANY STATE.

18 (C) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
19 SUBSECTION, REAL PROPERTY USED AS THE PRINCIPAL FAMILY RESIDENCE
20 MAY NOT BE FORFEITED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE UNLESS ONE OF THE OWNERS
21 OF THE REAL PROPERTY WAS CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN
22 TRAFFICKING LAW OR OF AN ATTEMPT OR CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE THE HUMAN
23 TRAFFICKING LAW.

24 (2) WITHOUT A CONVICTION, A COURT MAY ORDER A
25 FORFEITURE OF REAL PROPERTY USED AS THE PRINCIPAL FAMILY RESIDENCE
26 IF THE OWNER OF THE FAMILY RESIDENCE:

27 (I) FAILS TO APPEAR FOR A REQUIRED COURT
28 APPEARANCE; AND

29 (II) FAILS TO SURRENDER TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE
30 COURT WITHIN 180 DAYS AFTER THE REQUIRED COURT APPEARANCE.

31 (D) REAL PROPERTY USED AS THE PRINCIPAL FAMILY RESIDENCE BY A
32 HUSBAND AND WIFE AND HELD BY THE HUSBAND AND WIFE AS TENANTS BY THE
33 ENTIRETY MAY NOT BE FORFEITED UNLESS:

1 **(1) THE PROPERTY WAS USED IN CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION**
2 **OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW OR WITH AN ATTEMPT OR A CONSPIRACY TO**
3 **VIOLATE THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW; AND**

4 **(2) BOTH THE HUSBAND AND WIFE ARE CONVICTED OF A**
5 **VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW OR OF AN ATTEMPT OR**
6 **CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.**

7 **13-504.**

8 **PROPERTY SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE**
9 **SEIZED:**

10 **(1) ON A WARRANT ISSUED BY A COURT THAT HAS JURISDICTION**
11 **OVER THE PROPERTY; AND**

12 **(2) WITHOUT A WARRANT WHEN:**

13 **(I) THE SEIZURE IS INCIDENT TO AN ARREST OR A SEARCH**
14 **UNDER A SEARCH WARRANT;**

15 **(II) THE SEIZURE IS INCIDENT TO AN INSPECTION UNDER**
16 **AN ADMINISTRATIVE INSPECTION WARRANT;**

17 **(III) THE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO SEIZURE HAS BEEN THE**
18 **SUBJECT OF A PRIOR JUDGMENT IN FAVOR OF THE STATE IN A CRIMINAL**
19 **INJUNCTION OR FORFEITURE PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;**

20 **(IV) THERE IS PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE**
21 **PROPERTY IS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY DANGEROUS TO HEALTH OR SAFETY;**
22 **OR**

23 **(V) THERE IS PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE**
24 **PROPERTY HAS BEEN USED OR IS INTENDED TO BE USED IN VIOLATION OF THE**
25 **HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW OR THIS SUBTITLE.**

26 **13-505.**

27 **(A) THE SEIZING AUTHORITY THAT SEIZES MONEY UNDER THIS**
28 **SUBTITLE SHALL IMMEDIATELY:**

29 **(1) PHOTOGRAPH THE MONEY AND RECORD THE QUANTITY OF**
30 **EACH DENOMINATION OF COIN OR CURRENCY SEIZED; AND**

1 **(2) DEPOSIT THE MONEY TO THE ACCOUNT OF THE APPROPRIATE**
2 **LOCAL FINANCIAL AUTHORITY.**

3 **(B) A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION**
4 **MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR MONEY AS EVIDENCE IN A CRIMINAL OR FORFEITURE**
5 **PROCEEDING.**

6 **13-506.**

7 **(A) PROPERTY SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE:**

8 **(1) IS NOT REPLEVIABLE; BUT**

9 **(2) IS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY, SUBJECT**
10 **ONLY TO THE ORDERS, JUDGMENTS, AND DECREES OF THE COURT OR THE**
11 **OFFICIAL HAVING JURISDICTION OVER THE PROPERTY.**

12 **(B) A SEIZING AUTHORITY MAY PLACE SEIZED PROPERTY UNDER SEAL**
13 **AND REMOVE THE PROPERTY TO A PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE COURT.**

14 **13-507.**

15 **(A) A SEIZING AUTHORITY SHALL SEIZE A MOTOR VEHICLE USED IN**
16 **VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW OR THIS SUBTITLE AND**
17 **RECOMMEND FORFEITURE TO THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY IF THE TOTAL**
18 **CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE AS LISTED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION**
19 **DICTATE THAT SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE ARE JUSTIFIED.**

20 **(B) CIRCUMSTANCES TO BE CONSIDERED IN DECIDING WHETHER**
21 **SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE ARE JUSTIFIED INCLUDE:**

22 **(1) AN EXTENSIVE CRIMINAL RECORD OF THE VIOLATOR;**

23 **(2) A PREVIOUS CONVICTION OF THE VIOLATOR FOR A HUMAN**
24 **TRAFFICKING CRIME;**

25 **(3) EVIDENCE THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE WAS ACQUIRED BY USE**
26 **OF PROCEEDS FROM A TRANSACTION INVOLVING A HUMAN TRAFFICKING**
27 **CRIME;**

28 **(4) CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ARREST; AND**

29 **(5) THE WAY IN WHICH THE MOTOR VEHICLE WAS USED.**

1 **13-508.**

2 (A) THE CHIEF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE SEIZING
3 AUTHORITY THAT SEIZES A MOTOR VEHICLE USED IN VIOLATION OF THIS
4 SUBTITLE SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE APPROPRIATE FORFEITING AUTHORITY
5 IN WRITING THAT THE MOTOR VEHICLE BE FORFEITED ONLY IF THE OFFICER:

6 (1) DETERMINES FROM THE RECORDS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE
7 ADMINISTRATION THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL REGISTERED OWNERS
8 AND SECURED PARTIES AS DEFINED IN THE CODE;

9 (2) PERSONALLY REVIEWS THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF
10 THE SEIZURE; AND

11 (3) PERSONALLY DETERMINES, ACCORDING TO THE STANDARDS
12 LISTED IN § 13-507 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AND REPRESENTS IN WRITING THAT
13 FORFEITURE IS WARRANTED.

14 (B) (1) A SWORN AFFIDAVIT BY THE CHIEF LAW ENFORCEMENT
15 OFFICER THAT THE OFFICER FOLLOWED THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION
16 (A) OF THIS SECTION IS ADMISSIBLE IN EVIDENCE IN A PROCEEDING UNDER
17 THIS SECTION.

18 (2) THE CHIEF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER MAY NOT BE
19 SUBPOENAED OR COMPELLED TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY IF ANOTHER LAW
20 ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WITH PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACTS AND
21 CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE SEIZURE AND THE RECOMMENDATION OF
22 FORFEITURE APPEARS AND TESTIFIES AT THE PROCEEDING.

23 **13-509.**

24 (A) THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY SHALL SURRENDER THE MOTOR
25 VEHICLE ON REQUEST TO THE OWNER IF THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY
26 DETERMINES, INDEPENDENT OF THE DECISION OF THE SEIZING AUTHORITY,
27 THAT:

28 (1) THE MOTOR VEHICLE FALLS WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF §
29 13-508 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR

30 (2) THE CIRCUMSTANCES LISTED UNDER § 13-507(B) OF THIS
31 SUBTITLE WERE NOT MET.

32 (B) IN A PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE COURT MAY
33 DETERMINE, BASED ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES LISTED IN § 13-507(B) OF THIS

1 SUBTITLE, WHETHER THE SEIZING AUTHORITY OR FORFEITING AUTHORITY
2 ABUSED ITS DISCRETION OR WAS CLEARLY ERRONEOUS:

3 (1) IN RECOMMENDING THE FORFEITURE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE;
4 OR

5 (2) IN NOT SURRENDERING ON REQUEST A MOTOR VEHICLE TO
6 AN OWNER.

7 13-510.

8 (A) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN §§ 13-512 AND 13-513 OF THIS
9 SUBTITLE, AN OWNER OF SEIZED PROPERTY WHO WISHES TO OBTAIN
10 POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY, TO CONVEY AN INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY,
11 OR TO REMOVE A BUILDING OR FIXTURE FROM REAL PROPERTY SHALL NOTIFY
12 THE CLERK OF THE PROPER COURT.

13 (2) IF FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEGUN, THE PROPER
14 COURT IS THE COURT WHERE THE PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEGUN.

15 (3) IF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEGUN BUT FORFEITURE
16 PROCEEDINGS HAVE NOT BEGUN, THE PROPER COURT IS THE COURT WHERE
17 THE CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEGUN.

18 (4) IF BOTH FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS AND CRIMINAL
19 PROCEEDINGS HAVE NOT BEGUN, THE PROPER COURT IS THE CIRCUIT COURT
20 FOR THE COUNTY WHERE THE PROPERTY WAS SEIZED.

21 (B) (1) UNLESS THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY AND THE OWNER
22 AGREE TO A BOND IN ANOTHER AMOUNT, IF A MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT NEEDED
23 FOR EVIDENTIARY PURPOSES IN A JUDICIAL PROCEEDING:

24 (I) THE COURT SHALL APPRAISE THE VALUE OF THE
25 MOTOR VEHICLE ON THE BASIS OF THE AVERAGE VALUE OF THE MOTOR
26 VEHICLE SET FORTH IN THE NATIONAL AUTOMOBILE DEALER'S ASSOCIATION
27 OFFICIAL USED CAR GUIDE; OR

28 (II) IF THE OWNER SHOWS THAT A LIEN IS ON THE MOTOR
29 VEHICLE AND THE OWNER AGREES TO MAKE THE REQUIRED PAYMENTS TO THE
30 LIENHOLDER, THE COURT SHALL REQUIRE A BOND IN AN AMOUNT OF THE
31 AVERAGE VALUE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE SET FORTH IN THE NATIONAL
32 AUTOMOBILE DEALER'S ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL USED CAR GUIDE, LESS THE
33 AMOUNT OWED ON THE LIEN.

1 **(2) FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE, THE COURT SHALL APPRAISE THE**
2 **VALUE IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION AND PROVIDE THE**
3 **APPRAISAL IN WRITING TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT.**

4 **(C) (1) IF PROPERTY OTHER THAN A MOTOR VEHICLE IS NOT NEEDED**
5 **FOR EVIDENTIARY PURPOSES IN A JUDICIAL PROCEEDING, THE CLERK SHALL**
6 **OBTAIN AN INDEPENDENT APPRAISAL OF THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY.**

7 **(2) THE SHERIFF OR OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR AN**
8 **APPRAISAL UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL PROMPTLY:**

9 **(I) INSPECT AND APPRAISE THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY;**
10 **AND**

11 **(II) RETURN THE APPRAISAL IN WRITING UNDER OATH TO**
12 **THE CLERK OF THE COURT.**

13 **(D) NOTICE OF THE APPRAISAL SHALL BE SENT TO ALL LIENHOLDERS**
14 **SHOWN IN THE RECORDS REQUIRED BY LAW FOR NOTICE OR THE PERFECTION**
15 **OF THE LIEN.**

16 **(E) (1) ON THE FILING OF AN APPRAISAL, THE OWNER MAY GIVE**
17 **BOND PAYABLE TO THE CLERK OF THE COURT IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE**
18 **GREATER OF:**

19 **(I) THE APPRAISED VALUE OF THE PROPERTY PLUS ANY**
20 **ACCRUED COSTS; OR**

21 **(II) THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LIENS ON THE**
22 **PROPERTY THAT ARE SHOWN IN THE RECORDS REQUIRED BY LAW FOR THE**
23 **NOTICE OR PERFECTION OF LIENS.**

24 **(2) A PERSON MAY GIVE A BOND UNDER THIS SUBSECTION BY**
25 **CASH, THROUGH A SURETY, THROUGH A LIEN ON REAL PROPERTY, OR BY**
26 **OTHER MEANS THAT THE CLERK APPROVES.**

27 **(3) A BOND AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION:**

28 **(I) SHALL BE CONDITIONED FOR PERFORMANCE ON FINAL**
29 **JUDGMENT BY THE COURT;**

30 **(II) SHALL BE FILED IN THE DISTRICT COURT OR CIRCUIT**
31 **COURT WHERE THE CRIMINAL ACTION THAT GAVE RISE TO THE SEIZURE IS**
32 **PENDING; AND**

1 (III) UNLESS A COMPLAINT FOR FORFEITURE HAS BEEN
2 FILED, SHALL BE PART OF THE SAME CRIMINAL PROCEEDING.

3 (4) IF A CRIMINAL ACTION IS NOT PENDING OR A FORFEITURE
4 COMPLAINT HAS NOT BEEN FILED, THE BOND SHALL BE FILED IN THE CIRCUIT
5 COURT OR DISTRICT COURT WHERE THE PROPERTY WAS SEIZED.

6 (F) (1) IF THE COURT ORDERS THAT PROPERTY OR AN INTEREST OR
7 EQUITY IN THE PROPERTY OR PROCEEDS BE FORFEITED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE,
8 THE COURT SHALL ENTER JUDGMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF THE BOND AGAINST
9 THE OBLIGORS ON THE BOND WITHOUT FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.

10 (2) PAYMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE BOND SHALL BE APPLIED
11 AS PROVIDED UNDER § 13-527(D)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

12 13-511.

13 SEIZURE OF REAL PROPERTY OCCURS ON THE EARLIER OF THE FILING:

14 (1) OF A COMPLAINT FOR FORFEITURE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; OR

15 (2) OF A NOTICE OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
16 OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE REAL PROPERTY IS LOCATED.

17 13-512.

18 (A) SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS OF A LIENHOLDER TO SELL THE REAL
19 PROPERTY, AN OWNER OR AN OWNER'S TENANT MAY REMAIN IN POSSESSION OF
20 SEIZED REAL PROPERTY UNTIL FORFEITURE IS ORDERED.

21 (B) THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY MAY APPLY TO THE COURT FOR THE
22 APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER TO APPLY INCOME FROM INCOME-PRODUCING
23 PROPERTY.

24 (C) IF A PERSON WHO IS AN OWNER OR AN OWNER'S TENANT REMAINS
25 IN POSSESSION OF THE REAL PROPERTY AND THE PERSON'S INTEREST IN THE
26 REAL PROPERTY IS FORFEITED, THE PERSON IMMEDIATELY SHALL SURRENDER
27 THE REAL PROPERTY TO THE SEIZING AUTHORITY IN SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME
28 CONDITION AS WHEN SEIZED.

29 13-513.

30 (A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY IF:

1 **(1) AN ACT IS AGREED TO BY A FORFEITING AUTHORITY OR IS**
2 **ORDERED BY THE COURT; OR**

3 **(2) AN OWNER POSTS A BOND UNDER § 13-510 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

4 **(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, UNTIL THE COURT**
5 **ENTERS JUDGMENT IN FAVOR OF THE OWNER, AN OWNER MAY NOT ATTEMPT:**

6 **(1) TO CONVEY OR ENCUMBER AN INTEREST IN SEIZED REAL**
7 **PROPERTY; OR**

8 **(2) TO REMOVE A BUILDING OR FIXTURE ON SEIZED REAL**
9 **PROPERTY.**

10 **13-514.**

11 **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 13-517(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF PROPERTY IS**
12 **SEIZED UNDER § 13-504(2)(IV) AND (V) OF THIS SUBTITLE BECAUSE THERE IS**
13 **PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE PROPERTY IS DIRECTLY OR**
14 **INDIRECTLY DANGEROUS TO HEALTH OR SAFETY AND THAT THE PROPERTY WAS**
15 **OR WILL BE USED TO VIOLATE THIS SUBTITLE, FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS**
16 **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE FILED PROMPTLY.**

17 **13-515.**

18 **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 13-516 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE APPROPRIATE**
19 **FORFEITING AUTHORITY SHALL FILE PROCEEDINGS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IN**
20 **THE CIRCUIT COURT.**

21 **13-516.**

22 **(A) TO APPLY FOR THE FORFEITURE OF MONEY, THE APPROPRIATE**
23 **LOCAL FINANCIAL AUTHORITY OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL FILE A**
24 **COMPLAINT AND AFFIDAVIT IN THE DISTRICT COURT OR THE CIRCUIT COURT**
25 **FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE MONEY WAS SEIZED.**

26 **(B) THE COMPLAINT AND AFFIDAVIT SHALL BE SERVED IN**
27 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND RULES OF PROCEDURE.**

28 **13-517.**

1 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS**
2 **SECTION, A COMPLAINT SEEKING FORFEITURE SHALL BE FILED WITHIN THE**
3 **EARLIER OF:**

4 **(1) 90 DAYS AFTER THE SEIZURE; OR**

5 **(2) 1 YEAR AFTER THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE CRIMINAL**
6 **CHARGE FOR THE VIOLATION GIVING RISE TO THE FORFEITURE.**

7 **(B) A COMPLAINT FOR THE FORFEITURE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE SHALL**
8 **BE FILED WITHIN 45 DAYS AFTER THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS SEIZED.**

9 **(C) (1) A PROCEEDING ABOUT MONEY SHALL BE FILED WITHIN 90**
10 **DAYS AFTER THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS THAT ARISE**
11 **OUT OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.**

12 **(2) IF THE STATE OR A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION DOES NOT FILE**
13 **PROCEEDINGS ABOUT MONEY WITHIN THE 90-DAY PERIOD, THE MONEY SEIZED**
14 **UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE OWNER ON REQUEST BY**
15 **THE OWNER.**

16 **(3) IF THE OWNER FAILS TO ASK FOR THE RETURN OF THE MONEY**
17 **WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS, AS**
18 **PROVIDED UNDER § 13-528 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE MONEY SHALL REVERT TO**
19 **THE ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUND UNDER § 11-920 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

20 **13-518.**

21 **(A) A COMPLAINT SEEKING FORFEITURE SHALL CONTAIN:**

22 **(1) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY SEIZED;**

23 **(2) THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE SEIZURE;**

24 **(3) THE NAME OF THE OWNER, IF KNOWN;**

25 **(4) THE NAME OF THE PERSON IN POSSESSION, IF KNOWN;**

26 **(5) THE NAME OF EACH LIENHOLDER, IF KNOWN OR REASONABLY**
27 **SUBJECT TO DISCOVERY;**

28 **(6) AN ALLEGATION THAT THE PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO**
29 **FORFEITURE;**

1 **(7) IF THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY SEEKS TO FORFEIT A**
2 **LIENHOLDER’S INTEREST IN PROPERTY, AN ALLEGATION THAT THE LIEN WAS**
3 **CREATED WITH ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE THAT THE PROPERTY WAS BEING OR WAS**
4 **TO BE USED IN VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW;**

5 **(8) A STATEMENT OF THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES**
6 **SURROUNDING THE SEIZURE;**

7 **(9) A STATEMENT SETTING FORTH THE SPECIFIC GROUNDS FOR**
8 **FORFEITURE; AND**

9 **(10) AN OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY**
10 **THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE COMPLAINT ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF THE**
11 **FORFEITING AUTHORITY’S KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.**

12 **(B) WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER THE FILING OF THE COMPLAINT, COPIES OF**
13 **THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT SHALL BE SENT BY CERTIFIED MAIL**
14 **REQUESTING “RESTRICTED DELIVERY – SHOW TO WHOM, DATE, ADDRESS OF**
15 **DELIVERY” AND FIRST-CLASS MAIL TO ALL KNOWN OWNERS AND LIENHOLDERS**
16 **WHOSE IDENTITIES ARE REASONABLY SUBJECT TO DISCOVERY, INCLUDING ALL**
17 **REAL PROPERTY OWNERS AND LIENHOLDERS SHOWN IN THE RECORDS**
18 **REQUIRED BY LAW FOR NOTICE OR PERFECTION OF THE LIEN.**

19 **13–519.**

20 **(A) A NOTICE SHALL BE SIGNED BY THE CLERK OF THE COURT AND**
21 **SHALL:**

22 **(1) INCLUDE THE CAPTION OF THE CASE;**

23 **(2) DESCRIBE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE COMPLAINT AND THE**
24 **RELIEF SOUGHT;**

25 **(3) STATE THE LATEST DATE ON WHICH A RESPONSE MAY BE**
26 **FILED;**

27 **(4) STATE THAT THE PROPERTY SHALL BE FORFEITED IF A**
28 **RESPONSE IS NOT FILED ON TIME;**

29 **(5) STATE THAT THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY MAY HAVE**
30 **POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY PENDING FORFEITURE BY POSTING A BOND AS**
31 **PROVIDED IN § 13–510 OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND**

1 **(6) TELL WHERE TO FILE A RESPONSE AND WHOM TO CONTACT**
2 **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FORFEITURE.**

3 **(B) WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER THE FILING OF THE COMPLAINT, THE**
4 **NOTICE SHALL BE:**

5 **(1) POSTED BY THE SHERIFF ON THE DOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE**
6 **WHERE THE ACTION IS PENDING OR ON A BULLETIN BOARD WITHIN THE**
7 **IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE DOOR;**

8 **(2) POSTED BY THE SHERIFF IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE ON THE**
9 **LAND, IF FORFEITURE OF REAL PROPERTY IS SOUGHT; AND**

10 **(3) PUBLISHED AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK IN EACH OF 3**
11 **SUCCESSIVE WEEKS IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION PUBLISHED IN**
12 **THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE ACTION IS PENDING, UNLESS THE PROPERTY IS A**
13 **BOAT OR MOTOR VEHICLE.**

14 **13-520.**

15 **THE ANSWER TO A COMPLAINT SHALL:**

16 **(1) COMPLY WITH THE MARYLAND RULES;**

17 **(2) STATE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE PERSON'S RIGHT IN,**
18 **TITLE TO, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY;**

19 **(3) STATE HOW AND WHEN THE PERSON ACQUIRED A RIGHT IN,**
20 **TITLE TO, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY; AND**

21 **(4) CONTAIN A REQUEST FOR RELIEF AND A REQUEST FOR A**
22 **PROMPT HEARING.**

23 **13-521.**

24 **(A) IF AN ANSWER HAS BEEN FILED ON TIME, THE COURT SHALL SET A**
25 **HEARING ON THE FORFEITURE CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE LATER OF:**

26 **(1) POSTING OF NOTICE UNDER § 13-519(B)(1) OR (2) OF THIS**
27 **SUBTITLE; OR**

28 **(2) FINAL PUBLICATION OF NOTICE UNDER § 13-519(B)(3) OF**
29 **THIS SUBTITLE.**

1 **(B) WITHOUT A HEARING, THE COURT MAY ORDER FORFEITURE OF THE**
2 **PROPERTY INTEREST OF A PERSON WHO FAILS TO TIMELY FILE AN ANSWER.**

3 **13-522.**

4 **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN §§ 13-503(D) AND 13-524 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AN**
5 **OWNER'S INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY MAY BE FORFEITED IF THE REAL**
6 **PROPERTY WAS USED IN CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN**
7 **TRAFFICKING LAW OR THE OWNER OF THE REAL PROPERTY IS CONVICTED OF**
8 **AN ATTEMPT OR CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW.**

9 **13-523.**

10 **(A) FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS FOR REAL PROPERTY MAY BE**
11 **BROUGHT IN THE JURISDICTION WHERE:**

12 **(1) THE CRIMINAL CHARGES ARE PENDING;**

13 **(2) THE OWNER RESIDES; OR**

14 **(3) THE REAL PROPERTY IS LOCATED.**

15 **(B) (1) IF FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS FOR REAL PROPERTY ARE**
16 **BROUGHT IN A JURISDICTION OTHER THAN WHERE THE REAL PROPERTY IS**
17 **LOCATED, A NOTICE OF PENDING LITIGATION SHALL BE FILED IN THE**
18 **JURISDICTION WHERE THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED.**

19 **(2) A NOTICE OF PENDING LITIGATION REQUIRED UNDER THIS**
20 **SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST:**

21 **(I) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE OWNER OF THE REAL**
22 **PROPERTY;**

23 **(II) A DESCRIPTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY; AND**

24 **(III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE REASONS FOR THE FILING OF**
25 **THE FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS AND NOTICE OF PENDING LITIGATION.**

26 **13-524.**

27 **IF AN OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY USED AS THE PRINCIPAL FAMILY**
28 **RESIDENCE IS CONVICTED UNDER THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW OR IS**
29 **CONVICTED OF AN ATTEMPT OR CONSPIRACY TO VIOLATE THE HUMAN**
30 **TRAFFICKING LAW AND THE OWNER FILES AN APPEAL OF THE CONVICTION, THE**

1 COURT SHALL STAY FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS UNDER § 13-503(D) OR §
2 13-525(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE AGAINST THE REAL PROPERTY DURING THE
3 PENDENCY OF THE APPEAL.

4 13-525.

5 (A) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION,
6 THERE IS A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION THAT PROPERTY OR PART OF A
7 PROPERTY IN WHICH A PERSON HAS AN OWNERSHIP INTEREST IS SUBJECT TO
8 FORFEITURE AS PROCEEDS, IF THE STATE ESTABLISHES BY CLEAR AND
9 CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT:

10 (I) THE PERSON HAS VIOLATED THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING
11 LAW OR HAS ATTEMPTED OR CONSPIRED TO VIOLATE THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING
12 LAW;

13 (II) THE PROPERTY WAS ACQUIRED BY THE PERSON DURING
14 THE VIOLATION OR WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME AFTER THE VIOLATION; AND

15 (III) THERE WAS NO OTHER LIKELY SOURCE FOR THE
16 PROPERTY.

17 (2) A CLAIMANT OF THE PROPERTY HAS THE BURDEN OF PROOF
18 TO REBUT THE PRESUMPTION IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

19 (B) REAL PROPERTY USED AS THE PRINCIPAL FAMILY RESIDENCE MAY
20 NOT BE FORFEITED UNDER THIS SECTION UNLESS:

21 (1) AN OWNER OF THE REAL PROPERTY WAS CONVICTED OF A
22 CRIME DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1)(I) OF THIS SECTION; OR

23 (2) THE REAL PROPERTY IS COVERED BY § 13-503(D) OF THIS
24 SUBTITLE.

25 13-526.

26 IN A PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A COURT:

27 (1) MAY GRANT REQUESTS FOR MITIGATION OR REMISSION OF
28 FORFEITURE OR TAKE OTHER ACTION THAT PROTECTS THE RIGHTS OF
29 INNOCENT PERSONS, IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS SUBTITLE, AND IS IN THE
30 INTEREST OF JUSTICE;

31 (2) MAY RESOLVE CLAIMS ARISING UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND

1 **(3) MAY TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD AND**
2 **MAINTAIN PROPERTY FORFEITED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE PENDING THE**
3 **DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY.**

4 **13-527.**

5 **(A) AFTER A FULL HEARING, IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT THE**
6 **PROPERTY SHOULD NOT BE FORFEITED, THE COURT SHALL ORDER THAT THE**
7 **PROPERTY BE RELEASED.**

8 **(B) SUBJECT TO § 13-528 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IF THE COURT**
9 **DETERMINES THAT THE PROPERTY SHOULD BE FORFEITED, THE COURT SHALL**
10 **ORDER THAT THE PROPERTY BE FORFEITED TO THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNING**
11 **BODY.**

12 **(C) IF THE COURT DETERMINES THAT THE FORFEITED PROPERTY IS**
13 **SUBJECT TO A VALID LIEN CREATED WITHOUT ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE**
14 **LIENHOLDER THAT THE PROPERTY WAS BEING OR WAS TO BE USED IN**
15 **VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAW, THE COURT SHALL ORDER THAT**
16 **THE PROPERTY BE RELEASED WITHIN 5 DAYS TO THE FIRST PRIORITY**
17 **LIENHOLDER.**

18 **(D) (1) THE LIENHOLDER SHALL SELL THE PROPERTY IN A**
19 **COMMERCIALY REASONABLE MANNER.**

20 **(2) THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE SHALL BE APPLIED AS**
21 **FOLLOWS:**

22 **(I) TO THE COURT COSTS OF THE FORFEITURE**
23 **PROCEEDING;**

24 **(II) TO THE BALANCE DUE THE LIENHOLDER, INCLUDING**
25 **ALL REASONABLE COSTS INCIDENT TO THE SALE;**

26 **(III) TO PAYMENT OF ALL OTHER EXPENSES OF THE**
27 **PROCEEDINGS FOR FORFEITURE, INCLUDING EXPENSES OF SEIZURE OR**
28 **MAINTENANCE OF CUSTODY; AND**

29 **(IV) TO THE ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUND UNDER §**
30 **11-920 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

31 **13-528.**

1 IF PROPERTY IS FORFEITED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE GOVERNING
2 BODY WHERE THE PROPERTY WAS SEIZED MAY:

3 (1) KEEP THE PROPERTY FOR OFFICIAL USE;

4 (2) REQUIRE AN APPROPRIATE UNIT TO TAKE CUSTODY OF THE
5 PROPERTY AND DESTROY OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF IT; OR

6 (3) SELL THE PROPERTY IF:

7 (I) THE LAW DOES NOT REQUIRE THE PROPERTY TO BE
8 DESTROYED; AND

9 (II) THE PROPERTY IS NOT HARMFUL TO THE PUBLIC.

10 13-529.

11 (A) THE PROCEEDS FROM A SALE OR THE RETENTION OF PROPERTY
12 DECLARED TO BE FORFEITED AND ANY INTEREST ACCRUED SHALL BE APPLIED,
13 FIRST, TO THE PROPER EXPENSES OF THE PROCEEDING FOR FORFEITURE AND
14 RESULTING SALE, INCLUDING THE EXPENSE OF SEIZING AND MAINTAINING
15 CUSTODY OF THE PROPERTY AND ADVERTISING.

16 (B) ANY BALANCE REMAINING AFTER THE DISTRIBUTION REQUIRED
17 UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE
18 ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUND UNDER § 11-920 OF THIS ARTICLE.

19 13-530.

20 A SALE OF PROPERTY ORDERED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE MADE
21 FOR CASH AND GIVES THE PURCHASER CLEAR AND ABSOLUTE TITLE.

22 13-531.

23 (A) BEFORE EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO SELL PROPERTY THAT HAS
24 BEEN SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, A LIENHOLDER SHALL GIVE TO THE
25 FORFEITING AUTHORITY:

26 (1) WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO SELL;

27 (2) COPIES OF DOCUMENTS GIVING RISE TO THE LIEN; AND

28 (3) AN AFFIDAVIT UNDER OATH BY THE LIENHOLDER:

1 (I) STATING THAT THE UNDERLYING OBLIGATION IS IN
2 DEFAULT; AND

3 (II) STATING THE REASONS FOR THE DEFAULT.

4 (B) ON REQUEST OF THE LIENHOLDER, THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY
5 SHALL RELEASE THE PROPERTY TO THE LIENHOLDER.

6 **13-532.**

7 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE
8 LAW GOVERNING THE SALE OF COLLATERAL SECURING AN OBLIGATION IN
9 DEFAULT GOVERNS A LIENHOLDER'S REPOSSESSION AND SALE OF PROPERTY
10 THAT HAS BEEN SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

11 (B) A LIENHOLDER MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO TAKE POSSESSION OF
12 THE PROPERTY BEFORE THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY.

13 **13-533.**

14 (A) ANY PART OF THE PROCEEDS FROM A SALE OF PROPERTY THAT HAS
15 BEEN SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE THAT WOULD BE PAID TO AN OWNER OF
16 THE PROPERTY UNDER THE APPLICABLE LAW RELATING TO DISTRIBUTION OF
17 PROCEEDS:

18 (1) SHALL BE PAID TO THE SEIZING AUTHORITY; AND

19 (2) SHALL BE PROPERTY SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE.

20 (B) IF AN ORDER OF FORFEITURE IS NOT ENTERED, THE STATE SHALL
21 RETURN TO THE OWNER THAT PART OF THE PROCEEDS AND ANY COSTS OF THE
22 FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS PAID FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE.

23 **13-534.**

24 (A) IF THE INTEREST OF THE OWNER IN PROPERTY THAT HAS BEEN
25 SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS REDEEMED, THE LIENHOLDER SHALL MAIL A
26 NOTICE OF THE REDEMPTION TO THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY WITHIN 10 DAYS
27 AFTER THE REDEMPTION.

28 (B) (1) IF PROPERTY THAT HAS BEEN SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
29 HAS BEEN REPOSSESSED OR OTHERWISE LAWFULLY TAKEN BY THE

1 LIENHOLDER, THE LIENHOLDER SHALL RETURN THE PROPERTY TO THE
2 SEIZING AUTHORITY WITHIN 21 DAYS AFTER THE REDEMPTION.

3 (2) THE SEIZING AUTHORITY AND THE FORFEITING AUTHORITY
4 MAY THEN PROCEED WITH THE FORFEITURE OF THE PROPERTY OR THE
5 PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY.

6 (C) TIME LIMITATIONS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR NOTICE
7 AND FILING OF THE COMPLAINT FOR FORFEITURE RUN FROM THE DATE OF
8 REDEMPTION OR PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY THAT HAS BEEN SEIZED UNDER
9 THIS SUBTITLE.

10 ~~13-535.~~

11 THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT PROHIBIT A LIENHOLDER FROM EXERCISING
12 RIGHTS UNDER APPLICABLE LAW, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SELL PROPERTY
13 THAT HAS BEEN SEIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, IF A DEFAULT OCCURS IN THE
14 OBLIGATION GIVING RISE TO THE LIEN.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be
16 construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have
17 any effect on or application to any offense committed before the effective date of this
18 Act.

19 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2012.