

	LEGISLATIVE ACTION	
Senate		House
Comm: WD		
03/23/2015		

The Committee on Criminal Justice (Brandes) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (120332) (with title amendment)

4 Delete lines 453 - 592

and insert:

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Section 5. Section 932.7055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

932.7055 Disposition of liens and forfeited property.-

(1) When a seizing agency obtains a final judgment granting forfeiture of real property or personal property, it may elect



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- (a) Retain the property for the agency's use;
- (a) (b) Sell the property at public auction or by sealed bid to the highest bidder, except for real property, which must should be sold in a commercially reasonable manner after appraisal by listing on the market; or
- (b) (c) Salvage, Trade, or transfer the property to a any public or nonprofit organization.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a seizing agency must destroy any image and the medium on which the image is recorded, including, but not limited to, a photograph, video tape, diskette, compact disc, or fixed disk made in violation of s. 810.145 when the image and the medium on which it is recorded is no longer needed for an official purpose. The agency may not sell or retain any image.
- (3) If the forfeited property is subject to a lien preserved by the court as provided in s. 932.703(6)(b), the agency shall:
- (a) Sell the property with the proceeds being used towards satisfaction of any liens; or
- (b) Have the lien satisfied prior to taking any action authorized by subsection (1).
- (4) The proceeds from the sale of forfeited property shall be disbursed in the following priority:
- (a) Payment of the balance due on any lien preserved by the court in the forfeiture proceedings.
- (b) Payment of the cost incurred by the seizing agency in connection with the storage, maintenance, security, and forfeiture of such property.

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- (c) Payment of court costs incurred in the forfeiture proceeding.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, and for the 2014-2015 fiscal year only, the funds in a special law enforcement trust fund established by the governing body of a municipality may be expended to reimburse the general fund of the municipality for moneys advanced from the general fund to the special law enforcement trust fund before October 1, 2001. This paragraph expires July 1, 2015.
- (5)(a) If the seizing agency is a county or municipal agency, 50 percent of the remaining proceeds shall be deposited into in a special law enforcement trust fund established by the board of county commissioners or the governing body of the municipality. Such proceeds and interest earned therefrom shall be used for school resource officer, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, or drug abuse education and prevention programs. The remaining 50 percent of the proceeds shall be deposited into the Crimes Compensation Trust Fund, or for other law enforcement purposes, which include defraying the cost of protracted or complex investigations, providing additional equipment or expertise, purchasing automated external defibrillators for use in law enforcement vehicles, and providing matching funds to obtain federal grants. The proceeds and interest may not be used to meet normal operating expenses of the law enforcement agency.
- (b) These funds may be expended upon request by the sheriff to the board of county commissioners or by the chief of police to the governing body of the municipality, accompanied by a written certification that the request complies with the provisions of this subsection, and only upon appropriation to

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the sheriff's office or police department by the board of county commissioners or the governing body of the municipality.

(c) An agency or organization, other than the seizing agency, which that wishes to receive such funds shall apply to the sheriff or chief of police for an appropriation. The and its application shall be accompanied by a written certification that the moneys will be used for an authorized purpose. Such requests for expenditures shall include a statement describing anticipated recurring costs for the agency for subsequent fiscal years. An agency or organization that receives money pursuant to this subsection shall provide an accounting for such moneys and shall furnish the same reports as an agency of the county or municipality that receives public funds. Such funds may be expended in accordance with the following procedures:

1. Such funds may be used only for school resource officer, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, drug abuse education, or drug prevention programs or such other law enforcement purposes as the board of county commissioners or governing body of the municipality deems appropriate.

2. Such funds shall not be a source of revenue to meet normal operating needs of the law enforcement agency.

(d) 3. After July 1, 1992, and During each every fiscal year thereafter, any local law enforcement agency that acquires at least \$15,000 pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act within a fiscal year must expend or donate 50 no less than 15 percent of such proceeds in excess of \$15,000 pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act for the support or operation of any drug treatment, drug abuse education, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, or school resource officer

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programs program(s). An agency or organization, other than the seizing agency, which wishes to receive such funds must apply to the seizing local law enforcement agency for an appropriation. Funding requests by such agencies or organizations must be accompanied by a written certification stating that the moneys will be used for an authorized purpose, detailing how the funds will be used, and affirming that the expenditure will be used for only the support of drug treatment, drug abuse education, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, or school resource officer programs. Such requests are public records as defined in chapter 119. The local law enforcement agency has the discretion to determine which programs program(s) will receive the designated proceeds.

- (e) Notwithstanding the drug abuse education, drug treatment, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, or school resource officer programs minimum expenditures or donations, the sheriff and the board of county commissioners or the chief of police and the governing body of the municipality may agree to expend or donate such funds over a period of years if the expenditure or donation of the such minimum amount in any given fiscal year would exceed the needs of the county or municipality for such programs program(s). Nothing in this section precludes the expenditure or donation of forfeiture proceeds in excess of the minimum amounts established herein.
- (6) If the seizing agency is a state agency, all remaining proceeds shall be deposited into the Crimes Compensation Trust Fund General Revenue Fund. However, if the seizing agency is:
- (a) The Department of Law Enforcement, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture

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Act shall be deposited into the Forfeiture and Investigative Support Trust Fund as provided in s. 943.362 or into the department's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 943.365, as applicable. (b) The Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco, the

proceeds accrued pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Trust Fund or into the department's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 561.027, as applicable.

(c) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 932.705(1)(a) or into the department's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 932.705(1)(b), as applicable.

(d) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the State Game Trust Fund as provided in ss. 379.338, 379.339, and 379.3395 or into the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund as provided in s. 379.337.

(e) A state attorney's office acting within its judicial circuit, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the State Attorney's Forfeiture and Investigative Support Trust Fund to be used for the investigation of crime and prosecution of criminals within the judicial circuit.

(f) A school board security agency employing law

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enforcement officers, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the School Board Law Enforcement Trust Fund.

- (q) One of the State University System police departments acting within the jurisdiction of its employing state university, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into that state university's special law enforcement trust fund.
- (h) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund or into the department's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 570.205, as applicable.
- (i) The Department of Military Affairs, the proceeds accrued from federal forfeiture sharing pursuant to 21 U.S.C. ss. 881(e)(1)(A) and (3), 18 U.S.C. s. 981(e)(2), and 19 U.S.C. s. 1616a shall be deposited into the Armory Board Trust Fund and used for purposes authorized by such federal provisions based on the department's budgetary authority or into the department's Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 250.175, as applicable.
- (i) The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Department of Legal Affairs, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the Department of Legal Affairs Grants and Donations Trust Fund to be used for investigation and prosecution of Medicaid fraud, abuse, neglect, and other related cases by the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit.
 - (k) The Division of State Fire Marshal in the Department of

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Financial Services, the proceeds accrued under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund to be used for the purposes of arson suppression, arson investigation, and the funding of anti-arson rewards.

- (1) The Division of Insurance Fraud of the Department of Financial Services, the proceeds accrued pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act shall be deposited into the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund as provided in s. 626.9893 or into the Department of Financial Services' Federal Law Enforcement Trust Fund as provided in s. 17.43, as applicable.
- (7) If more than one law enforcement agency is acting substantially to effect the forfeiture, the court having jurisdiction over the forfeiture proceedings shall, upon motion, equitably distribute all proceeds and other property among the seizing agencies.
- (8) Upon the sale of any motor vehicle, vessel, aircraft, real property, or other property requiring a title, the appropriate agency shall issue a title certificate to the purchaser. Upon the request of any law enforcement agency which elects to retain titled property after forfeiture, the appropriate state agency shall issue a title certificate for such property to said law enforcement agency.
- (9) A Neither the law enforcement agency, or nor the entity having budgetary control over the law enforcement agency, may not shall anticipate future forfeitures or the proceeds from those forfeitures therefrom in the adoption and approval of the agency's budget for the law enforcement agency.

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214 Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 16.56, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 215

16.56 Office of Statewide Prosecution. -

- (1) There is created in the Department of Legal Affairs an Office of Statewide Prosecution. The office shall be a separate "budget entity" as that term is defined in chapter 216. The office may:
 - (a) Investigate and prosecute the offenses of:
- 1. Bribery, burglary, criminal usury, extortion, gambling, kidnapping, larceny, murder, prostitution, perjury, robbery, carjacking, and home-invasion robbery;
 - 2. Any crime involving narcotic or other dangerous drugs;
- 3. Any violation of the provisions of the Florida RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization) Act, including any offense listed in the definition of racketeering activity in s. 895.02(8) (a) s. 895.02(1) (a), providing such listed offense is investigated in connection with a violation of s. 895.03 and is charged in a separate count of an information or indictment containing a count charging a violation of s. 895.03, the prosecution of which listed offense may continue independently if the prosecution of the violation of s. 895.03 is terminated for any reason;
- 4. Any violation of the provisions of the Florida Anti-Fencing Act;
- 5. Any violation of the provisions of the Florida Antitrust Act of 1980, as amended;
- 6. Any crime involving, or resulting in, fraud or deceit upon any person;
 - 7. Any violation of s. 847.0135, relating to computer

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pornography and child exploitation prevention, or any offense related to a violation of s. 847.0135 or any violation of chapter 827 where the crime is facilitated by or connected to the use of the Internet or any device capable of electronic data storage or transmission;

- 8. Any violation of the provisions of chapter 815;
- 9. Any criminal violation of part I of chapter 499;
- 10. Any violation of the provisions of the Florida Motor Fuel Tax Relief Act of 2004;
 - 11. Any criminal violation of s. 409.920 or s. 409.9201;
- 12. Any crime involving voter registration, voting, or candidate or issue petition activities;
- 13. Any criminal violation of the Florida Money Laundering Act;
- 14. Any criminal violation of the Florida Securities and Investor Protection Act; or
- 15. Any violation of the provisions of chapter 787, as well as any and all offenses related to a violation of the provisions of chapter 787;

or any attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit any of the crimes specifically enumerated above. The office shall have such power only when any such offense is occurring, or has occurred, in two or more judicial circuits as part of a related transaction, or when any such offense is connected with an organized criminal conspiracy affecting two or more judicial circuits. Informations or indictments charging such offenses shall contain general allegations stating the judicial circuits and counties in which crimes are alleged to have occurred or the



judicial circuits and counties in which crimes affecting such circuits or counties are alleged to have been connected with an organized criminal conspiracy.

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 905.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

905.34 Powers and duties; law applicable.—The jurisdiction of a statewide grand jury impaneled under this chapter shall extend throughout the state. The subject matter jurisdiction of the statewide grand jury shall be limited to the offenses of:

(3) Any violation of the provisions of the Florida RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization) Act, including any offense listed in the definition of racketeering activity in s. 895.02(8) (a) s. 895.02(1) (a), providing such listed offense is investigated in connection with a violation of s. 895.03 and is charged in a separate count of an information or indictment containing a count charging a violation of s. 895.03, the prosecution of which listed offense may continue independently if the prosecution of the violation of s. 895.03 is terminated for any reason;

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or any attempt, solicitation, or conspiracy to commit any violation of the crimes specifically enumerated above, when any such offense is occurring, or has occurred, in two or more judicial circuits as part of a related transaction or when any such offense is connected with an organized criminal conspiracy affecting two or more judicial circuits. The statewide grand jury may return indictments and presentments irrespective of the county or judicial circuit where the offense is committed or triable. If an indictment is returned, it shall be certified and

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transferred for trial to the county where the offense was committed. The powers and duties of, and law applicable to, county grand juries shall apply to a statewide grand jury except when such powers, duties, and law are inconsistent with the provisions of ss. 905.31-905.40.

Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 895.05, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (4) and paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 16.53, Florida Statutes, are reenacted, and subsection (6) of that section is amended, to read:

- 16.53 Legal Affairs Revolving Trust Fund.-
- (4) Subject to the provisions of s. 895.09, when the Attorney General files an action pursuant to s. 895.05, funds provided to the Department of Legal Affairs pursuant to s. 895.09(2)(a) or, alternatively, attorneys' fees and costs, whichever is greater, shall be deposited in the fund.
- (5)(a) In the case of a forfeiture action pursuant to s. 895.05, the remainder of the moneys recovered shall be distributed as set forth in s. 895.09.
- (6) "Moneys recovered" means damages or penalties or any other monetary payment, including monetary proceeds from property forfeited to the state pursuant to s. 895.05 remaining after satisfaction of any valid claims made pursuant to s. $895.09(1)(a)-(d) = \frac{895.09(1)(a)-(c)}{(a)}$, which damages, penalties, or other monetary payment is made by any defendant by reason of any decree or settlement in any Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act or state or federal antitrust action prosecuted by the Attorney General, but excludes attorney attorneys' fees



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Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 895.05, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 27.345, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

- 27.345 State Attorney RICO Trust Fund; authorized use of funds; reporting.-
- (1) Subject to the provisions of s. 895.09, when a state attorney files an action pursuant to s. 895.05, funds provided to the state attorney pursuant to s. 895.09(2)(a) or, alternatively, attorneys' fees and costs, whichever is greater, shall be deposited in the State Attorney RICO Trust Fund.

Section 10. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 895.05, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (3) of section 92.142, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

92.142 Witnesses; pay.-

(3) Any witness subpoenaed to testify on behalf of the state in any action brought pursuant to s. 895.05 or chapter 542 who is required to travel outside his or her county of residence and more than 50 miles from his or her residence, or who is required to travel from out of state, shall be entitled to per diem and travel expenses at the same rate provided for state employees under s. 112.061 in lieu of any state witness fee.

Section 11. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 932.7055, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 381.0081, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

381.0081 Permit required to operate a migrant labor camp or



residential migrant housing; penalties for unlawful establishment or operation; allocation of proceeds.-

(5) SEIZURE.

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- (b) After satisfying any liens on the property, the remaining proceeds from the sale of the property seized under this section shall be allocated as follows if the department participated in the inspection or investigation leading to seizure and forfeiture under this section:
- 1. One-third of the proceeds shall be allocated to the law enforcement agency involved in the seizure, to be used as provided in s. 932.7055.
- 2. One-third of the proceeds shall be allocated to the department, to be used for purposes of enforcing the provisions of this section.
- 3. One-third of the proceeds shall be deposited in the State Apartment Incentive Loan Fund, to be used for the purpose of providing funds to sponsors who provide housing for farmworkers.

Section 12. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 932.7055, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 895.09, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

895.09 Disposition of funds obtained through forfeiture proceedings.-

(2)

(c) Any funds distributed to an investigating law enforcement agency under paragraph (a) shall be deposited in the applicable law enforcement trust fund established for that agency pursuant to s. 932.7055 and expended for the purposes and



in the manner authorized in that section. In addition, any funds distributed to an investigating law enforcement agency pursuant to this section may be used to pay the costs of investigations of violations of this chapter and the criminal prosecutions and civil actions related thereto, pursuant to s. 932.7055. Such costs may include all taxable costs; costs of protecting, maintaining, and forfeiting the property; employees' base salaries and compensation for overtime; and such other costs directly attributable to the investigation, prosecution, or civil action.

Section 13. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 932.7055, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of section 932.703, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

932.703 Forfeiture of contraband article; exceptions.-

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(b) A bona fide lienholder's interest that has been perfected in the manner prescribed by law prior to the seizure may not be forfeited under the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act unless the seizing agency establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that the lienholder had actual knowledge, at the time the lien was made, that the property was being employed or was likely to be employed in criminal activity. If a lienholder's interest is not subject to forfeiture under the requirements of this section, such interest shall be preserved by the court by ordering the lienholder's interest to be paid as provided in s. 932.7055.

====== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:



Delete lines 599 - 648 and insert:

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An act relating to forfeiture of property; reordering and amending s. 895.02, F.S.; specifying the earliest date that incidents constituting a pattern of racketeering activity may have occurred; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 895.05, F.S.; authorizing an investigative agency to institute a civil proceeding for forfeiture in a circuit court in certain circumstances; adding diminution in value as a ground for an action under certain circumstances; removing certain grounds for an action; authorizing a court to order the forfeiture of other property of the defendant up to the value of the unavailable property in certain circumstances; authorizing the Department of Legal Affairs to bring an action for certain violations to obtain specified relief, fees, and costs for certain purposes; providing for civil penalties for natural persons and other persons who commit certain violations; providing for deposit of moneys received for certain violations; authorizing a party to a specific civil action to petition the court for entry of a consent decree or for approval of a settlement agreement; providing requirements for such decrees or agreements; amending s. 895.06, F.S.; deleting the definition of "investigative agency" for purposes of provisions relating to civil investigative subpoenas; providing that a subpoena must be confidential for a specified time; restricting to whom

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the subpoenaed person or entity may disclose the existence of the subpoena; requiring certain information to be included in the subpoena; authorizing the investigative agency to apply for an order extending the amount of time the subpoena remains confidential rather than having it extended by the court for a specified period; providing that the investigative agency has the authority to stipulate to protective orders with respect to documents and information submitted in response to a subpoena; amending s. 895.09, F.S.; providing for distribution of forfeiture proceeds to victims; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 932.7055, F.S.; deleting a provision authorizing a seizing agency to retain seized property for its use; deleting a provision authorizing a seizing agency to salvage seized property and give it to a public organization; deleting an obsolete provision; revising the distribution and the use of proceeds from the sales of forfeited property seized by a county or municipal agency; authorizing an agency or organization, other than a seizing agency, to apply for funds from specified proceeds; requiring that funding requests be made in writing and include a certification that the expenditure meets certain requirements; specifying that such requests are public records; deleting a provision relating to certain expenditure or donation of forfeiture proceeds; requiring certain proceeds to be deposited into the Crimes Compensation Trust Fund,

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rather than the General Revenue Fund; deleting provisions that exempt certain agencies of the state from depositing proceeds from seizures into the General Revenue Fund; making technical changes; amending ss. 16.56 and 905.34, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; reenacting and amending s. 16.53, F.S., relating to the Legal Affairs Revolving Trust Fund, to incorporate the amendment made by the act to s. 895.05, F.S., in references thereto; conforming a cross-reference; reenacting ss. 27.345(1) and 92.142(3), F.S., relating to the State Attorney RICO Trust Fund and witness pay, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made by the act to s. 895.05, F.S., in references thereto; reenacting ss. 381.0081(5)(b), 895.09(2)(c), and 932.703(6)(b), F.S., relating to the allocations of proceeds from the sales of property in a migrant labor camp or residential migrant housing, the disposition of funds obtained through forfeiture proceedings, and the forfeiture of contraband articles, respectively, to incorporate the amendment made to s. 932.7055, F.S., in references thereto; providing an