

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2024

SENATE BILL No. 458

By Committee on Judiciary

2-6

1 AN ACT concerning seizure and forfeiture of property; relating to the  
2 Kansas standard asset seizure and forfeiture act; specifying that certain  
3 drug offenses do not give rise to forfeiture under the act; requiring  
4 courts to make a finding that forfeiture is not excessive; restricting  
5 actions prior to commencement of forfeiture proceedings; requiring  
6 probable cause affidavit filing and review to commence forfeiture  
7 proceedings; increasing the burden of proof required to forfeit property  
8 to clear and convincing evidence; ~~providing persons involved in~~  
9 ~~forfeiture proceedings the ability to request a jury trial;~~ authorizing  
10 courts to order payment of attorney fees and costs for certain claimants;  
11 ~~requiring the Kansas bureau of investigation to submit forfeiture fund~~  
12 ~~financial reports to the legislature;~~ amending K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-  
13 4104, 60-4106, 60-4107, 60-4109, 60-4111, 60-4112, 60-4113, ~~60-~~  
14 ~~4114,~~ 60-4116; **and** 60-4117 ~~and 60-4127~~ and repealing the existing  
15 sections.

16  
17 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

18 Section 1. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4104 is hereby amended to read as  
19 follows: 60-4104. Conduct and offenses giving rise to forfeiture under this  
20 act, whether or not there is a prosecution or conviction related to the  
21 offense, are:

22 (a) All offenses which statutorily and specifically authorize forfeiture;  
23 (b) violations involving controlled substances, as described in K.S.A.  
24 ~~21-5701 through 21-5717~~ 21-5703, 21-5705, 21-5707, 21-5708(b), 21-  
25 5709(a), (b)(1), (c) and (d), 21-5710, 21-5713(a), 21-5714 and 21-5716,  
26 and amendments thereto;

27 (c) theft, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5801, and amendments thereto;

28 (d) criminal discharge of a firearm, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6308(a)  
29 (1) and (a)(2), and amendments thereto;

30 (e) gambling, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6404, and amendments thereto,  
31 and commercial gambling, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6406(a)(1), and  
32 amendments thereto;

33 (f) counterfeiting, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5825, and amendments  
34 thereto;

35 (g) unlawful possession or use of a scanning device or reencoder, as  
36 described in K.S.A. 21-6108, and amendments thereto;

- 1 (h) medicaid fraud, as described in K.S.A. 21-5925 through 21-5934,  
2 and amendments thereto;
- 3 (i) an act or omission occurring outside this state, which would be a  
4 violation in the place of occurrence and would be described in this section  
5 if the act occurred in this state, whether or not it is prosecuted in any state;
- 6 (j) an act or omission committed in furtherance of any act or omission  
7 described in this section including any inchoate or preparatory offense,  
8 whether or not there is a prosecution or conviction related to the act or  
9 omission;
- 10 (k) any solicitation or conspiracy to commit any act or omission  
11 described in this section, whether or not there is a prosecution or  
12 conviction related to the act or omission;
- 13 (l) terrorism, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5421, and amendments thereto,  
14 illegal use of weapons of mass destruction, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5422,  
15 and amendments thereto, and furtherance of terrorism or illegal use of  
16 weapons of mass destruction, as described in K.S.A. 21-5423, and  
17 amendments thereto;
- 18 (m) unlawful conduct of dog fighting and unlawful possession of dog  
19 fighting paraphernalia, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6414(a) and (b), and  
20 amendments thereto;
- 21 (n) unlawful conduct of cockfighting and unlawful possession of  
22 cockfighting paraphernalia, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6417(a) and (b), and  
23 amendments thereto;
- 24 (o) selling sexual relations, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6419, and  
25 amendments thereto, promoting the sale of sexual relations, as defined in  
26 K.S.A. 21-6420, and amendments thereto, and buying sexual relations, as  
27 defined in K.S.A. 21-6421, and amendments thereto;
- 28 (p) human trafficking and aggravated human trafficking, as defined in  
29 K.S.A. 21-5426, and amendments thereto;
- 30 (q) violations of the banking code, as described in K.S.A. 9-2012, and  
31 amendments thereto;
- 32 (r) mistreatment of a dependent adult, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5417,  
33 and amendments thereto;
- 34 (s) giving a worthless check, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5821, and  
35 amendments thereto;
- 36 (t) forgery, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5823, and amendments thereto;
- 37 (u) making false information, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5824, and  
38 amendments thereto;
- 39 (v) criminal use of a financial card, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5828, and  
40 amendments thereto;
- 41 (w) unlawful acts concerning computers, as described in K.S.A. 21-  
42 5839, and amendments thereto;
- 43 (x) identity theft and identity fraud, as defined in K.S.A. 21-6107(a)

1 and (b), and amendments thereto;

2 (y) electronic solicitation, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5509, and  
3 amendments thereto;

4 (z) felony violations of fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer,  
5 as described in K.S.A. 8-1568, and amendments thereto;

6 (aa) commercial sexual exploitation of a child, as defined in K.S.A.  
7 21-6422, and amendments thereto;

8 (bb) violations of the Kansas racketeer influenced and corrupt  
9 organization act, as described in K.S.A. 21-6329, and amendments thereto;

10 (cc) indecent solicitation of a child and aggravated indecent  
11 solicitation of a child, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5508, and amendments  
12 thereto;

13 (dd) sexual exploitation of a child, as defined in K.S.A. 21-5510, and  
14 amendments thereto; and

15 (ee) violation of a consumer protection order as defined in K.S.A. 21-  
16 6423, and amendments thereto.

17 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4106 is hereby amended to read as  
18 follows: 60-4106. (a) *Except as provided in this subsection*, all property,  
19 including all interests in property, described in K.S.A. 60-4105, and  
20 amendments thereto, is subject to forfeiture subject to all mortgages, deeds  
21 of trust, financing statements or security agreements properly of record  
22 prior to the forfeiture held by an interest holder ~~except that property~~  
23 ~~specifically exempted hereunder.~~

24 (1) No real property or conveyance, or an interest therein, may be  
25 forfeited under this act unless the offense or conduct giving rise to  
26 forfeiture constitutes a felony.

27 (2) No conveyance used by any person as a common carrier in the  
28 transaction of business as a common carrier is subject to forfeiture under  
29 this act unless the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a  
30 consenting party or privy to a violation of this act.

31 (3) No property is subject to forfeiture under this act if the owner or  
32 interest holder acquired the property before or during the conduct giving  
33 rise to the property's forfeiture, and such owner or interest holder:

34 (A) Did not know and could not have reasonably known of the act or  
35 omission or that it was likely to occur; or

36 (B) acted reasonably to prevent the conduct giving rise to forfeiture.

37 (4) No property is subject to forfeiture if the owner or interest holder  
38 acquired the property after the conduct giving rise to the property's  
39 forfeiture, including acquisition of proceeds of conduct giving rise to  
40 forfeiture, and such owner or interest holder:

41 (A) Acquired the property in good faith, for value; and

42 (B) was not knowingly taking part in an illegal transaction.

43 (5) (A) An interest in property acquired in good faith by an attorney

1 as reasonable payment or to secure payment for legal services in a criminal  
2 matter relating to violations of this act or for the reimbursement of  
3 reasonable expenses related to the legal services is exempt from forfeiture  
4 unless before the interest was acquired the attorney knew of a judicial  
5 determination of probable cause that the property is subject to forfeiture.

6 (B) The state bears the burden of proving that an exemption claimed  
7 under this section is not applicable. Evidence made available by the  
8 compelled disclosure of confidential communications between an attorney  
9 and a client other than nonprivileged information relating to attorney fees,  
10 is not admissible to satisfy the state's burden of proof.

11 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), property is not exempt from  
12 forfeiture, even though the owner or interest holder lacked knowledge or  
13 reason to know that the conduct giving rise to property's forfeiture had  
14 occurred or was likely to occur, if the:

15 (1) Person whose conduct gave rise to the property's forfeiture had  
16 authority to convey the property of the person claiming the exemption to a  
17 good faith purchaser for value at the time of the conduct;

18 (2) owner or interest holder is criminally responsible for the conduct  
19 giving rise to the property's forfeiture, whether or not there is a prosecution  
20 or conviction; or

21 (3) owner or interest holder acquired the property with notice of the  
22 property's actual or constructive seizure for forfeiture under this act, or  
23 with reason to believe that the property was subject to forfeiture under this  
24 act.

25 (c) Prior to final judgment in a judicial forfeiture proceeding, ~~a the~~  
26 ~~court shall limit the scope of a proposed forfeiture to the extent the court~~  
27 ~~finds the effect of the forfeiture is grossly disproportionate to the nature~~  
28 ~~and severity of the owner's conduct including, but not limited to, a~~  
29 ~~consideration of any of the following factors:~~

30 ~~(1) The gain received or expected to be received by an owner from~~  
31 ~~conduct that allows forfeiture;~~

32 ~~(2) the value of the property subject to forfeiture;~~

33 ~~(3) the extent to which the property actually facilitated the criminal~~  
34 ~~conduct;~~

35 ~~(4) the nature and extent of the owner's knowledge of the role of~~  
36 ~~others in the conduct that allows forfeiture of the property and efforts of~~  
37 ~~the owner to prevent the conduct; and~~

38 ~~(5) the totality of the circumstances regarding the investigation~~  
39 ~~determine whether the proposed forfeiture is unconstitutionally excessive~~  
40 ~~pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4112(g), and amendments thereto, if the court has~~  
41 ~~not made such determination earlier in the proceeding as a result of a~~  
42 ~~petition filed pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4112(g), and amendments thereto.~~

43 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4107 is hereby amended to read as

1 follows: 60-4107. (a) Property may be seized for forfeiture by a law  
2 enforcement officer upon process issued by the district court. The court  
3 may issue a seizure warrant on an affidavit under oath demonstrating that  
4 probable cause exists for the property's forfeiture or that the property has  
5 been the subject of a previous final judgment of forfeiture in the courts of  
6 any state or of the United States. The court may order that the property be  
7 seized on such terms and conditions as are reasonable in the discretion of  
8 the court. The order may be made on or in connection with a search  
9 warrant. All real property is to be seized constructively or pursuant to a  
10 pre-seizure adversarial judicial determination of probable cause, except  
11 that this determination may be done ex parte when the attorney for the  
12 state has demonstrated exigent circumstances to the court.

13 (b) Property may be seized for forfeiture by a law enforcement officer  
14 without process on probable cause to believe the property is subject to  
15 forfeiture under this act.

16 (c) Property may be seized constructively by:

17 (1) Posting notice of seizure for forfeiture or notice of pending  
18 forfeiture on the property.

19 (2) Giving notice pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4109, and amendments  
20 thereto.

21 (3) Filing or recording in the public records relating to that type of  
22 property notice of seizure for forfeiture, notice of pending forfeiture, a  
23 forfeiture lien or a lis pendens. Filings or recordings made pursuant to this  
24 act are not subject to a filing fee or other charge, except that court costs  
25 may be assessed and, if assessed, shall include the amount of the docket  
26 fee prescribed by K.S.A. 60-2001, and amendments thereto, and any  
27 additional court costs accrued in the action.

28 (d) The seizing agency shall make reasonable effort to provide notice  
29 of the seizure to the person from ~~whose~~ *whom* possession or control *of* the  
30 property was seized and any interest holder of record within 30 days of  
31 seizing the property. If no person is in possession or control, the seizing  
32 agency may attach the notice to the property or to the place of the  
33 property's seizure or may make a reasonable effort to deliver the notice to  
34 the owner of the property. The notice shall contain a general description of  
35 the property seized, the date and place of seizure, the name of the seizing  
36 agency and the address and telephone number of the seizing officer or  
37 other person or agency from whom information about the seizure may be  
38 obtained.

39 (e) A person who acts in good faith and in a reasonable manner to  
40 comply with an order of the court or a request of a law enforcement officer  
41 is not liable to any person on account of acts done in reasonable  
42 compliance with the order or request. No liability may attach from the fact  
43 that a person declines a law enforcement officer's request to deliver

1 property.

2 (f) A possessory lien of a person from ~~whose~~ *whom* possession of the  
3 property is seized is not affected by the seizure.

4 (g) When property is seized for forfeiture under this act, the seizing  
5 agency shall, ~~within 45 days of~~ *14 days after* such seizure, forward to the  
6 county or district attorney in whose jurisdiction the seizure occurred, a  
7 written request for forfeiture which shall include a statement of facts and  
8 circumstances of the seizure, the estimated value of the property, the  
9 owner and lienholder of the property, the amount of any lien, and a  
10 summary of the facts relied on for forfeiture.

11 (h) (1) Upon receipt of a written request for forfeiture from a local  
12 law enforcement agency, the county or district attorney shall accept or  
13 decline the request within 14 days. ~~¶~~

14 (2) *Upon the expiration of the 14-day time limitation provided in*  
15 *paragraph (1) or upon notification that the county or district attorney*  
16 *declines such request, ~~or fails to answer~~ whichever occurs first, the seizing*  
17 *agency ~~may~~ has 14 days to:*

18 ~~(A)~~ (A) Request a state law enforcement agency that enforces this act  
19 to adopt the forfeiture; or

20 ~~(B)~~ (B) engage an attorney, approved by the county or district attorney,  
21 to represent the agency in the forfeiture proceeding, but in no event shall  
22 the county or district attorney approve an attorney with whom the county  
23 or district attorney has a financial interest, either directly or indirectly.

24 (3) *Upon the expiration of the 14-day time limitation provided in*  
25 *paragraph (2), if a state law enforcement agency has not adopted the*  
26 *forfeiture or the seizing agency has not engaged an attorney to represent*  
27 *the agency, the property that was seized for forfeiture shall be returned*  
28 *within 30 days to the owner or interest holder or as provided for the same*  
29 *kind of property in K.S.A. 22-2512, and amendments thereto.*

30 (i) (1) Upon receipt of a written request for forfeiture from a state law  
31 enforcement agency, the county or district attorney shall accept or decline  
32 the request within 14 days. ~~¶~~

33 (2) *Upon the expiration of the 14-day time limitation provided in*  
34 *paragraph (1) or upon notification that the county or district attorney*  
35 *declines such request, ~~or fails to answer~~ whichever occurs first, the seizing*  
36 *agency ~~may~~ has 14 days to engage an assistant attorney general or other*  
37 *attorney approved by the attorney general to represent the agency in the*  
38 *forfeiture proceeding, but in no event shall the attorney general approve an*  
39 *attorney with whom the attorney general has a financial interest, either*  
40 *directly or indirectly.*

41 (3) *Upon the expiration of the 14-day time limitation provided in*  
42 *paragraph (2), if the seizing agency has not engaged an attorney to*  
43 *represent the agency, the property that was seized for forfeiture shall be*

1 *returned within 30 days to the owner or interest holder or as provided for*  
 2 *the same kind of property in K.S.A. 22-2512, and amendments thereto.*

3 (j) *Nothing in subsection (h) or (i) shall affect the time limitations for*  
 4 *initiating or filing a forfeiture proceeding pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4109, and*  
 5 *amendments thereto,*

6 (k) A county or district attorney or the attorney general shall not  
 7 request or receive any referral fee or personal financial benefit, either  
 8 directly or indirectly, in any proceeding conducted under this act.

9 ~~(l)~~(l) Nothing in this act shall prevent the attorney general, an  
 10 employee of the attorney general or an authorized representative of the  
 11 attorney general from conducting forfeiture proceedings under this act.

12 ~~(m)~~(m) ~~Nothing in this act shall prevent a seizing agency from~~  
 13 ~~requesting~~~~No law enforcement agency shall request~~ **Nothing in this act**  
 14 **shall prevent a seizing agency from requesting** federal adoption of a  
 15 seizure ~~pursuant to this act.~~ It shall not be necessary to obtain any order  
 16 pursuant to K.S.A. 22-2512, and amendments thereto, to release any seized  
 17 property to a federal agency if the county or district attorney approves of  
 18 such transfer. **It shall not be necessary to obtain any order pursuant to**  
 19 **K.S.A. 22-2512, and amendments thereto, to release any seized**  
 20 **property to a federal agency if the county or district attorney approves**  
 21 **of such transfer.**

22 ~~(n)~~(n) Nothing in this act shall prevent a seizing agency, or the  
 23 plaintiff's attorney on behalf of the seizing agency, from settling any  
 24 alleged forfeiture claim against property before or during forfeiture  
 25 proceedings. Such settlement shall be in writing and shall be approved, if a  
 26 local agency, by the county or district attorney or, if a state agency, by the  
 27 attorney general's office and a district court judge. No hearing or other  
 28 proceeding shall be necessary. The records of settlements occurring prior  
 29 to commencement of judicial forfeiture proceedings in the district court  
 30 shall be retained by the county or district attorney for not less than five  
 31 years.

32 ~~(o)~~(o) Settlements under this act shall not be conditioned upon any  
 33 disposition of criminal charges.

34 (p) *When property is seized for forfeiture under this act, the seizing*  
 35 *agency shall not request, induce or otherwise coerce a person who has at*  
 36 *any time asserted rights as an owner or interest holder of such property to*  
 37 *waive in writing such rights in the property until forfeiture proceedings*  
 38 *are commenced pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4109, and amendments thereto.*

39 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4109 is hereby amended to read as  
 40 follows: 60-4109. (a) (1) (A) Forfeiture proceedings shall be commenced  
 41 by filing:

- 42 (i) A notice of pending forfeiture or a judicial forfeiture action; and  
 43 (ii) an affidavit describing the probable cause supporting forfeiture.

1       (B) *After an affidavit is filed under this section, further proceedings*  
2 *shall occur only after a judge of the district court has determined from the*  
3 *affidavit that there is probable cause to believe that the property is subject*  
4 *to forfeiture pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4105, and amendments thereto.*

5       (+) (2) If the plaintiff's attorney fails to initiate forfeiture proceedings  
6 by notice of pending forfeiture within 90 days against property seized for  
7 forfeiture or if the seizing agency fails to pursue forfeiture of the property  
8 upon which a proper claim has been timely filed by filing a judicial  
9 forfeiture proceeding within 90 days after notice of pending forfeiture, the  
10 property shall be released on the request of an owner or interest holder to  
11 such owner's or interest holder's custody, as custodian for the court,  
12 pending further proceedings pursuant to this act. Such custodianship shall  
13 not exceed 90 days following the release to the owner or interest holder  
14 unless an extension is authorized by the court for good cause shown.

15       (2)(3) If, after notice of pending forfeiture, a claimant files a petition  
16 for recognition of exemption pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4110, and amendments  
17 thereto, the plaintiff's attorney may delay filing the judicial forfeiture  
18 proceeding for a total of 180 days after the notice of pending forfeiture  
19 except that if an interest holder timely files a proper petition documenting  
20 the complete nature and extent of such holder's interest, including all of the  
21 contractual terms and current status, the plaintiff's attorney may delay  
22 filing a judicial forfeiture proceeding only if such attorney provides each  
23 such petitioner with a written recognition of exemption within 60 days  
24 after the effective date of the notice of pending forfeiture, recognizing the  
25 interest of such petitioner to the extent of documented outstanding  
26 principal plus interest at the contract rate until paid and any attorney fees  
27 ordered by a court pursuant to such contract.

28       (3)(4) Whenever notice of pending forfeiture or service of an in rem  
29 complaint or notice of a recognition of exemption and statement of  
30 nonexempt interests is required under this act, notice or service shall be  
31 given in accordance with one of the following:

32       (A) If the owner's or interest holder's name and current address are  
33 known, by either personal service by any person qualified to serve process  
34 or by any law enforcement officer or by mailing a copy of the notice by  
35 certified mail, return receipt requested, to the known address, pursuant to  
36 the code of civil procedure;

37       (B) if the owner's or interest holder's name and address are required  
38 by law to be on record with a municipal, county, state or federal agency to  
39 perfect an interest in the property, and the owner's or interest holder's  
40 current address is not known, by mailing a copy of the notice by certified  
41 mail, return receipt requested, to any address of record with any of the  
42 described agencies, pursuant to the code of civil procedure; or

43       (C) if the owner's or interest holder's address is not known and is not



1 on record as provided in subparagraph (B), or the owner's or interest  
2 holder's interest is not known, or if service by certified mail was attempted  
3 pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) and was not effective, by publication  
4 in one issue of the official county newspaper, as defined by K.S.A. 64-101,  
5 and amendments thereto, in the county in which the seizure occurred.

6 ~~(4)(5)~~ Notice is effective pursuant to the code of civil procedure,  
7 except that notice of pending forfeiture of real property is not effective  
8 until it is recorded. Notice of pending forfeiture shall include a description  
9 of the property, the date and place of seizure, the conduct giving rise to  
10 forfeiture or the violation of law alleged and a summary of procedures and  
11 procedural rights applicable to the forfeiture action. ~~Am~~ *When notice of*  
12 *pending forfeiture is mailed to an owner or interest holder, the following*  
13 *shall be included with the notice: (A) The affidavit describing the essential*  
14 *facts probable cause supporting forfeiture shall be included with the*  
15 *notice; and (B) copies of judicial council forms for petitioning for*  
16 *recognition of an exemption pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4110, and amendments*  
17 *thereto, and for making a claim pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4111, and*  
18 *amendments thereto, shall be provided with the notice.*

19 (b) The plaintiff's attorney, ~~without a filing fee,~~ may file a lien for the  
20 forfeiture of property upon the ~~initiation of any civil or criminal~~  
21 ~~proceeding relating to conduct giving rise to forfeiture under this act or~~  
22 ~~upon seizure for forfeiture commencement of a forfeiture proceeding as~~  
23 ~~provided in subsection (a).~~ *The court shall not charge the plaintiff's*  
24 *attorney a filing fee.* Court costs may be assessed and, if assessed, shall  
25 include the amount of the docket fee prescribed by K.S.A. 60-2001, and  
26 amendments thereto, and any additional court costs accrued in the action.  
27 A plaintiff's attorney may also file a forfeiture lien in this state in  
28 connection with a proceeding or seizure for forfeiture in any other state  
29 under a state or federal statute substantially similar to the relevant  
30 provisions of this act. The filing constitutes notice to any person claiming  
31 an interest in the seized property or in property owned by the named  
32 person.

33 (1) The lien notice shall set forth the following:

34 (A) The name of the person and, in the discretion of the lienor, any  
35 alias, or the name of any corporation, partnership, trust or other entity,  
36 including nominees, that are owned entirely or in part or controlled by the  
37 person; and

38 (B) the description of the seized property, the criminal or civil  
39 proceeding that has been brought relating to conduct giving rise to  
40 forfeiture under this act, the amount claimed by the lienor, the name of the  
41 district court where the proceeding or action has been brought, and the  
42 case number of the proceeding or action if known at the time of filing.

43 (2) A lien filed pursuant to this subsection applies to the described

1 seized property or to one named person, any aliases, fictitious names, or  
2 other names, including the names of any corporation, partnership, trust, or  
3 other entity, owned entirely or in part, or controlled by the named person,  
4 and any interest in real property owned or controlled by the named person.  
5 A separate forfeiture lien shall be filed for each named person.

6 (3) The notice of lien creates, upon filing, a lien in favor of the lienor  
7 as it relates to the seized property or the named person or related entities.  
8 The lien secures the amount of potential liability for civil judgment, and if  
9 applicable, the fair market value of seized property relating to all  
10 proceedings under this act enforcing the lien. The notice of forfeiture lien  
11 referred to in this subsection shall be filed in accordance with the  
12 provisions of the laws of this state relating to the type of property that is  
13 subject to the lien. The validity and priority of the forfeiture lien shall be  
14 determined in accordance with applicable law pertaining to liens. The  
15 lienor may amend or release, in whole or in part, a lien filed under this  
16 subsection at any time by filing, without a filing fee, an amended lien in  
17 accordance with this subsection which identifies the lien amended. The  
18 lienor, as soon as practical after filing the lien, shall furnish to any person  
19 named in the lien a notice of the filing of the lien. Failure to furnish notice  
20 under this subsection shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the lien.

21 (4) Upon entry of judgment in the seizing agency's favor, the seizing  
22 agency may proceed to execute on the lien as provided by law.

23 (5) A trustee, constructive or otherwise, who has notice that a notice  
24 of forfeiture lien, or a notice of pending forfeiture, or a ~~civil~~ forfeiture  
25 proceeding has been filed against the property or against any person or  
26 entity for whom the person holds title or appears as record owner, shall  
27 furnish within 14 days, to the seizing agency or the plaintiff's attorney all  
28 of the following information, unless all of the information is of record in  
29 the public records giving notice of liens on that type of property:

30 (A) The name and address of each person or entity for whom the  
31 property is held;

32 (B) the description of all other property whose legal title is held for  
33 the benefit of the named person; and

34 (C) a copy of the applicable trust agreement or other instrument, if  
35 any, under which the trustee or other person holds legal title or appears as  
36 record owner of the property.

37 (6) A trustee with notice who knowingly fails to comply with the  
38 provisions of this subsection shall be guilty of a class B nonperson  
39 misdemeanor.

40 (7) A trustee with notice who fails to comply with paragraph (5) is  
41 subject to a civil penalty of \$100 for each day of noncompliance. The court  
42 shall enter judgment ordering payment of \$100 for each day of  
43 noncompliance from the effective date of the notice until the required

1 information is furnished or the seizing agency executes the seizing  
2 agency's judgment lien under this section.

3 (8) To the extent permitted by the constitutions of the United States  
4 and the state of Kansas, the duty to comply with paragraph (5) shall not be  
5 excused by any privilege or provision of law of this state or any other state  
6 or country which authorizes or directs that testimony or records required to  
7 be furnished pursuant to paragraph (5) are privileged, confidential and  
8 otherwise may not be disclosed.

9 (9) A trustee who furnishes information pursuant to paragraph (5) is  
10 immune from civil liability for the release of the information.

11 (10) An employee of the seizing agency or the plaintiff's attorney  
12 who releases the information obtained pursuant to paragraph (5), except in  
13 the proper discharge of official duties, is guilty of a class B nonperson  
14 misdemeanor.

15 (11) If any information furnished pursuant to paragraph (5) is offered  
16 in evidence, the court may seal that portion of the record or may order that  
17 the information be disclosed in a designated way.

18 (12) A judgment or an order of payment entered pursuant to this  
19 section becomes a judgment lien against the property alleged to be subject  
20 to forfeiture.

21 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4111 is hereby amended to read as  
22 follows: 60-4111. (a) (1) Only an owner of or interest holder in property  
23 seized for forfeiture may file a claim, and shall do so in the manner  
24 provided in this section. The claim shall be mailed to the seizing agency  
25 and to the plaintiff's attorney by certified mail, return receipt requested,  
26 within 60 days after the effective date of notice of pending forfeiture.

27 (2) *The plaintiff's attorney shall file a notice of receipt with the court*  
28 *when a claim is received unless the claim was already filed with the court.*  
29 *Such filing shall include a copy of the claim and documents showing the*  
30 *date that the claim was mailed and received.*

31 (b) The claim shall be signed by the claimant under penalty of  
32 perjury, K.S.A. 21-5903, and amendments thereto, and shall set forth the  
33 following:

34 (1) The caption of the proceedings and identifying number, if any, as  
35 set forth on the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint, the name of the  
36 claimant, and the name of the plaintiff's attorney who authorized the notice  
37 of pending forfeiture or complaint;

38 (2) the address where the claimant will accept mail;

39 (3) the nature and extent of the claimant's interest in the property; and

40 (4) a detailed description of when and how the claimant obtained an  
41 interest in the property.

42 (c) Substantial compliance with subsection (b) shall be deemed  
43 sufficient.

1 (d) It is permissible to assert the right against self-incrimination in a  
2 claim. If a claimant asserts the right, the court, in the court's discretion,  
3 may draw an adverse inference from the assertion against the claimant.  
4 The adverse inference shall not, by itself, be the basis of a judgment  
5 against the claimant.

6 Sec. 6. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4112 is hereby amended to read as  
7 follows: 60-4112. (a) A judicial forfeiture proceeding under this act is  
8 subject to the provisions of this section.

9 (b) The court, on application of the plaintiff's attorney, may enter any  
10 restraining order or injunction, require the execution of satisfactory  
11 performance bonds, create receiverships, appoint conservators, custodians,  
12 appraisers, accountants or trustees, or take any other action to seize,  
13 secure, maintain or preserve the availability of property subject to  
14 forfeiture under this act, including a writ of attachment or a warrant for  
15 such property's seizure, whether before or after the filing of a notice of  
16 pending forfeiture or complaint.

17 ~~(c) If property is seized for forfeiture or a forfeiture lien is filed~~  
18 ~~without a previous judicial determination of probable cause or order of~~  
19 ~~forfeiture or a hearing under K.S.A. 60-4114(e), and amendments thereto,~~  
20 ~~the court, on an application filed by an owner of or interest holder in the~~  
21 ~~property within 14 days after notice of the property's seizure for forfeiture~~  
22 ~~or lien, or actual knowledge of it, whichever is earlier, and after complying~~  
23 ~~with the requirements for claims in K.S.A. 60-4109, and amendments~~  
24 ~~thereto, after seven days' notice to the plaintiff's attorney, may issue an~~  
25 ~~order to show cause to the seizing agency, for a hearing on the sole issue~~  
26 ~~of whether probable cause for forfeiture of the property then exists. The~~  
27 ~~hearing shall be held within 30 days of the order to show cause unless~~  
28 ~~continued for good cause on motion of either party. If the court finds that~~  
29 ~~there is no probable cause for forfeiture of the property, or if the seizing~~  
30 ~~agency elects not to contest the issue, the property shall be released to the~~  
31 ~~eustody of the applicant, as custodian for the court, or from the lien~~  
32 ~~pending the outcome of a judicial proceeding pursuant to this act. If the~~  
33 ~~court finds that probable cause for the forfeiture of the property exists, the~~  
34 ~~court shall not order the property released.~~*At any time prior to final*  
35 *judgment, an owner or interest holder may petition the court for*  
36 *determination or reconsideration of its prior determination that there is*  
37 *probable cause to believe that the property is subject to forfeiture.*

38 ~~(d) All applications filed within the 14-day period prescribed by~~  
39 ~~subsection (c) shall be consolidated for a single hearing relating to each~~  
40 ~~applicant's interest in the property seized for forfeiture.~~

41 (e) A person charged with a criminal offense may apply at any time  
42 before final judgment to the court where the forfeiture proceeding is  
43 pending for the release of property seized for forfeiture, that is necessary

1 for the defense of the person's criminal charge. The application shall  
2 satisfy the requirements under K.S.A. 60-4111(b), and amendments  
3 thereto. The court shall hold a probable cause hearing if the applicant  
4 establishes that:

5 (1) The person has not had an opportunity to participate in a previous  
6 adversarial judicial determination of probable cause;

7 (2) the person has no access to other moneys adequate for the  
8 payment of criminal counsel; and

9 (3) the interest in property to be released is not subject to any claim  
10 other than the forfeiture.

11 ~~(f)~~(e) If the court finds that there is no probable cause for forfeiture of  
12 the property, the court shall order the property released ~~pursuant to~~  
13 ~~subsection (e) to the custody of the applicant, as custodian for the court,~~  
14 ~~or from a forfeiture lien pending the outcome of a judicial proceeding~~  
15 ~~pursuant to this act.~~ If the seizing agency does not contest the hearing, the  
16 court may release a reasonable amount of property for the payment of the  
17 applicant's criminal defense costs. Property that has been released by the  
18 court and that has been paid for criminal defense services actually  
19 rendered is exempt under this act.

20 ~~(g)~~(f) A defendant convicted in any criminal proceeding is precluded  
21 from later denying the elements of the criminal offense of which the  
22 defendant was convicted in any proceeding pursuant to this section. For  
23 the purposes of this section, a conviction results from a verdict or plea of  
24 guilty, including a plea of no contest or nolo contendere.

25 (g) (1) *At any time following seizure pursuant to this act, the person*  
26 *from whom possession or control of the property was seized may petition*  
27 *the court to determine whether such forfeiture is unconstitutionally*  
28 *excessive.*

29 (2) *The plaintiff's attorney has the burden of establishing that the*  
30 *forfeiture is proportional to the seriousness of the offense giving rise to the*  
31 *forfeiture by clear and convincing evidence ~~at a hearing conducted by the~~*  
32 *~~court without a jury. Such hearing may be a component of the associated~~*  
33 *~~trial and not a separate hearing.~~*

34 (3) *In determining whether the forfeiture is unconstitutionally*  
35 *excessive, the court may consider all relevant factors, including, but not*  
36 *limited to:*

37 (A) *The seriousness of the offense;*

38 (B) *the extent of participation in the offense by the person from whom*  
39 *possession or control of the property was seized;*

40 (C) *the extent to which the property was used in committing the*  
41 *offense;*

42 (D) *the sentence imposed for committing the offense that gave rise to*  
43 *forfeiture;*

1       (E) *the effect of the forfeiture on the livelihood of the person from*  
2 *whom possession or control of the property was seized; and*

3       (F) *the fair market value of the property compared to the property*  
4 *owner's net worth.*

5       (h) In any proceeding under this act, if a claim is based on any  
6 exemption provided for in this act, the burden of proving the existence of  
7 the exemption is on the claimant, and is not necessary for the seizing  
8 agency or plaintiff's attorney to negate the exemption in any application or  
9 complaint.

10       (i) In hearings and determinations pursuant to this section, the court  
11 may receive and consider, in making any determination of probable cause  
12 or reasonable cause, all evidence admissible in determining probable cause  
13 at a preliminary hearing or in the issuance of a search warrant, together  
14 with inferences ~~therefrom~~ *from such admissible evidence.*

15       (j) The totality of the circumstances shall determine if the property of  
16 a person is subject to forfeiture under this act. Factors that may be  
17 considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

18       (1) The person has engaged in conduct giving rise to forfeiture;

19       (2) the property was acquired by the person during that period of the  
20 conduct giving rise to forfeiture or within a reasonable time after the  
21 period;

22       (3) there was no likely source for the property other than the conduct  
23 giving rise to forfeiture; and

24       (4) the proximity to contraband or an instrumentality giving rise to  
25 forfeiture.

26       (k) A finding that property is the proceeds of conduct giving rise to  
27 forfeiture does not require proof the property is the proceeds of any  
28 particular exchange or transaction.

29       (l) A person who acquires any property subject to forfeiture is a  
30 constructive trustee of the property, and such property's fruits, for the  
31 benefit of the seizing agency, to the extent that such agency's interest is not  
32 exempt from forfeiture. If property subject to forfeiture has been  
33 commingled with other property, the court shall order the forfeiture of the  
34 mingled property and of any fruits of the mingled property, to the extent of  
35 the property subject to forfeiture, unless an owner or interest holder proves  
36 that specified property does not contain property subject to forfeiture, or  
37 that such owner's or interest holder's interest in specified property is  
38 exempt from forfeiture.

39       (m) All property declared forfeited under this act vests in the law  
40 enforcement agency seeking forfeiture on the date of commission of the  
41 conduct giving rise to forfeiture together with the proceeds of the property  
42 after that time. Any such property or proceeds subsequently transferred to  
43 any person remain subject to forfeiture and thereafter shall be ordered

1 forfeited unless the transferee acquired the property in good faith, for  
2 value, and was not knowingly taking part in an illegal transaction, and the  
3 transferee's interest is exempt under K.S.A. 60-4106, and amendments  
4 thereto.

5 (n) An acquittal or dismissal in a criminal proceeding shall not  
6 preclude civil proceedings under this act, nor give rise to any presumption  
7 adverse or contrary to any fact alleged by the seizing agency.

8 (o) ~~On motion,~~ The court shall *automatically* stay discovery against  
9 the criminal defendant and against the seizing agency in civil proceedings  
10 during a related criminal proceeding alleging the same conduct, after  
11 making provision to prevent loss to any party resulting from the delay.  
12 ~~Such a stay shall not be available pending any appeal by a defendant~~ *The*  
13 *court may lift the automatic stay of discovery upon good cause shown.*

14 (p) Except as otherwise provided by this act, all proceedings  
15 ~~hereunder under the act~~ shall be governed by the rules of civil procedure  
16 pursuant to K.S.A. 60-101 et seq., and amendments thereto.

17 (q) An action pursuant to this act shall be consolidated with any other  
18 action or proceeding pursuant to this act or to such other foreclosure or  
19 trustee sale proceedings relating to the same property on motion of the  
20 plaintiff's attorney, and may be consolidated on motion of an owner or  
21 interest holder.

22 Sec. 7. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4113 is hereby amended to read as  
23 follows: 60-4113. (a) A judicial in rem forfeiture proceeding brought by  
24 the plaintiff's attorney pursuant to a notice of pending forfeiture or verified  
25 petition for forfeiture is also subject to the provisions of this section. If a  
26 forfeiture is authorized by this act, it shall be ordered by the court in the in  
27 rem action.

28 (b) An action in rem may be brought by the plaintiff's attorney in  
29 addition to, or in lieu of, civil in personam forfeiture procedures. The  
30 seizing agency may serve the complaint in the manner provided by K.S.A.  
31 60-4109(a)(3), and amendments thereto, or as provided by the rules of  
32 civil procedure.

33 (c) Only an owner of or an interest holder in the property who has  
34 timely filed a proper claim may file an answer in an action in rem. For the  
35 purposes of this section, an owner of or interest holder in property who has  
36 filed a claim and answer shall be referred to as a claimant. ~~*A claimant may*~~  
37 ~~*demand a jury trial pursuant to K.S.A. 60-238, and amendments thereto.*~~

38 (d) The answer shall be signed by the claimant under penalty of  
39 perjury, K.S.A. 21-5903, and amendments thereto, shall otherwise be in  
40 accordance with the rules of civil procedure on answers and shall also set  
41 forth the following:

42 (1) The caption of the proceedings and identifying number, if any, as  
43 set forth on the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint and the name of

1 the claimant;

2 (2) the address where the claimant will accept mail;

3 (3) the nature and extent of the claimant's interest in the property; and

4 (4) a detailed description of when and how the claimant obtained an  
5 interest in the property.

6 (e) Substantial compliance with subsection (d) shall be deemed  
7 sufficient.

8 (f) It is permissible to assert the right against self-incrimination in an  
9 answer. If a claimant asserts the right, the court, in the court's discretion,  
10 may draw an adverse inference from the assertion against the claimant.  
11 The adverse inference shall not, by itself, be the basis of a judgment  
12 against the claimant.

13 (g) The answer shall be filed within 21 days after service of the civil  
14 in rem complaint.

15 (h) ~~The issue shall be determined by the court alone.~~ **The issue shall**  
16 **be determined by the court alone.** The plaintiff's attorney shall have the  
17 initial burden of proving the interest in the property is subject to forfeiture  
18 by a preponderance of the *clear and convincing* evidence. If the state  
19 proves the interest in the property is subject to forfeiture, the claimant has  
20 the burden of showing by a preponderance of the evidence that the  
21 claimant has an interest in the property which is not subject to forfeiture.

22 (i) If the plaintiff's attorney fails to meet the burden of proof for  
23 forfeiture, or a claimant establishes by a preponderance of the evidence  
24 that the claimant has an interest that is exempt under the provisions of  
25 K.S.A. 60-4106, and amendments thereto, the court shall order the interest  
26 in the property returned or conveyed to the claimant. The court shall order  
27 all other property forfeited to the seizing agency and conduct further  
28 proceedings pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4116 and 60-4117, and amendments  
29 thereto.

30 ~~Sec. 8. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4114 is hereby amended to read as~~  
31 ~~follows: 60-4114. (a) (1) A judicial in personam forfeiture proceeding~~  
32 ~~brought by the plaintiff's attorney pursuant to an in personam civil action~~  
33 ~~alleging conduct giving rise to forfeiture is also subject to the provisions of~~  
34 ~~this section. If a forfeiture is authorized by this act, it shall be ordered by~~  
35 ~~the court in the in personam action. The action shall be in addition to or in~~  
36 ~~lieu of in rem forfeiture procedures.~~

37 ~~(2) In any proceeding pursuant to this section, the court, on~~  
38 ~~application of the plaintiff's attorney, may enter any order authorized by~~  
39 ~~K.S.A. 60-4112, and amendments thereto.~~

40 ~~(b) The court may issue a temporary restraining order in an action~~  
41 ~~under this section on application of the plaintiff's attorney, without notice~~  
42 ~~or an opportunity for a hearing, if the plaintiff's attorney demonstrates that:~~

43 ~~(1) There is probable cause to believe that in the event of a final~~



1 ~~judgment, the property involved would be subject to forfeiture under the~~  
2 ~~provisions of this act; and~~

3 ~~(2) a provision of notice would jeopardize the availability of the~~  
4 ~~property for forfeiture.~~

5 ~~(e) Notice of the issuance of a temporary restraining order and an~~  
6 ~~opportunity for a hearing shall be given to persons known to have an~~  
7 ~~interest in the property. A hearing shall be held at the earliest possible date~~  
8 ~~in accordance with the applicable civil rule and shall be limited to the~~  
9 ~~issues of whether:~~

10 ~~(1) There is a probability that the seizing agency will prevail on the~~  
11 ~~issue of forfeiture and that failure to enter the order could result in the~~  
12 ~~property being destroyed, conveyed, alienated, encumbered, further~~  
13 ~~encumbered, disposed of, purchased, received, removed from the~~  
14 ~~jurisdiction of the court, concealed, or otherwise made unavailable for~~  
15 ~~forfeiture; and~~

16 ~~(2) the need to preserve the availability of property through the entry~~  
17 ~~of the requested order outweighs the hardship on any owner or interest~~  
18 ~~holder against whom the order is to be entered.~~

19 ~~(d) On a determination of liability of a person for conduct giving rise~~  
20 ~~to forfeiture under this act, the court shall enter a judgment of forfeiture of~~  
21 ~~the property found to be subject to forfeiture described in the complaint~~  
22 ~~and shall also authorize the plaintiff's attorney or any law enforcement~~  
23 ~~officer to seize all property ordered forfeited which was not previously~~  
24 ~~seized or is not then under seizure. Following the entry of an order~~  
25 ~~declaring the property forfeited, the court, on application of the plaintiff's~~  
26 ~~attorney, may enter any appropriate order to protect the interest of the~~  
27 ~~seizing agency in the property ordered forfeited.~~

28 ~~(e) Following the entry of an order of forfeiture under subsection (d),~~  
29 ~~the plaintiff's attorney may give notice of pending forfeiture, in the manner~~  
30 ~~provided in K.S.A. 60-4109, and amendments thereto, to all owners and~~  
31 ~~interest holders who have not previously been given notice.~~

32 ~~(f) An owner of or interest holder in property that has been forfeited~~  
33 ~~and whose claim is not precluded may file a claim as described in K.S.A.~~  
34 ~~60-4111, and amendments thereto, within 60 days after initial notice of~~  
35 ~~pending forfeiture or after notice under subsection (c), whichever is earlier.~~  
36 ~~A claimant may demand a jury trial pursuant to K.S.A. 60-238, and~~  
37 ~~amendments thereto. If the seizing agency does not recognize the claimed~~  
38 ~~exemption, the plaintiff's attorney shall file a complaint and the court shall~~  
39 ~~hold the hearing and determine the claim, without a jury, in the manner~~  
40 ~~provided for in rem judicial forfeiture actions in K.S.A. 60-4113, and~~  
41 ~~amendments thereto.~~

42 ~~(g) In accordance with findings made at the hearing, the court may~~  
43 ~~amend the order of forfeiture if the court determines that any claimant has~~

1 ~~established by a preponderance of the evidence that the claimant has an~~  
2 ~~interest in the property and that the claimant's interest is exempt under~~  
3 ~~K.S.A. 60-4106, and amendments thereto.~~

4 ~~(h) Except as provided in K.S.A. 60-4112(c), and amendments~~  
5 ~~thereto, no person claiming an interest in property subject to forfeiture~~  
6 ~~under this act may intervene in a trial or appeal of a criminal action or in~~  
7 ~~an in personam civil action involving the forfeiture of the property.~~

8 Sec. ~~9~~ **8.** K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4116 is hereby amended to read as  
9 follows: 60-4116. (a) If no proper claims are timely filed in an action in  
10 rem, or if no proper answer is timely filed in response to a complaint, the  
11 plaintiff's attorney may apply for an order of forfeiture and allocation of  
12 forfeited property pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4117, and amendments thereto.  
13 Upon a determination by the court that the seizing agency's written  
14 application established the court's jurisdiction, the giving of proper notice,  
15 and facts sufficient to show probable cause for forfeiture, the court shall  
16 order the property forfeited to the seizing agency.

17 (b) After final disposition of all claims timely filed in an action in  
18 rem, or after final judgment and disposition of all claims timely filed in an  
19 action in personam, the court shall enter an order that the seizing agency  
20 has clear title to the forfeited property interest. Title to the forfeited  
21 property interest and such property's proceeds shall be deemed to have  
22 vested in the seizing agency on the commission of the conduct giving rise  
23 to forfeiture under this act.

24 (c) If, in the discretion of the plaintiff's attorney, such plaintiff's  
25 attorney has recognized in writing that an interest holder has an interest  
26 that is exempt from forfeiture, the court, on application of the plaintiff's  
27 attorney, may release or convey forfeited personal property to a regulated  
28 interest holder on all of the following conditions:

29 (1) The interest holder has an interest which was acquired in the  
30 regular course of business as an interest holder.

31 (2) The amount of the interest holder's encumbrance is readily  
32 determinable and the amount has been reasonably established by proof  
33 made available by the plaintiff's attorney to the court.

34 (3) The encumbrance held by the interest holder seeking possession is  
35 the only interest exempted from forfeiture and the order forfeiting the  
36 property to the seizing agency transferred all of the rights of the owner  
37 prior to forfeiture, including rights of redemption to the seizing agency.

38 (4) After the court's release or conveyance, the interest holder shall  
39 dispose of the property by a commercially reasonable public sale, and  
40 within 14 days of disposition shall tender to the seizing agency the amount  
41 received at disposition less the amount of the interest holder's  
42 encumbrance and reasonable expense incurred by the interest holder in  
43 connection with the sale or disposal.

1 (d) On order of the court forfeiting the subject property, the seizing  
2 agency may transfer good and sufficient title to any subsequent purchaser  
3 or transferee, unless satisfied and released earlier, subject to all mortgages,  
4 deeds of trust, financing statements or security agreements of record prior  
5 to the forfeiture held by an interest holder and the title shall be recognized  
6 by all courts, by this state, and by all agencies of and any political  
7 subdivision. Likewise on entry of judgment in favor of a person claiming  
8 an interest in the property that is subject to proceedings to forfeit property  
9 under this act, the court shall enter an order that the property or interest in  
10 property shall be released or delivered promptly to that person free of liens  
11 and encumbrances under this act and the person's cost bond shall be  
12 discharged.

13 (e) Upon motion by the plaintiff's attorney, if it appears after a  
14 hearing there was reasonable cause for the seizure for forfeiture or for the  
15 filing of the notice of pending forfeiture or complaint, the court shall cause  
16 a finding to be entered that reasonable cause existed, or that any such  
17 action was taken under a reasonable good faith belief that it was proper,  
18 and the claimant is not entitled to costs or damages, and the person or  
19 seizing agency who made the seizure, and the plaintiff's attorney, are not  
20 liable to suit or judgment on account of the seizure, suit or prosecution.  
21 *Nothing in this subsection shall affect whether a claimant is entitled to*  
22 *payment of attorney fees, litigation costs and interest pursuant to*  
23 *subsection (f).*

24 (f) (1) The court ~~shall~~ *may* order a claimant who fails to establish that  
25 a substantial portion of the claimant's interest is exempt from forfeiture  
26 under K.S.A. 60-4105, and amendments thereto, to pay the reasonable  
27 costs and expenses of any claimant who established such claimant's  
28 interest is exempt from forfeiture under K.S.A. 60-4105, and amendments  
29 thereto, and to pay the reasonable costs and expenses of the seizing agency  
30 for the investigation and litigation of the matter, including reasonable  
31 attorney fees, in connection with that claimant.

32 (2) *In any proceeding in which the court finds that the claimant has*  
33 *prevailed by ordering the return of at least half of the aggregate value of*  
34 *the claimant's interest in the property or currency in which the claimant*  
35 *asserted an interest, the court shall order the seizing agency to pay:*

36 (A) *Reasonable attorney fees and other litigation costs incurred by*  
37 *the claimant;*

38 (B) *post judgment interest; and*

39 (C) *in cases involving currency, other negotiable instruments or the*  
40 *proceeds of an interlocutory sale, any interest actually paid from the date*  
41 *of seizure.*

42 (g) *If there are multiple claims to the same property, the seizing*  
43 *agency shall not be liable for attorney fees and costs associated with any*

1 *claim if the seizing agency:*

2 (1) *Promptly recognizes such claim;*

3 (2) *promptly returns the interest of the claimant in the property to the*  
4 *claimant, if the property can be divided without difficulty and there are no*  
5 *competing claims to that portion of the property;*

6 (3) *does not cause the claimant to incur additional costs or fees; and*

7 (4) *prevails in obtaining forfeiture with respect to one or more of the*  
8 *other claims.*

9 (h) If more than one law enforcement agency is substantially involved  
10 in effecting a forfeiture pursuant to this act, and no interagency agreement  
11 exists, the court shall equitably distribute the proceeds among such  
12 agencies.

13 ~~(h)~~(i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of  
14 the intellectual property owner, all seized items bearing a counterfeit mark  
15 shall be released to the intellectual property owner for destruction or  
16 disposition. If the intellectual property owner does not request release of  
17 seized items bearing a counterfeit mark, such items shall be destroyed  
18 unless the intellectual property owner consents to another disposition.

19 Sec. ~~10~~ 9. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4117 is hereby amended to read as  
20 follows: 60-4117. Except as provided in K.S.A. 65-7014, and amendments  
21 thereto: (a) When property is forfeited under this act, the law enforcement  
22 agency may:

23 (1) Retain such property for official use or transfer the custody or  
24 ownership to any local, ~~or~~, state ~~or federal~~ **or federal** agency, subject to  
25 any lien preserved by the court;

26 (2) ~~transfer the custody or ownership to any federal agency if the~~  
27 ~~property was seized and forfeited pursuant to federal law;~~

28 ~~(3)~~ destroy or use for investigative or training purposes, any illegal or  
29 controlled substances and equipment or other contraband, provided that  
30 materials necessary as evidence shall be preserved;

31 ~~(3)~~**(3)** sell property which is not required by law to be destroyed  
32 and which is not harmful to the public:

33 (A) All property, except real property, designated by the seizing  
34 agency to be sold shall be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash  
35 without appraisal. The seizing agency shall first cause notice of the sale to  
36 be made by publication at least once in an official county newspaper as  
37 defined by K.S.A. 64-101, and amendments thereto. Such notice shall  
38 include the time, place, and conditions of the sale and description of the  
39 property to be sold. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a state agency  
40 from using the state surplus property system and such system's procedures  
41 shall be sufficient to meet the requirements of this subsection.

42 (B) Real property may be sold pursuant to subsection (a)(3)(A), or  
43 the seizing agency may contract with a real estate company, licensed in

1 this state, to list, advertise and sell such real property in a commercially  
2 reasonable manner.

3 (C) No employee or public official of any agency involved in the  
4 investigation, seizure or forfeiture of seized property may purchase or  
5 attempt to purchase such property; or

6 ~~(4)~~~~(5)~~(4) salvage the property, subject to any lien preserved by the  
7 court.

8 (b) When firearms are forfeited under this act, the firearms in the  
9 discretion of the seizing agency, shall be destroyed, used within the seizing  
10 agency for official purposes, traded to another law enforcement agency for  
11 use within such agency or given to the Kansas bureau of investigation for  
12 law enforcement, testing, comparison or destruction by the Kansas bureau  
13 of investigation forensic laboratory.

14 (c) The proceeds of any sale shall be distributed in the following  
15 order of priority:

16 (1) For satisfaction of any court preserved security interest or lien, or  
17 in the case of a violation, as defined by K.S.A. 60-4104(i), and  
18 amendments thereto, the proceeds shall be remitted to the state treasurer in  
19 accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments  
20 thereto. Upon receipt of such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit  
21 the entire amount into the state treasury to the credit of the medicaid fraud  
22 reimbursement fund;

23 (2) thereafter, for payment of all proper expenses of the proceedings  
24 for forfeiture and disposition, including expenses of seizure, inventory,  
25 appraisal, maintenance of custody, preservation of availability, advertising,  
26 service of process, sale and court costs;

27 (3) reasonable attorney fees:

28 (A) If the plaintiff's attorney is a county or district attorney, an  
29 assistant, or another governmental agency's attorney, fees shall not exceed  
30 15% of the total proceeds, less the amounts of subsection (c)(1) and (2), in  
31 an uncontested forfeiture nor 20% of the total proceeds, less the amounts  
32 of subsection (c)(1) and (2), in a contested forfeiture. Such fees shall be  
33 deposited in the county or city treasury and credited to the special  
34 prosecutor's trust fund. Moneys in such fund shall not be considered a  
35 source of revenue to meet normal operating expenditures, including salary  
36 enhancement. Such fund shall be expended by the county or district  
37 attorney, or other governmental agency's attorney through the normal  
38 county or city appropriation system and shall be used for such additional  
39 law enforcement and prosecutorial purposes as the county or district  
40 attorney or other governmental agency's attorney deems appropriate,  
41 including educational purposes. All moneys derived from past or pending  
42 forfeitures shall be expended pursuant to this act. The board of county  
43 commissioners shall provide adequate funding to the county or district

1 attorney's office to enable such office to enforce this act. Neither future  
2 forfeitures nor the proceeds therefrom shall be used in planning or  
3 adopting a county or district attorney's budget;

4 (B) if the plaintiff's attorney is the attorney general and the conduct  
5 and offense giving rise to forfeiture is pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4104(i), and  
6 amendments thereto, fees shall not exceed 15% of the total proceeds, less  
7 the amounts of subsection (c)(1) and (2) in an uncontested forfeiture nor  
8 20% of the total proceeds, less the amounts of subsection (c)(1) and (2) in  
9 a contested forfeiture. Such fees shall be remitted to the state treasurer in  
10 accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments  
11 thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall  
12 deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to the credit of the medicaid  
13 fraud prosecution revolving fund. Moneys paid into the medicaid fraud  
14 prosecution revolving fund pursuant to this subsection shall be  
15 appropriated to the attorney general for use by the attorney general in the  
16 investigation and prosecution of medicaid fraud and abuse; or

17 (C) if the plaintiff's attorney is a private attorney, such reasonable fees  
18 shall be negotiated by the employing law enforcement agency;

19 (4) repayment of law enforcement funds expended in purchasing of  
20 contraband or controlled substances, subject to any interagency agreement.

21 (d) Any proceeds remaining shall be credited as follows, subject to  
22 any interagency agreement:

23 (1) If the law enforcement agency is a state agency, the entire amount  
24 shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to such agency's state  
25 forfeiture fund. There is hereby established in the state treasury the  
26 following state funds: Kansas bureau of investigation state forfeiture fund,  
27 Kansas attorney general's state medicaid fraud forfeiture fund, Kansas  
28 highway patrol state forfeiture fund, Kansas department of corrections  
29 state forfeiture fund and Kansas national guard counter drug state  
30 forfeiture fund. Expenditures from the Kansas bureau of investigation state  
31 forfeiture fund shall be made upon warrants of the director of accounts and  
32 reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the attorney general or by  
33 a person or persons designated by the attorney general. Expenditures from  
34 the Kansas attorney general's state medicaid fraud forfeiture fund shall be  
35 made upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant  
36 to vouchers approved by the attorney general or by a person or persons  
37 designated by the attorney general. Expenditures from the Kansas highway  
38 patrol state forfeiture fund shall be made upon warrants of the director of  
39 accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the  
40 superintendent of the highway patrol or by a person or persons designated  
41 by the superintendent. Expenditures from the Kansas department of  
42 corrections state forfeiture fund shall be made upon warrants of the  
43 director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by

1 the secretary of the department of corrections or by a person or persons  
2 designated by the secretary. Expenditures from the Kansas national guard  
3 counter drug state forfeiture fund shall be made upon warrants of the  
4 director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to vouchers approved by  
5 the adjutant general of Kansas or by a person or persons designated by the  
6 adjutant general.

7 (2) If the law enforcement agency is a city or county agency, the  
8 entire amount shall be deposited in such city or county treasury and  
9 credited to a special law enforcement trust fund.

10 (e) (1) Moneys in the Kansas bureau of investigation state forfeiture  
11 fund, Kansas highway patrol state forfeiture fund, Kansas department of  
12 corrections state forfeiture fund, the special law enforcement trust funds  
13 and the Kansas national guard counter drug state forfeiture fund shall not  
14 be considered a source of revenue to meet normal operating expenses.  
15 Such funds shall be expended by the agencies or departments through the  
16 normal city, county or state appropriation system and shall be used for  
17 such special, additional law enforcement purposes specified in subsection  
18 (e)(2) as the law enforcement agency head deems appropriate. Neither  
19 future forfeitures nor the proceeds from such forfeitures shall be used in  
20 planning or adopting a law enforcement agency's budget.

21 (2) Moneys in the funds described in subsection (e)(1) shall be used  
22 only for the following special, additional law enforcement purposes:

23 (A) The support of investigations and operations that further the law  
24 enforcement agency's goals or missions;

25 (B) the training of investigators, prosecutors and sworn and non-  
26 sworn law enforcement personnel in any area that is necessary to perform  
27 official law enforcement duties;

28 (C) the costs associated with the purchase, lease, construction,  
29 expansion, improvement or operation of law enforcement or detention  
30 facilities used or managed by the recipient agency;

31 (D) the costs associated with the purchase, lease, maintenance or  
32 operation of law enforcement equipment for use by law enforcement  
33 personnel that supports law enforcement activities;

34 (E) the costs associated with the purchase of multi-use equipment and  
35 operations used by both law enforcement and non-law enforcement  
36 personnel;

37 (F) the costs associated with a contract for a specific service that  
38 supports or enhances law enforcement;

39 (G) the costs associated with travel and transportation to perform or  
40 in support of law enforcement duties and activities;

41 (H) the costs associated with the purchase of plaques and certificates  
42 for law enforcement personnel in recognition of a law enforcement  
43 achievement, activity or training;

1 (I) the costs associated with conducting awareness programs by law  
2 enforcement agencies;

3 (J) the costs associated with paying a state or local law enforcement  
4 agency's matching contribution or share in a state or federal grant program  
5 for items other than salaries;

6 (K) cash transfers from one state or local law enforcement agency to  
7 another in support of the law enforcement agency's goals or missions; ~~and~~

8 (L) transfers from a state or local law enforcement agency to a state,  
9 county or local governmental agency or community non-profit  
10 organization in support of the law enforcement agency's goals or missions;  
11 *and*

12 *(M) payment of attorney fees, litigation costs and interest ordered by*  
13 *a court pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4116, and amendments thereto.*

14 (3) Moneys in the funds described in subsection (e)(1) shall be  
15 separated and accounted for in a manner that allows accurate tracking and  
16 reporting of deposits and expenditures of the following categories of  
17 money:

18 (A) Proceeds from forfeiture credited to the fund pursuant to this  
19 section;

20 (B) proceeds from pending forfeiture actions under this act; and

21 (C) proceeds from forfeiture actions under federal law.

22 (f) Moneys in the Kansas attorney general's medicaid fraud forfeiture  
23 fund shall defray costs of the attorney general in connection with the  
24 duties of investigating and prosecuting medicaid fraud and abuse.

25 ~~(g) (1) If the law enforcement agency is a state agency, such agency~~  
26 ~~shall compile and submit a forfeiture fund report to the legislature on or~~  
27 ~~before February 1 of each year. Such report shall include, but not be~~  
28 ~~limited to: (A) The fund balance on December 1; and (B) the deposits and~~  
29 ~~expenditures for the previous 12-month period ending December 1.~~

30 ~~(2) If the law enforcement agency is a city or county agency, such~~  
31 ~~agency shall compile and submit annually a special law enforcement trust~~  
32 ~~fund report to the entity that has budgetary authority over such agency and~~  
33 ~~such report shall specify, for such period, the type and approximate value~~  
34 ~~of the forfeited property received, the amount of any forfeiture proceeds~~  
35 ~~received and how any of those proceeds were expended.~~

36 (3) The provisions of this subsection shall expire on July 1, 2019.

37 ~~Sec. 11. K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4127 is hereby amended to read as~~  
38 ~~follows: 60-4127. (a) On or before July 1, 2019, The Kansas bureau of~~  
39 ~~investigation shall establish the Kansas asset seizure and forfeiture~~  
40 ~~repository. The repository shall gather information concerning each seizure~~  
41 ~~for forfeiture made by a seizing agency pursuant to the Kansas standard~~  
42 ~~asset seizure and forfeiture act including, but not limited to, the following:~~

43 ~~(1) The name of the seizing agency or the name of the lead agency if~~



1 ~~part of a multi-jurisdictional task force;~~

2 ~~(2) the county where the seizure occurred;~~

3 ~~(3) the date and time the seizure occurred;~~

4 ~~(4) any applicable agency or district court case numbers for the~~  
5 ~~seizure;~~

6 ~~(5) a description of the initiating law enforcement activity leading to~~  
7 ~~the seizure;~~

8 ~~(6) a description of the specific location where the seizure occurred;~~

9 ~~(7) the conduct or offense giving rise to the forfeiture;~~

10 ~~(8) a description of the type of property seized and the estimated~~  
11 ~~value;~~

12 ~~(9) a description of the type of contraband seized and the estimated~~  
13 ~~value;~~

14 ~~(10) whether criminal charges were filed for an offense related to the~~  
15 ~~forfeiture and, if so, court and case number information for the criminal~~  
16 ~~charges;~~

17 ~~(11) a description of the final disposition of the forfeiture action,~~  
18 ~~including a description of the disposition of any claim or exemption~~  
19 ~~asserted under this act;~~

20 ~~(12) whether the forfeiture was transferred to the federal government~~  
21 ~~for disposition;~~

22 ~~(13) the total cost of the forfeiture action, including attorney fees; and~~

23 ~~(14) the total amount of proceeds from the forfeiture action,~~  
24 ~~specifying the amount received by the seizing agency and the amount~~  
25 ~~received by any other agency or person;~~

26 ~~(b) On and after July 1, 2019, The Kansas bureau of investigation~~  
27 ~~shall maintain the repository and an associated public website. On or~~  
28 ~~before July 1, 2019, The Kansas bureau of investigation shall promulgate~~  
29 ~~rules and regulations to implement this section.~~

30 ~~(c) On and after July 1, 2019, Each seizing agency shall report~~  
31 ~~information concerning each seizure for forfeiture to the Kansas asset~~  
32 ~~seizure and forfeiture repository as required by this section and the rules~~  
33 ~~and regulations promulgated pursuant to this section. The prosecuting~~  
34 ~~attorney shall submit information concerning each forfeiture action to the~~  
35 ~~seizing agency within 30 days after the final disposition of the forfeiture.~~  
36 ~~The seizing agency shall submit the required information to the repository~~  
37 ~~within 60 days after the final disposition of the forfeiture.~~

38 ~~(d) On or before February 1, 2020, and Annually on or before~~  
39 ~~February 1 thereafter, each law enforcement agency shall compile and~~  
40 ~~submit a forfeiture fund *financial* report to the Kansas asset seizure and~~  
41 ~~forfeiture repository as required by this section and the rules and~~  
42 ~~regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.~~

43 ~~(1) If the law enforcement agency is a state agency, the report shall~~

1 ~~include, but not be limited to:~~

2 ~~(A) The agency's state forfeiture fund balance on January 1 and~~  
3 ~~December 31 of the preceding calendar year; and~~

4 ~~(B) the total amount of the deposits and a listing, by category, of~~  
5 ~~expenditures from January 1 through December 31 of the preceding~~  
6 ~~calendar year.~~

7 ~~(2) If the law enforcement agency is a city or county agency, the~~  
8 ~~report shall include, but not be limited to:~~

9 ~~(A) The agency's special law enforcement trust fund balance on~~  
10 ~~January 1 and December 31 of the preceding calendar year; and~~

11 ~~(B) the total amount of the deposits and a listing, by category, of~~  
12 ~~expenditures from January 1 through December 31 of the preceding~~  
13 ~~calendar year.~~

14 ~~(3) The report shall separate and account for:~~

15 ~~(A) Deposits and expenditures from proceeds from forfeiture credited~~  
16 ~~to the fund pursuant to K.S.A. 60-4117, and amendments thereto;~~

17 ~~(B) deposits and expenditures from proceeds from forfeiture actions~~  
18 ~~under federal law; and~~

19 ~~(C) amounts held by the agency related to pending forfeiture actions~~  
20 ~~under the Kansas standard asset seizure and forfeiture act.~~

21 ~~(e) (1) On March 1, 2020, and Annually, on March 1 thereafter, the~~  
22 ~~Kansas bureau of investigation shall determine whether each agency's~~  
23 ~~forfeiture fund financial report matches the agency's seizing report. If the~~  
24 ~~Kansas bureau of investigation determines that an agency's financial report~~  
25 ~~does not substantially match that agency's seizing report or the agency has~~  
26 ~~not submitted a financial report, the Kansas bureau of investigation shall~~  
27 ~~notify such agency of the difference in reports. Such agency shall correct~~  
28 ~~the reporting error within 30 days. If the reporting error is not corrected~~  
29 ~~within 30 days, the Kansas bureau of investigation shall send such law~~  
30 ~~enforcement agency, and the county or district attorney for the county in~~  
31 ~~which such law enforcement agency is located, a certified letter notifying~~  
32 ~~such agency that it is out of compliance. Upon receipt of such letter, no~~  
33 ~~forfeiture proceedings shall be filed on property seized by such law~~  
34 ~~enforcement agency. When such law enforcement agency has achieved~~  
35 ~~compliance with the reporting requirements, the bureau shall send such~~  
36 ~~law enforcement agency, and the county or district attorney for the county~~  
37 ~~in which such law enforcement agency is located, a certified letter~~  
38 ~~notifying such agency that it is in compliance and forfeiture proceeding~~  
39 ~~filings may continue pursuant to this act.~~

40 ~~(2) Annually, on or before April 15, the Kansas bureau of~~  
41 ~~investigation shall report to the legislature *president of the senate, the*~~  
42 ~~*speaker of the house of representatives and the standing committees on*~~  
43 ~~*judiciary in the senate and the house of representatives.*~~

1 ~~(A) Any law enforcement agencies in the state that have failed to~~  
2 ~~come into compliance with the reporting requirements in subsection (d):~~  
3 ~~and~~

4 ~~(B) each agency's forfeiture fund financial report submitted pursuant~~  
5 ~~to subsection (d).~~

6 Sec. ~~12~~. **10.** K.S.A. 2023 Supp. 60-4104, 60-4106, 60-4107, 60-4109,  
7 60-4111, 60-4112, 60-4113, ~~60-4114~~, 60-4116, **and** 60-4117 ~~and 60-4127~~  
8 are hereby repealed.

9 Sec. ~~13~~. **11.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
10 publication in the statute book.