

§ 1316.76 Requirements as to claim and bond.

(a) The bond shall be rendered to the United States, with sureties to be approved by the custodian or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section, conditioned that in the case of condemnation of the property the obligor shall pay all costs and expenses of the proceedings to obtain such condemnation. When the claim and bond are received by the custodian or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section, he shall, after finding the documents in proper form and the sureties satisfactory, transmit the documents, together with a description of the property and a complete statement of the facts and circumstances surrounding the seizure, to the United States Attorney for the judicial district in which the proceeding for forfeiture is brought. If the documents are not in satisfactory condition when first received, a reasonable time for correction may be allowed. If correction is not made within a reasonable time the documents may be treated as nugatory, and the case shall proceed as though they had not been tendered.

(b) The filing of the claim and the posting of the bond does not entitle the claimant to possession of the property, however, it does stop the administrative forfeiture proceedings. The bond posted to cover costs may be in cash, certified check, or satisfactory sureties. The costs and expenses secured by the bond are such as are incurred after the filing of the bond including storage cost, safeguarding, court fees, marshal's costs, etc.

(Authority: Sec. 608, 46 Stat. 755 (19 U.S.C. 1608); Pub. L. 98-473, Pub. L. 98-573)

[36 FR 7820, Apr. 24, 1971. Redesignated at 38 FR 26609, Sept. 24, 1973 and amended at 49 FR 1178, Jan. 10, 1984; 49 FR 50643, Dec. 31, 1984; 56 FR 8686, Mar. 1, 1991]

§ 1316.77 Administrative forfeiture.

(a) For property seized by officers of the Drug Enforcement Administration, if the appraised value does not exceed the jurisdictional limits in § 1316.75(a), and a claim and bond are not filed within the 20 days hereinbefore mentioned, the DEA Special Agent-in-Charge or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section shall declare the property for-

feited. The DEA Special Agent-in-Charge or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section shall prepare the Declaration of Forfeiture and forward it to the Administrator of the Administration as notification of the action he has taken. Thereafter, the property shall be retained in the district of the DEA Special Agent-in-Charge or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section or delivered elsewhere for official use, or otherwise disposed of, in accordance with official instructions received by the DEA Special Agent-in-Charge or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section.

(b) For property seized by officers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, if the appraised value does not exceed the jurisdictional limits in § 1316.75(a), and a claim and bond are not filed within the 20 days hereinbefore mentioned, the FBI Property Management Officer shall declare the property forfeited. The FBI Property Management Officer shall prepare the Declaration of Forfeiture. Thereafter, the property shall be retained in the field office or delivered elsewhere for official use, or otherwise disposed of, in accordance with the official instructions of the FBI Property Management Officer.

(Authority: 28 U.S.C. 509 and 510; 21 U.S.C. 871 and 881(d); Pub. L. 98-473, Pub. L. 98-573)

[48 FR 35087, Aug. 3, 1983, as amended at 49 FR 1178, Jan. 10, 1984; 49 FR 50643, Dec. 31, 1984; 56 FR 8686, Mar. 1, 1991; 62 FR 13970, Mar. 24, 1997]

§ 1316.78 Judicial forfeiture.

If the appraised value is greater than the jurisdictional limits in § 1316.75(a) or a claim and satisfactory bond have been received for property the jurisdictional limits in § 1316.76, the custodian or DEA Asset Forfeiture Section shall transmit a description of the property and a complete statement of the facts and circumstances surrounding the seizure to the U.S. Attorney for the judicial district in which the proceeding for forfeiture is sought for the purpose of instituting condemnation proceedings. The U.S. Attorney shall also

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be furnished the newspaper advertisements required by §1316.75. The Forfeiture Counsel of DEA shall make applications to the U.S. District Courts to place property in official DEA use.

(Authority: Sec. 610, 46 Stat. 755 (19 U.S.C. 1610); Pub. L. 98-473, Pub. L. 98-573)

[36 FR 7820, Apr. 24, 1971. Redesignated at 38 FR 26609, Sept. 24, 1973 and amended at 44 FR 56324, Oct. 1, 1979; 49 FR 1178, Jan. 10, 1984; 49 FR 32174, Aug. 13, 1984; 49 FR 50643, Dec. 31, 1984; 56 FR 8686, Mar. 1, 1991]

§ 1316.79 Petitions for remission or mitigation of forfeiture.

(a) Any person interested in any property which has been seized, or forfeited either administratively or by court proceedings, may file a petition for remission or mitigation of the forfeiture. Such petition shall be filed in triplicate with the DEA Asset Forfeiture Section or Special Agent-in-Charge of the DEA or FBI, depending upon which agency seized the property, for the judicial district in which the proceeding for forfeiture is brought. It shall be addressed to the Director of the FBI or the Administrator of the DEA, depending upon which agency seized the property, if the property is subject to administrative forfeiture pursuant to §1316.77, and addressed to the Attorney General if the property is subject to judicial forfeiture pursuant to §1316.78. The petition must be executed and sworn to by the person alleging interest in the property.

(b) The petition shall include the following: (1) A complete description of the property, including motor and serial numbers, if any, and the date and place of seizure; (2) the petitioner's interest in the property, which shall be supported by bills of sale, contracts, mortgages, or other satisfactory documentary evidence; and, (3) the facts and circumstances, to be established by satisfactory proof, relied upon by the petitioner to justify remission or mitigation.

(c) Where the petition is for restoration of the proceeds of sale, or for value of the property placed in official use, it must be supported by satisfactory proof that the petitioner did not know of the seizure prior to the declaration of condemnation of forfeiture and was

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in such circumstances as prevented him from knowing of the same.

(Authority: Secs. 613, 618, 46 Stat. 756, 757, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1613, 1618; 28 U.S.C. 509 and 510; 21 U.S.C. 871 and 881(d)); Pub. L. 98-473, Pub. L. 98-573)

[36 FR 7820, Apr. 24, 1971. Redesignated at 38 FR 26609, Sept. 24, 1973, and amended at 48 FR 35088, Aug. 3, 1983; 49 FR 1178, Jan. 10, 1984; 49 FR 50643, Dec. 31, 1984; 56 FR 8686, Mar. 1, 1991]

§ 1316.80 Time for filing petitions.

(a) In order to be considered as seasonably filed, a petition for remission or mitigation of forfeiture should be filed within 30 days of the receipt of the notice of seizure. If a petition for remission or mitigation of forfeiture has not been received within 30 days of the notice of seizure, the property will either be placed in official service or sold as soon as it is forfeited. Once property is placed in official use, or is sold, a petition for remission or mitigation of forfeiture can no longer be accepted.

(b) A petition for restoration of proceeds of sale, or for the value of property placed in official use, must be filed within 90 days of the sale of the property, or within 90 days of the date the property is placed in official use.

(Authority: Secs. 613, 618, 46 Stat. 756, 757, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1613, 1618); Pub. L. 98-473, Pub. L. 98-573)

[36 FR 7820, Apr. 24, 1971. Redesignated at 38 FR 26609, Sept. 24, 1973, and amended at 49 FR 50643, Dec. 31, 1984]

§ 1316.81 Handling of petitions.

Upon receipt of a petition, the custodian or DEA Asset Forfeiture System shall request an appropriate investigation. The petition and the report of investigation shall be forwarded to the Director of the FBI or to the Administrator of the DEA, depending upon which agency seized the property. If the petition involves a case which has been referred to the U.S. Attorney for the institution of court proceedings, the custodian or DEA Asset Forfeiture System shall transmit the petition to