



MURIEL BOWSER MAYOR

March 6, 2024

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

I am submitting to the Council of the District of Columbia the enclosed report titled *Metropolitan Police Department Civil Asset Forfeiture Report*, which was prepared by the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) pursuant to Section 112 of the Civil Asset Forfeiture Amendment Act of 2014, effective June 16, 2015 (D.C. Law 20-278; D.C. Official Code § 41-312).

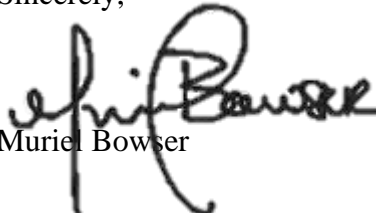
The report provides the following information:

- The number of seizures by type of property seized;
- The total quantity of each type of property seized;
- The number of seizures by type of asserted violation of District law that gave rise to the seizure;
- The number of times the District exercised its authority and determined the property to be forfeitable and the number of times the District determined the property was not forfeitable;
- The number of seized items determined to be returnable for which the District does not have on file a receipt of return; and
- The total quantity of each type of property seized for forfeiture that the District treated as abandoned under relevant sections of the D.C. Code.

MPD remains committed to the judicious use of its authority and respect for the due process rights of the involved individuals.

I am available to discuss any questions you may have regarding this report. In order to facilitate a response to your questions, please contact Pamela A. Smith, Chief of Police, MPD, at pamela.smith1@dc.gov.

Sincerely,


Muriel Bowser



METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE REPORT

OVERVIEW

Pursuant to section 112 of the Civil Asset Forfeiture Amendment Act of 2014, effective June 16, 2015 (D.C. law 20-278; D.C. Official Code § 41-312), the Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD” or “the Department”) and the Office of the Attorney General are each required to report information regarding civil asset forfeitures. MPD provides this report for Fiscal Years 2019 through 2021.

The Department investigates criminal cases that may include property subject to seizure and civil forfeiture. MPD is responsible for handling, accounting for, and disposing of seized property in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Department’s policy is to handle all seized property coming into its custody in a manner that is lawful, timely, and maintains the property’s integrity. Property seized can include currency, weapons, vehicles, and other forms of personal and real property.

Whereas MPD is responsible for much of the property management and provides responses for questions related to seizures and the return of property, the OAG reports on the property forfeitures. The OAG report for responses for forfeitures and to the requirements in D.C. Official Code §§ 41-312(4) and (6) - (9) can be found in its Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports, at <https://oag.dc.gov/about-oag/open-government-and-foia-oag>.

DATA

The MPD data in this report is based on the actual recovery date of the property seized.

1. *The number of seizures and the number of forfeitures, by type of property seized (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(1)).*

The table below lists the total number of each individual property type seized rather than each police event. In some cases, a police event may involve the seizure of more than one type of property. For actual value of currency seized, please see the response to question 2. For information regarding forfeitures, please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs19-21.

Seizures:

Property Type	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Money (US Currency)	189	232	202
Vehicles	10	11	2
Total	199	243	204

2. *The total quantity of each type of property seized and each type of property forfeited (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(2)).*

In addition to total vehicle seizures, the table below lists the total dollar value of all U.S. currency seized for FYs 19-21. For information regarding forfeitures, please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

Seizures:

Property Type	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Money (US Currency)	\$ 1,090,352	\$ 1,031,123	\$ 843,584
Vehicles	10	11	2

3. *The number of seizures and the number of forfeitures by type of asserted violation of District law that gave rise to the seizure or forfeiture (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(3)).*

The table below provides the total number of seizures by property type for each asserted violation. For information regarding forfeitures, please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

Seizures:

Category	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Drug Offenses (§ 48-905.02)	172	191	161
Money	164	184	161
Vehicle	8	7	0
Firearms Offenses (§ 7-2507.06a)	10	19	8
Money	8	16	7
Vehicle	2	3	1
Prostitution (§ 22-2723)	8	1	0
Money	8	1	0
Vehicle	0	0	0
Illegal Dumping (§ 8-905)	0	0	1
Money	0	0	0
Vehicle	0	0	1
Drug & Firearms Offenses (§ 48-905.02) / (§ 7-2507.06a)	9	32	33
Money	9	31	33
Vehicle	0	1	0
Firearms & Gambling Offenses (§ 7-2507.06a) / (§ 22-1705)	0	0	1
Money	0	0	1
Vehicle	0	0	0
Total	199	243	204

4. *The number of libels of information that were filed under § 41-307, by outcome (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(4)).*

Please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

5. *The number of times the District exercised its authority pursuant to § 41-305(c) and determined the property to be forfeitable and the number of times the District determined the property was not forfeitable (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(5)).*

The chart below reflects those cases where MPD notified the owner of intent of the District to seek forfeiture of the property, MPD has on file a return receipt, and the owner did not file a claim pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 41-305 within 90 days after the receipt of the notice.

	#	Amount	Determination	Offense Category
FY 2019				
	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY 2020				
	2	\$5,168	Forfeitable	Drug Offense (§ 48-905.02)
		\$1,852	Forfeitable	Drug Offense (§ 48-905.02)
FY 2021				
	0	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. *The number of seizures where the District either did not file a libel of information pursuant to § 41-307 or withdrew a libel of information, excluding seizures where the District had the authority to determine forfeitures pursuant to § 41-305(c) (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(6)).*

Please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

7. *The number of settlements reached between the District and an owner, pursuant to § 41-306(d) (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(7)).*

Please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

8. *Amount of currency received from forfeiture listed separately according to the provision of the District of Columbia law that gave rise to the forfeiture (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(8)).*

Please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

9. *Gross and net proceeds received from forfeiture, listed separately according to the provision of District law giving rise to the forfeiture (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(9)).*

Please refer to OAG’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Reports for FYs 19-21.

10. *By type of property, the number of seized items determined to be returnable for which the District does not have on file a receipt of return as required by D.C. Official Code § 41-309(b) (D.C. Official Code § 41-312(10)).*

For all cases originating in the following years for which OAG has notified the claimant that the property is available for release, the claimant has claimed the property and acknowledged receipt.

Property Type (pending release)	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Money	0	0	0

Property Type (pending release)	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Vehicles	0	0	0

- 11. *The total quantity of each type of property seized for forfeiture that the District treated as abandoned under D.C. Official Code §§ 5-119.01 through 5-119.10 and §§ 5-119.12 through 5-119.19, and § 5-119.11 (D.C. Official Code §41-312(11)).***

At this time, MPD has not classified any property seized for forfeiture in Fiscal Years 2019-2021 as abandoned.