

## 306 Search and Seizure

### 306.13 ASSET FORFEITURE GUIDELINES

The purpose of this order is to establish guidelines for asset forfeiture cases. The Austin Police Department believes the practice of asset forfeiture is not to be used as a form of punishment, but is remedial in nature.

- (a) When seizing any property, officers shall follow Search and Seizure policy set forth in GO 306.
- (b) Officers shall follow GO 618 when submitting currency into evidence intended for a civil forfeiture case.
- (c) Officers who have seized property intended for a civil forfeiture case shall add the Title Code 8205 – Asset Forfeitures to the offense.
- (d) The minimum amount of cash authorized for seizure is \$2,000.
- (e) Officers shall contact the Asset Forfeiture Detective via email at [APDForfeiture@austintexas.gov](mailto:APDForfeiture@austintexas.gov) for guidance prior to the seizure of anything, other than US currency, that is intended for a civil forfeiture case.
- (f) Officers are encouraged to contact the Asset Forfeiture Detective for guidance regarding the seizure of property, or to provide any other assistance needed.
- (g) The Asset Forfeiture Detective shall review all reports involving property seized for civil forfeiture, conduct follow-up investigations, complete appropriate paperwork, and handle all seized property in compliance with department policy, and state and federal law.