Table 4.45.2010

Value of asset forfeiture recoveries by U.S. attorneys

United States, 1989-2010

	Value of assets forfeited
1989	$285,000,039
1990	451,870,952
1991	596,879,728
1992	325,786,450
1993	385,000,701
1994	418,224,247
1995	464,666,914
1996	377,527,900
1997	570,656,170
1998	280,808,572
1999	535,767,852
2000	312,676,413
2001[a]	199,043,103
2002	322,246,408
2003	342,862,000
2004[b]	300,779,267
2005	313,866,115
2006	841,094,697
2007	1,323,094,697
2008	1,103,810,683
2009	1,129,381,466
2010	1,786,567,692

Note: The U.S. attorney is the highest ranking law enforcement official in each of the 94 Federal judicial districts. Each U.S. attorney, under the direction of the U.S. Attorney General, is responsible for establishing law enforcement priorities, and for carrying out the prosecution, litigation, and appellate responsibilities within their respective districts. Each U.S. attorney also is the chief litigator representing the United States in civil judicial proceedings in the district. U.S. attorneys direct and supervise the work of the assistant U.S. attorneys and staff of the district's offices.

U.S. attorneys' offices utilize both criminal and civil asset forfeiture laws to strip away, through court proceedings, property that was either used for or derived from criminal activity such as narcotics violations, money laundering, racketeering, and fraud as well as property used to facilitate the commission of certain crimes (Source: ***Fiscal Year 2007***, p. 40). These data represent the combined value of forfeited cash and property recovered through Federal civil and criminal court forfeiture proceedings. Forfeiture monies and property are used to compensate victims; and are used by Federal law enforcement agencies and the State, local, and international law enforcement agencies that work with Federal agencies in investigating and prosecuting criminal activity. The funds are used for purposes such as equipment, training, investigative expenses, purchase of evidence, and drug and gang awareness programs (Source: ***Fiscal Year 2010***, p. 30).

[a]Beginning in fiscal year 2001, data reflect changes resulting from the Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act (CAFRA) of 2000, which requires numerous procedural modifications governing criminal and civil asset forfeiture. See the Source: ***Fiscal Year 2002***, for details.
[b]In fiscal year 2008, the Executive Office for United States Attorneys began to use the Justice Management Division, Consolidated Asset Tracking System to report on asset forfeiture cases and related dollar amounts. Data shown for FY 2004-2007 have been revised according to this system. Therefore data for 2004 and beyond are not directly comparable to data shown for earlier years.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office for United States Attorneys, ***United States Attorneys' Annual Statistical Report: Fiscal Year 1993***, p. 29; ***Fiscal Year 2000***, p. 73; ***Fiscal Year 2001***, p. 70; ***Fiscal Year 2002***, p. 38; ***Fiscal Year 2007***, p. 41; ***Fiscal Year 2010***, p. 30 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.