

# IT'S TIME FOR CONNECTICUT TO DO AWAY WITH CIVIL ASSET FORFEITURE

In Connecticut, an individual's property or cash may be forfeited by the state even if they have not been convicted or even accused of committing any crime. **It's called civil asset forfeiture.**



Civil asset forfeiture is *different* from criminal asset forfeiture, which requires the state to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a person has committed a crime before their property or cash can be forfeited. With civil asset forfeiture, **no criminal conviction is required.**

## Median Forfeitures

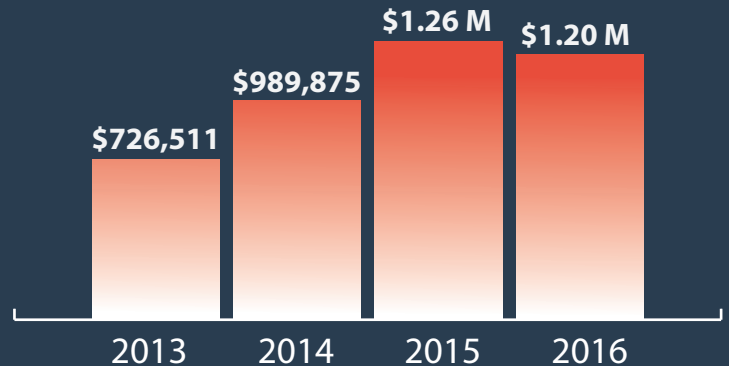
### 2016

CIVIL FORFEITURE	\$570
CRIMINAL FORFEITURE	\$503

### 2015

CIVIL FORFEITURE	\$518
CRIMINAL FORFEITURE	\$531

## Amount forfeited by local Connecticut law enforcement



It often costs *more* to hire a lawyer to contest a civil forfeiture than the value of property taken.



In addition to cash, CT police also seized: dozens of cell phones, 2 dirt bikes, 4 gold chains and pendants, iPads, TV's, Blu-ray players, and other items.



Civil asset forfeiture is necessary neither for police to do their jobs properly, nor is it necessary for the protection of public safety. To protect due process and private property rights, CT should require a conviction for **all** forfeitures.