

40 South Gay Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

CAFRA Seizure Notice



**U.S. Customs and
Border Protection**

Telephone: (410) 962-2854
FAX (410) 962-0117

MAR 20 2012

ENF-4-PD:FP DR

Seizure Case Number
2012-1303-000733-01

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is to officially notify you that on February 6, 2012, the Maryland State Police seized property at Cecil County, Maryland. The property was subsequently transferred and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), Baltimore, Maryland adopted the seizure on February 21, 2012. The property is described as:

\$61,070.00 in U.S Currency

The currency was seized and is subject to forfeiture under the provisions of 18 USC (United States Code) § 981 because there is probable cause to believe the property was used and/or traceable to a violation of 18 § 1956 (a) (2)(A), Money Laundering, in that whoever transports, transmits, or transfers, or attempts to transport, transmit, or transfer a monetary instrument or funds from a place in the United States to or through a place outside the United States or to a place in the United States from or through a place outside the United States with the intent to promote the carrying on of an unlawful activity.

The facts available to U. S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) indicate that you might have an interest in the seized property. The purpose of this letter is to advise you of the options available to you concerning this seizure. Important documents are attached to this letter. Please do not ignore them. Those documents are an "Election of Proceedings" form and a "Seized Asset Claim Form." You should choose one of the options outlined below, indicate your choice on the Election of Proceedings form, and return it, and any other necessary documents, to CBP within the allotted time frame (see each option below). If you check Box 3 on the Election of Proceedings form, you will need to complete the Seized Asset Claim Form or otherwise file a complete claim for judicial forfeiture. Even if you are abandoning the property, you should complete the Election of Proceedings Form and return it to CBP.

Your options are as follows:

1. You may file a petition with this office for the remission of forfeiture within 30 days from the date of this letter in accordance with 19 USC § 1618 and 19 CFR § 171.11. The petition does not need to be in any specific form, but it must describe the property involved, identify the date and place of the seizure, include all the facts and circumstances which you believe warrant relief from forfeiture and must include proof of your interest in or claim to the property. All petitions and accompanying documents must be in the English language or accompanied by an English language translation. Petitions should be filed in duplicate. If you choose this option, you must check Box 1 on the Election of Proceedings form.

By completing Box 1 on the Election of Proceedings form, you are requesting administrative processing. You are requesting CBP not to begin forfeiture proceedings while your petition is pending, or to halt forfeiture proceedings if they have already commenced. However, if the matter has been referred to the United States Attorney for the institution of judicial forfeiture proceedings, your petition will be forwarded to the United States Attorney.

If you choose to file an administrative petition and are dissatisfied with the petition decision (initial petition or supplemental petition), you will have an additional 30 days from the date of the initial decision, or 30 days from the date of the supplemental decision, to file a claim to the property requesting a referral to the U.S. Attorney. If you do not act within these time frames, the property may be forfeited to the United States. You may also request a referral to the U.S. Attorney at any point prior to the issuance of a petition decision by filing a claim. (See section 5 of this letter for information on how to file a judicial claim.) If you take such action, your petition will be considered to have been withdrawn.

If you request a referral to the U. S. Attorney, or if another person asserting an interest in the same property chooses a referral to the U. S. Attorney, the matter will be referred to the U.S. Attorney who will have the authority to file a forfeiture action against the property in federal court pursuant to 18 USC § 983(a)(3).

2. If the seized property is not prohibited entry into the United States, you may, within 30 days of this letter, submit an offer to pay the full appraised domestic value of the seized property accompanied by the full payment (bank draft, cashier's check, certified check, personal check drawn on a U.S. financial institution made payable to CBP) or an irrevocable letter of credit in accordance with 19 USC § 1614 and 19 CFR § 162.44. If CBP accepts your offer, the property will be immediately released and the payment or letter of credit will be substituted for the seized property. You may still submit a petition, offer in compromise, or request the matter be referred to the U.S. Attorney's Office. The decision letter on your offer will provide you with the time frames for those options. All offers to pay the full appraised domestic value and accompanying documents must be in the English language or accompanied by an English language translation. They should be filed in duplicate. If you choose this option, you must check Box 1 on the Election of Proceedings form.

If, however, the matter has been referred to the U.S. Attorney for the institution of judicial forfeiture proceedings, your offer will be forwarded to the U.S. Attorney.

3. You may, within 30 days of this letter, file an offer in compromise in accordance with 19 USC § 1617 and 19 CFR § 161.5 and § 171.31. The offer must specifically state that you are making it under the provisions of 19 USC § 1617. If you are offering money in settlement of the case, you must include payment (bank draft, cashier's check, certified check, personal check drawn on a U.S. financial institution made payable to CBP) in the amount of your offer. CBP may only consider the amount of your offer and will return the full offer if it is rejected. This option may serve to delay the case. All offers in compromise and accompanying documents must be in the English language or accompanied by an English language translation. They should be filed in duplicate. If you choose this option, you should also check Box 1 on the Election of Proceedings form.

If the matter has been referred to the United States Attorney for the institution of judicial forfeiture proceedings, your offer will be forwarded to the United States Attorney.

If you choose to submit an offer in compromise and are dissatisfied with the offer decision, you will have an additional 30 days from the date of the offer decision to file a claim to the property requesting a referral to the U. S. Attorney. If you do not act within the additional 30 days, the property may be forfeited to the United States. You may also request a referral to the U. S. Attorney at any point prior to the issuance of the offer decision. If you take such action, your petition or offer will be considered to have been withdrawn.

4. You may abandon the property or state that you have no interest in it. If you choose this option, you should check Box 2 on the Election of Proceedings form. The Government may proceed with forfeiture proceedings, or address claims from other parties concerning the property, without further involving you.
5. Judicial Proceedings. You may choose to file a claim to the property with this office pursuant to 18 USC § 983(a)(2) by April 25, 2012, requesting referral of this matter to the U.S. Attorney who will have the authority to file a forfeiture action against the property in federal court pursuant to 18 USC § 983(a)(3). If you choose this option, you should check Box 3 on the Election of Proceedings form and FULLY COMPLETE the attached Seized Asset Claim form or otherwise submit a complete judicial claim as required by 18 USC § 983(a)(2)(C).
6. You may choose to do nothing. If you take no action, this office may initiate forfeiture action.

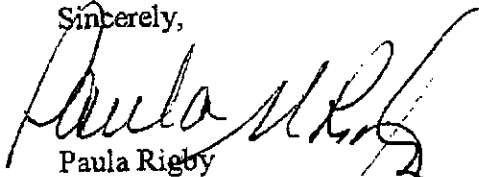
If you are a holder of a lien or security interest and you do not file a request for judicial proceedings, as stated in option 5 above, you may avail yourself of any of the other options listed above. No relief will be granted to you until after forfeiture, unless your petition, offer or request is accompanied by an agreement to hold the United States, its officers and employees harmless, and a release from the registered owner and/or person from whom the property was seized.

No matter which box you check on the Election of Proceedings form, you should sign and return the form, along with your petition, offer, or claim (request for judicial proceedings) if those documents are necessary to support the option you chose (see explanation above of your options). A Seized Asset Claim form should only be completed, signed, and returned if you make a claim and ask for the case to be referred for judicial forfeiture (Option 3 on the Election of Proceedings form).

All correspondence should be addressed to U. S. Customs and Border Protection, 40 S. Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 and ATTN: Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures. Please reference the seizure case number noted above on all correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact the Fines, Penalties and Forfeitures office at the telephone number listed above for assistance.

Sincerely,



Paula Rigby
Fines, Penalties & Forfeitures Officer
Port of Baltimore

Enclosures

**A FALSE STATEMENT OR CLAIM MAY SUBJECT A PERSON TO PROSECUTION
UNDER 18 U.S.C. 1001 AND/OR 18 U.S.C. 1621, AND MAY BE PUNISHABLE BY A
FINE AND IMPRISONMENT**

CAFRA ELECTION OF PROCEEDINGS

NOTE: READ THE ATTACHED NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INFORMATION FOR CLAIMANTS BEFORE YOU FILL OUT THIS FORM. THIS FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO U. S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION (CBP).

I understand that property in which I have an interest has been seized by ICE under Case No. 2012-1303-000733-01.

Check ONLY ONE (1) of the following choices:

1. I REQUEST THAT CBP CONSIDER MY PETITION OR OFFER ADMINISTRATIVELY BEFORE FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS ARE INITIATED. My petition or offer is attached. By making this request, I understand that I can request, in writing, that my case be referred for judicial forfeiture proceedings at any time prior to the completion of the administrative forfeiture proceedings or as set forth in the notice of seizure. If I choose to wait for an administrative decision on my offer or petition, my deadline for filing a claim as required by 18 USC § 983(a)(2)(B) is 30 days from the date of the petition decision, or, if I choose to file a supplemental petition, my deadline for filing a claim as required by 18 USC § 983(a)(2)(B) is 30 days from the date of the supplemental petition. If I file a complete claim and request for judicial proceedings (see option 3, below), CBP consideration of my offer or petition will stop and the case will be sent for judicial forfeiture proceedings.

2. I ABANDON ANY CLAIM OR INTEREST I MAY HAVE IN THE PROPERTY. I understand that no additional notice about future proceedings concerning the property will be provided to me.

3. I AM FILING A CLAIM AND REQUESTING THAT CBP REFER THE CASE FOR COURT ACTION. Please send the case to the U.S. Attorney for court action. I have fully completed, signed and attached a SEIZED ASSET CLAIM FORM. I understand that if I have not fully completed this form, or otherwise made a proper claim and request for judicial forfeiture pursuant to 18 USC § 983(a)(2)(C), CBP will treat my submission as a petition for relief under option 1, described above.

Name (Print)

Date

Signature