

## **Asset Forfeiture Program (AFP)**

### FY 2020 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2019 Continuing Resolution: \$20.5 million (Discretionary Authority)

\$1,237.1 million (422 positions) (Indefinite Authority)

Current Services Adjustments: +\$0 (Discretionary Authority)

+\$64.1 million (Indefinite Authority)

Program Changes: +\$0 (Discretionary Authority)

-\$72.2 million (Indefinite Authority)

FY 2020 Budget Request: \$20.5 million (Discretionary Authority)

\$1,229.0 million (422 positions) (Indefinite Authority)

Change From FY 2019 Continuing +\$0 (Discretionary Authority)

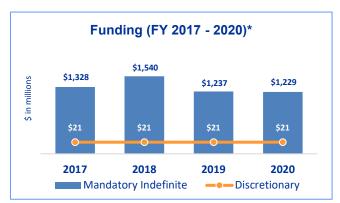
Resolution: -\$8.0 (-0.7%) million (Indefinite Authority)

#### Mission:

The Asset Forfeiture Program (AFP) touches every federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agency in the country and the related cases are handled by all 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the DOJ Criminal Division. Through joint partnerships among law enforcement at all levels, domestically and internationally, the AFP mission is to use asset forfeiture consistently and strategically in order to deter, disrupt, and dismantle criminal enterprises by depriving wrongdoers of the fruits and instrumentalities of criminal activity. Whenever possible, the program seeks to restore property to innocent victims of criminal fraud schemes.

#### Resources:

All AFP funding is provided from forfeiture activities. \$20.5 million of these funds are designated as discretionary and may be used for non-forfeiture related activities. \$1,229.0 million is designated as mandatory and will be used to pay victims and third parties, share resources with state and local participants, and fund programs in support of the AFP.



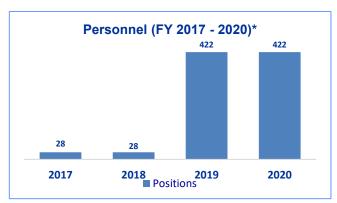
<sup>\*</sup> FY 2019 Annualized CR

#### Organization:

The Asset Forfeiture Management Staff (AFMS) is located in Washington, DC, and is responsible for the administrative management and operational functions of the AFP including review and evaluation of all AFP activities, and budgeting, financial management, and contracting operations related to the fund. AFMS also provides centralized operations and development of forfeiture-related systems and applications used by law enforcement officers and prosecutors to account for assets seized from criminal enterprises. Participating agencies of the AFP include the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the U.S. Marshals Service. U.S. Attorneys, Criminal Division's Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section, and several other federal law enforcement agencies. Allocation recommendations are forwarded to the Office of the Deputy Attorney General by AFMS through the Justice Management Division.

#### Personnel:

The AFP's direct positions for FY 2020 total 422. This includes 28 positions in AFMS and suballotments of 217 positions for USMS, 112 positions for CRM, 57 positions for USA, 4 positions for ATF, and 4 positions for FBI.



<sup>\*</sup> Beginning in FY 2019, suballotted AFP positions will be displayed in budget materials to better reflect the overall position impact of AFF funding.

#### FY 2020 Strategy:

In FY 2020, the Department's forfeiture program will play a critical role in disrupting and dismantling illegal enterprises, depriving criminals of the proceeds of illegal activity, deterring crime, and restoring property to victims.

The AFP directly supports state and local law enforcement participation in joint federal law enforcement operations to provide a key force multiplier in targeting violent crime, including gang activities, organized crime, illegal drug activities, gun violence, and fugitive apprehensions. Annually, approximately 6,800 state and local law enforcement agencies receive Assets Forfeiture Fund (AFF) support to help compensate them for their joint efforts with federal task force operations. This includes reimbursement for overtime and equipment, such as vehicles and protective gear to enhance officer safety and the effectiveness of these joint operations.

The AFP faces a number of challenges, both internal and external. For example, a structural decline in asset seizure activity over the past several years has made the Program increasingly reliant on sporadic and unpredictable revenues from large forfeiture cases to cover normal operating expenses. To put this in perspective, six large case settlements accounted for roughly 50 percent of all asset forfeiture revenue during the past seven years. With this in mind, AFMS is working with partner agencies to align the Program's "core" annualized program expenses to a level that can be more fully supported by predictable "normal" case receipts. The Program is evolving towards a more agile AFF budget execution model in order to make strategic reductions, and investments, that preserve the program-sustaining forfeiture revenue into the AFF.

In recent years, the Program has focused increasing attention on building technical and operational capacity to investigate complex economic crime. The globalization of economic and financial systems, the rapidly changing nature of technology, and the growing sophistication of criminal organizations have increased the prevalence of economic crime. When foreign governments, terrorists, or well-established international criminals are involved, the investigative techniques often require specialist teams, as well as analytical tools and methods to evaluate many variations of highly complex, technical, and data-intensive crimes. The Program funds traditional infrastructure and operational needs while also investing in new techniques that expand asset forfeiture's impact.

#### FY 2020 Program Changes:

# Asset Forfeiture Program (Permanent Indefinite Authority)

**AFP Program Changes:** -\$72.2 million and 0 positions Current FY 2020 estimates for AFP mandatory expenses are \$72.2 million below current services. Current services includes a \$64.1 million increase above FY 2019 CR levels due to the restoration of FY 2019 sequestration.

#### **Asset Forfeiture Program (Discretionary Authority)**

No program changes are requested.

### Asset Forfeiture Program

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Asset Forfeiture Program (Permanent Indefinite Authority)			Asset Forfeiture Program (Discretionary Authority)			Total		
	Pos	FTE	Amount	Pos	FTE	Amount	Pos	FTE	Amount
2018 Appropriation	28	23	\$1,460,541	0	0	\$20,514	28	23	\$1,481,055
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2019 Continuing Resolution	422	403	1,301,220	0	0	20,514	422	403	1,321,734
2019 Sequester Cut	0	0	-64,138	0	0	0	0	0	-64,138
2019 Continuing Resolution	422	403	1,237,082	0	0	20,514	422	403	1,257,596
2020 Request	422	403	1,229,037	0	0	20,514	422	403	1,249,551
Change 2020 from 2019 Continuing Resolution	0	0	-8,045	0	0	0	0	0	-8,045
Technical Adjustments									
FY 2019 Sequester Available in FY 2020	0	0	64,138	0	0	0	0	0	64,138
Total Technical Adjustments	0	0	\$64,138	0	0	0	0	0	\$64,138
Base Adjustments									
Total Base Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020 Current Services	422	403	\$1,301,220	0	0	\$20,514	422	403	\$1,321,734
Program Changes									
Increases:									
Subtotal, Program Increases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Decreases:									
AFP Program Changes	0	0	-72,183	0	0	0	0	0	-\$72,183
Subtotal, Program Decreases	0	0	-\$72,183	0	0	0	0	0	-\$72,183
Total Program Changes	0	0	-\$72,183	0	0	0	0	0	-\$72,183
2020 Request	422	403	\$1,229,037	0	0	\$20,514	422	403	\$1,249,551

# <u>Asset Forfeiture Program (Permanent Indefinite Authority)</u> (Dollars in Thousands)

	2019 Co	ntinuing Re	solution	2020 Current Services		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
AFF - Permanent, Indefinite Authority	422	403	\$1,237,082	422	403	\$1,301,220
Total	422	403	\$1,237,082	422	403	\$1,301,220
Grand Total	422	403	\$1,237,082	422	403	\$1,301,220

	2020 Tot	al Program	Changes	2020 Request		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
AFF - Permanent, Indefinite Authority	0	0	-\$72,183	422	403	\$1,229,037
Total	0	0	-\$72,183	422	403	\$1,229,037
Grand Total	0	0	-\$72,183	422	403	\$1,229,037

# <u>Asset Forfeiture Program (Discretionary Authority)</u> (Dollars in Thousands)

	2019 Co	ntinuing Re	solution	2020 Current Services		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
AFF - Appropriated, Definite Authority	0	0	\$20,514	0	0	\$20,514
Total	0	0	\$20,514	0	0	\$20,514
Grand Total	0	0	\$20,514	0	0	\$20,514

	2020 Tota	al Program	Changes	2020 Request		
Comparison by activity and program	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
AFF - Appropriated, Definite Authority	0	0	\$0	0	0	\$20,514
Total	0	0	\$0	0	0	\$20,514
Grand Total	0	0	\$0	0	0	\$20,514