Asset Forfeiture Program (AFP)

FY 2027 Budget Request At A Glance	
FY 2026 Enacted:	$20.5 million (Discretionary Authority)
	$3,565.9 million (487 positions; 159 attorneys; 81 agents) (Indefinite Authority)
Current Services Adjustments:	+$0 (Discretionary Authority)
	-$1,876.2 million (Indefinite Authority)
Program Changes:	+$0 (Discretionary Authority)
	+$0 (Indefinite Authority)
FY 2027 President's Budget:	$20.5 million (Discretionary Authority)
	$1,689.7 million (487 positions; 159 attorneys; 81 agents) (Indefinite Authority)
Change From FY 2026 Enacted:	+$0 (Discretionary Authority)
	-$1,876.2 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 managed by all 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Department of Justice's 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 as a tool to deter, disrupt and dismantle criminal enterprises by depriving criminals of the fruits and instrumentalities of their illicit activity. Whenever possible, the program seeks to restore property to innocent victims of criminal fraud schemes.

Resources:

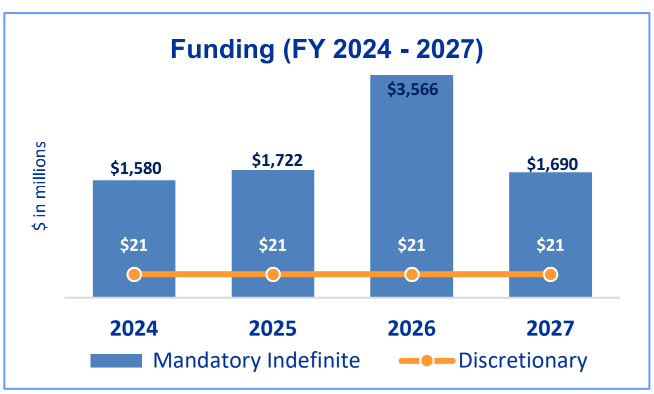
All AFP funding is provided from forfeiture activities. While $20.5 million is designated as discretionary and may be used for non-forfeiture related activities, the remaining $1.7 billion is designated as mandatory. The mandatory portion will be used to pay victims and third parties, share resources with State and local participants, and fund programs in support of the AFP.

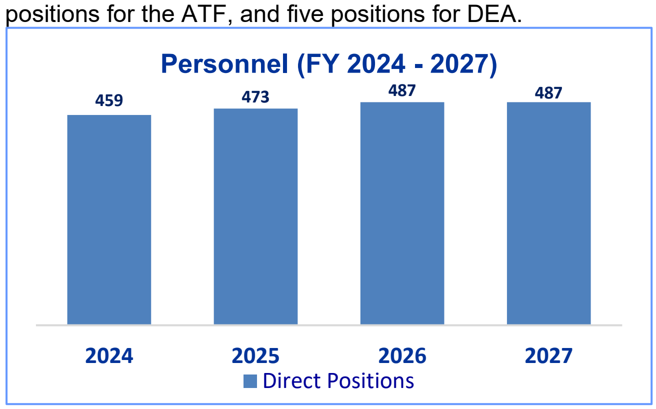
Organization:

The Asset Forfeiture Management Staff (AFMS) is located in Washington, DC, and is responsible for the administrative management and operational functions, 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 include the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), the U.S. Attorneys (USA), the Criminal Division's (CRM) Money Laundering and Narcotics, and Forfeiture Section, and several other Federal law enforcement agencies. Allocation recommendations are forwarded to the Office of the Deputy Attorney General through the Justice Management Division.

Personnel:

The AFP's direct and reimbursable positions for FY 2027 total 509 positions. This includes 38 positions in AFMS and sub-allotments of 222 positions for the USMS, 126 positions for CRM, 90 positions for the USA,19 positions for the FBI, 9 positions for the ATF, and five positions for DEA.





FY 2027 Strategy:

In FY 2027, 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 6,000 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, including costs associated with the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act.

The Program has increased funding for Joint Law Enforcement Operations (JLEO) to support the Administration's and the Attorney General's initiatives focused on the total elimination of Cartels and Transnational Criminal Organizations (TCOs), as well as Operation Take Back America. These resources will directly support state, local, and tribal Task Force Officers (TFOs) participating in task force operations led by DOJ Asset Forfeiture Program agencies. These TFOs are a critical force multiplier in helping to achieve the law enforcement mission of the Department. The work of these federal joint task forces regularly leads to the seizure of large quantities of illegal drugs, forfeiture of proceeds of drug trafficking, and the arrest of individuals who are charged and prosecuted for capital crimes and other serious offenses, including Continuing Criminal Enterprise (CCE) violations under 21 U.S.C. § 848, violations of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act under 21 U.S.C. § 1906, and money laundering, as well as racketeering, firearms trafficking, terrorism-related charges, and violations of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) under 50 U.S.C. § 1705. Beginning in FY 2026, resources that were previously allocated to the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces will be realigned to support the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) established in Executive Order 14159. These funds will be managed by HSTF personnel in the FBI but will be allocated to the receiving agencies. Additional resources will ensure sufficient flexibility and allow the Department to surge resources toward priority initiatives such as supporting protection of the American people and keeping America safe.

In accordance, with the establishment of the President's and the Attorney General's initiative in establishing the U.S. Digital Asset Stockpile, Executive Order 14233 of March 6, 2025, the AFP will be developing new seizure and forfeiture policies in stewardship of all virtual currency initiatives including the proceeds from the sale or disposition thereof to be returned to identifiable and verifiable victims of crime; be used for law enforcement operations; be equitably shared with State and local law enforcement partners; or be released to satisfy requirements under 28 U.S.C. 524(c).

The Consolidated Asset Tracking System (CATS) is the core business application for the AFP, and it currently integrates 20 separate applications. The Department is in the process of initiating the CATS Modernization Project to modernize the system. The performance work in modernizing the platform will be a long-range project.

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 extraordinarily 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 2027 Program Changes:

Asset Forfeiture Program (Permanent Indefinite Authority)

No program changes.

Asset Forfeiture Program (Discretionary Authority)

No program changes.

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
2025 Actual/Enacted	**473**	**379**	**1,721,491**	**0**	**0**	**20,514**	**473**	**379**	**1,742,005**
2026 Enacted	**487**	**486**	**3,565,892**	**0**	**0**	**20,514**	**487**	**486**	**3,586,406**
2027 President's Budget	**487**	**486**	**1,689,732**	**0**	**0**	**20,514**	**487**	**486**	**1,710,246**
Change 2027 from 2026 Enacted	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Technical Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Technical Adjustments	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Base Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Base Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2027 Current Services	**487**	**486**	**1,689,732**	**0**	**0**	**20,514**	**487**	**486**	**1,710,246**
Program Changes									
Increases:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal, Program Increases	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Decreases:									
Subtotal, Program Decreases	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Total Program Changes	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Positions and FTEs are direct only.

Asset Forfeiture Program (Permanent Indefinite, Authority)
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2026 Estimate			2027 Current Services		
	Pos.	FTE	Amount	Pos.	FTE	Amount
AFF - Permanent, Indefinite Authority	487	486	3,565,892	487	486	1,689,732
Total	**487**	**486**	**3,565,892**	**487**	**486**	**1,689,732**
Comparison by activity and program	**2027 Total Program Changes**			**2027 Estimate**		
	Pos.	**FTE**	**Amount**	**Pos.**	**FTE**	**Amount**
AFF - Permanent, Indefinite Authority	0	0	0	487	486	1,689,732
Total	**0**	**0**	**0**	**487**	**486**	**1,689,732**

The positions and FTEs are direct only.

Asset Forfeiture Program (Discretionary Authority)
(Dollars in Thousands)

Comparison by activity and program	2026 Enacted			2027 Current Services		
	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**
Comparison by activity and program	**2027 Total Program Changes**			**2027 Request**		
	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**