

**2013 Mississippi Code**  
**Title 41 - PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**Chapter 29 - POISONS, DRUGS AND**  
**OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**  
**Article 3 - UNIFORM CONTROLLED**  
**SUBSTANCES LAW**  
**§ 41-29-176 - Forfeiture of property other**  
**than controlled substance, raw material**  
**or paraphernalia**

**Universal Citation:** MS Code § 41-29-176 (2013)

(1) When any property other than a controlled substance, raw material or paraphernalia, the value of which does not exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$ 20,000.00), is seized under the Uniform Controlled Substances Law, the property may be forfeited by the administrative forfeiture procedures provided for in this section.

(2) The attorney for or any representative of the seizing law enforcement agency shall provide notice of intention to forfeit the seized property administratively, either by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by personal delivery, to all persons who are required to be notified pursuant to Section 41-29-177(2), Mississippi Code of 1972.

(3) In the event that notice of intention to forfeit the seized property administratively cannot be given as provided in subsection (2) of this section because of refusal, failure to claim, insufficient address or any other reason, the attorney for or representative of the seizing law enforcement agency shall provide notice by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the seizure occurred for once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks.

(4) Notice pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall include the following information:

- (a) A description of the property;
- (b) The approximate value of the property;
- (c) The date and place of the seizure;

(d) The connection between the property and the violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law;

(e) The instructions for filing a request for judicial review; and

(f) A statement that the property will be forfeited to the seizing law enforcement agency if a request for judicial review is not timely filed.

(5) Any person claiming an interest in property which is the subject of a notice under this section may, within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice or of the date of the first publication of the notice, file a petition to contest forfeiture signed by the claimant in the county court, if a county court exists, or otherwise in the circuit court of the county in which the seizure is made or the county in which the criminal prosecution is brought, in order to claim an interest in the property. Upon the filing of the petition and the payment of the filing fees, service of the petition shall be made on the attorney for or representative of the seizing law enforcement agency, and the proceedings shall thereafter be governed by the rules of civil procedure.

(6) If no petition to contest forfeiture is timely filed, the attorney for the seizing law enforcement agency shall prepare a written declaration of forfeiture of the subject property and the forfeited property shall be used, distributed or disposed of in accordance with the provisions of Section 41-29-181, Mississippi Code of 1972.

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