County Data on Civil Asset Forfeiture in Alabama

This study examined all civil asset forfeiture cases filed in 14 Alabama counties during 2015. The 1,110 cases comprised 70 percent of all such cases filed that year. Of those cases, there were final dispositions in 827 by October 2017, resulting in nearly $2.2 million being awarded to agencies in those counties. The following county data is arranged in order of the counties that received the most cash in forfeiture cases.

**CASH FORFEITED** The total amount of cash that courts awarded to local law enforcement agencies in civil asset forfeitures cases filed within the county in 2015.

**DEFAULTS** The percentage of disposed cases in which the property was awarded to government agencies after the owner failed to contest the forfeiture.

**NO CRIMINAL CHARGES** The percentage of forfeiture cases filed in the county in which the property owner was not charged with a crime connected to the forfeiture case.
The 22nd Circuit Judicial Drug Task Force seized two pieces of real estate. Seizing real property is lucrative but uncommon in the other counties reviewed. One of the properties, seized from a black man who died during criminal proceedings, was sold in 2017 for $76,000. In the county’s two other forfeiture cases, the individuals charged with crimes related to the forfeiture action were white (county is 13% black).