

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

Special Fund

(Dollars in thousands)

	<u>Perm.</u>		<u>Amount</u>
	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>FTE</u>	
2001 Actuals:			
Appropriated Definite Authority.....	\$20,895
Permanent Indefinite Authority 1/.....	515,472
2002 Appropriation:			
Appropriated Definite Obligational Authority.....	22,949
Permanent Indefinite Obligational Authority	522,479
2003 Current Services			
Appropriated Definite Obligational Authority.....	22,949
Permanent Indefinite Obligational Authority	451,696
2003 Request:			
Appropriated Definite Obligational Authority.....	22,949
Permanent Indefinite Obligational Authority	451,696

1/ The 2001 Permanent Indefinite Authority of \$518,282,000 includes \$49,153,000 in Super Surplus obligations.

<u>Comparison by activity and program</u>	<u>2002 Appropriation</u>			<u>2003 Current Services</u>			<u>2003 Request</u>			<u>Program Improvements</u>		
	<u>Perm</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Perm</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Perm</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Perm</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
	<u>Pos.</u>			<u>Pos.</u>			<u>Pos.</u>			<u>Pos.</u>		
1. Appropriated Definite Authority:												
Investigative Expenses.....	\$22,949	...	...	\$22,949	...	...	\$22,949	...	...	...
2. Permanent Indefinite Obligational Authority.....	522,479	...	...	451,696	...	...	451,696	...	...	...
Total.....	545,428	...	...	474,645	...	...	474,645	...	...	...

Program Description

The primary purpose of the Fund is to provide a stable source of resources to cover the costs of an effective asset seizure and forfeiture program, including the costs of seizing, evaluating, inventorying, maintaining, protecting, advertising, forfeiting, and disposing of property. Prior to the creation of the Fund, costs of these activities had to be diverted from agency operational funds. Receipts (permanent indefinite authority) are available to pay program operations expenses, equitable sharing to state and local law enforcement agencies who assist in forfeiture cases, and lienholders. If provided for in the Department's Appropriations Act, a portion of Fund receipts (appropriated, definite authority) are available to pay investigative expenses, including awards for information, purchase of evidence, and equipping of conveyances. Excess unobligated balances of the Fund designated as Super Surplus are available to support federal investigative, litigative, or correctional expenses or other authorized purposes of the Department of Justice. The Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act of 2000 made various changes to federal laws relating to the forfeiture of civil assets that are expected to decrease receipts deposited into the Assets Forfeiture Fund significantly over the next two to three fiscal years.

This year Fund resources are being presented as obligational authority rather than budget authority because the obligational authority concept more accurately depicts revolving fund activity.