

State's Attorney shall surrender the vehicle upon request to the owner.

(h) (1) If the State's Attorney determines after the recommendation of the chief law enforcement officer of the police department, bureau, or force that seized the motor vehicle that the motor vehicle should be forfeited to the State, the State's Attorney, within 45 days after the seizure of the motor vehicle, shall:

(i) Petition in the circuit court of the appropriate subdivision in the name of the State of Maryland against the motor vehicle as designated by make, model, year, and motor or serial number; and

(ii) At the same time send copies of the petition by registered or certified mail to each registered owner and any secured party noted among the records of the Motor Vehicle Administration.

(2) The petition for forfeiture shall contain:

(i) The names of the registered owners of the motor vehicle;

(ii) The name of any secured party whose interest appears among the records of the Motor Vehicle Administration;

(iii) A statement of the facts and circumstances surrounding the seizure of the motor vehicle;

(iv) A statement setting forth the specific causes or grounds for forfeiture or both;

(v) A statement setting forth any contention that any registered owner or secured party knew or should have known that the motor vehicle was being or was to be used in violation of this subtitle; and

(vi) A prayer that the motor vehicle be forfeited to the State of Maryland.

(VII) AN OATH OR AFFIRMATION BY THE STATE'S ATTORNEY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE PETITION ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY'S KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

(3) (i) Within 7 days of the filing of the petition for forfeiture, notice of the seizure and forfeiture proceeding shall be made by publication in one or more newspapers published in the county in which the action is brought or, if there is no paper published in the county, in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the county.