

(6) (i) When all of the registered owners or secured parties or both have answered or are in default, the case shall be assigned for trial.

(ii) The court shall set the case for trial not less than 30 nor more than 60 days thereafter.

(iii) If a party fails to file a timely answer to the petition, the court may order forfeiture of the property interest of that party in the vehicle without a hearing.]

[(i) If the owner of the seized motor vehicle desires to obtain possession thereof before a petition for forfeiture is filed or before the hearing on the petition filed against the vehicle, the clerk of the court where the criminal proceeding or the petition for forfeiture is filed shall have an appraisal made by the sheriff of the county or city in which the court is located. The sheriff shall promptly inspect and render an appraisal of the value of the vehicle and return the appraisal, in writing, under oath, to the clerk of the court in which the proceedings are pending. Upon the filing of the appraisal, the owner may give bond payable to the State of Maryland, in an amount equal to the appraised value of the vehicle plus court costs which may accrue, with security to be approved by the clerk, and conditioned for performance on the final judgment of the court. If after the hearing on the petition, the court directs that the motor vehicle or such interest or equity as the owner may have therein, be forfeited, judgment may thereupon be entered against the obligors on the bond for the penalty thereof, without further or other proceeding, to be discharged by the payment of the appraised value of the vehicle so seized and forfeited and costs, upon which judgment execution may issue. The bond authorized in this subsection shall be filed in the District Court or circuit court where the criminal action that gave rise to the seizure is pending and shall be part of that same criminal proceeding, unless a petition for forfeiture has been filed. However, if no criminal action is pending or if no forfeiture petition has been filed, the bond shall be filed in the circuit court or District Court where the vehicle was seized.]

[(j) (K) (1) If, after a full hearing, the court determines that the [motor vehicle] PROPERTY should not be forfeited, the court shall order that the [motor vehicle] PROPERTY be released.

(2) (i) If the court determines that the [motor vehicle] PROPERTY should be forfeited, the court shall order that the [motor vehicle] PROPERTY be forfeited to the [State] APPROPRIATE GOVERNING BODY.

(ii) If, however, the court determines that the forfeited [motor vehicle] PROPERTY is subject to a [bona fide