



## *HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

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July 20, 2017

The Honorable Jeff Sessions  
Attorney General of the United States  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530-001

Dear Mr. Attorney General,

On January 9th of this year, I placed my hand for the third time on The Holy Bible given to me by my sister-in-law and swore an oath to, among other things, support the Constitution of the United States. It is because of this oath that I write to you now in protest of policies that you have put in place to expand the practice of taking permanent possession of property owned by individuals that have not been charged with or convicted of a crime in a practice called Civil Asset Forfeiture.

Your intentions may be good, but individual liberty and the protections all Americans should enjoy are blatantly under attack under your policy. One of the many well established practices that have always made America great is the promise that before you can be punished for a crime, you must be found guilty of that crime. Civil Asset Forfeiture takes that concept, the concept of innocent until proven guilty, and treats it not as the law of the land, but as a mere inconvenience. This is wrong.

Because our American Justice System is one of the crown jewels that makes America so great, you should take great pride in making sure that every person accused of a crime has their day in court and an opportunity to make their case prior to being punished for any crime. By instituting the expansion of Civil Asset Forfeiture, you have signaled that prosecuting crimes the way our system is intended to work is not a concern for you. Every American should be shocked by your actions, I know I am.

As an elected official, as a citizen of The United States of America, and as a human being, I demand that you reverse your Civil Asset Forfeiture Policy Directives issued on July 19th and instead work earnestly to make sure every American can be sure that the promise of presumed innocence until proven guilty is fulfilled.

Sincerely,

Representative Scot Turner  
House District 21