

**County Executive  
of  
Howard County, Maryland**

**Executive Order: 2021-07**

**Dated: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Subject: Use of Drug Forfeiture Funds  
in Howard County; Repealing  
Executive Order No. 2010-05**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to State law, Howard County agencies have the ability to confiscate certain property or assets, including money, used in violation of State controlled dangerous substances laws; and

**WHEREAS**, an item that is confiscated may be subject to the forfeiture process set forth in Title 12 of the Criminal Procedure Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and, upon forfeiture, the County may either retain cash or sell a tangible item and retain the proceeds of the sale of that item; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive is concerned about the national drug problem and its impact on Howard County; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 31, 1989, then-County Executive Elizabeth Bobo, issued Executive Order No. 1989-05 that set forth the conditions for the use of drug forfeiture funds; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 1989-05 was repealed by the issuance of Executive Order No. 2010-05 which updated the use of drug forfeiture funds to allow the funding of programs related to drug prevention, treatment, or education including, without limitation, events that provide educational or supervised activities for teenagers; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive wants to continue to use effective resources to combat the drug problem, through enforcement, education, treatment, and prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to more efficiently mobilize effective resources, the County Executive wishes to repeal Executive Order 2010-05 in order to clarify and update the permissible use of drug forfeiture funds.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** that Executive Order 2010-05 is repealed.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that funds received by Howard County as a result of the confiscation and forfeiture of property or assets used in violation of State controlled dangerous substances laws may be used as follows:

Funds received by Howard County as a result of the confiscation and forfeiture of certain property or assets, including money, used in violation of State controlled dangerous substances laws shall be allocated to an account created for the purpose of holding such funds, in accordance with proper budgetary procedure, up to a maximum amount of \$350,000. This account shall be used for special drug enforcement, prevention, treatment, or education activities.

This account shall be administered by the Chief Administrative Officer of the County or his or her designee.

Special activities such as the following would be eligible for funding from this account:

1. Funding to conduct "drug buys" as part of a criminal investigation.
2. Special investigators or experts hired through contractual agreements for special drug investigations or to provide expert testimony at drug-related trials.
3. Case-related expenses incurred by the Howard County State's Attorney's office for witness testimony stemming from drug-related trials with approval from the Chief Administrative Officer.
4. Programs related to drug prevention, treatment, or education including, without limitation, events that provide educational or supervised activities for teenagers.
5. Overtime salary expenses incurred as a result of drug-related investigations or overtime expenses incurred for drug-related enforcement, prevention, treatment, or education programs.
6. Equipment required for drug-related enforcement, education, treatment, or prevention programs.
7. Staff training related to drug-related enforcement, education, treatment, or prevention programs.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 4th day of March, 2021.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be "Calvin Ball", is written over a horizontal line.

Calvin Ball  
County Executive