

Purpose: To provide the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys with an overview of the Civil Asset Forfeiture audit, to hear their perspectives about the audit topic, and potential issues the audit team should consider while scoping the audit.

Source: Auditor Developed

Attendees:

SAO:

- Holland Kitchell – Performance Auditor
- Mohamed Ahmed – Performance Auditor

WAPA:

- Russell Brown – Executive Director
- Dan Clark – Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Yakima County

Audit Overview:

Holland gave an overview of the audit, where the audit team is in the process and asked Russell if he had any concerns or prospective about the topic. She then asked him what topics the State Auditor’s Office should further examine in order to get the most value out of the audit.


Russell asked about the limits of our audit scope and Holland responded by informing him that the audit team does not have a defined scope or objectives at the moment. The audit team during the scoping phase has not settled on a particular aspect even though we have heard a lot of concerns about the topic.

Concerns regarding the topic of CAF:

Russell asked about the various concerns we have heard from other stakeholders so he could give his perspective as well. Holland responded by listing the concerns voiced in other outreach meetings including:

- Data collection & transparency
- Legislative efforts around CAF
- Due process concerns

Russell asked about the depth of the audit and if the team was going to do a broad examination of the three concerns Holland gave. Holland said the audit team would want to get as much information about the data collection process as we can. The audit team would also like to examine the link between asset forfeitures and who is being affected. Russell asked if it would be helpful to provide any background information regarding CAFs and Holland said yes.

Auditor Note: Daniel Clark let the audit team know he would follow up with an email regarding the most critical aspects of CAF the audit team should examine and where an audit on the topic would add value. That memorandum can be found at  [CAF Memo from Yakima Co. Prosecutor](#)