

## **Venue in Civil Forfeiture Proceedings; HB 2028**

**HB 2028** amends provisions of the Kansas Standard Asset Seizure and Forfeiture Act concerning venue in forfeiture proceedings brought by the Attorney General. Previously, a proceeding could be commenced and maintained in the county where the property is located or where a civil or criminal action could be commenced and maintained against an owner or interest holder for the alleged conduct giving rise to the forfeiture. The bill adds a provision allowing a proceeding brought by the Attorney General to commence and be maintained in Shawnee County. If, however, a motion to change venue is properly filed within 20 days after service of the petition commencing such proceeding, the court must transfer the proceeding to another county where there is proper venue. The bill also provides that if the proceeding brought by the Attorney General involves property, law enforcement agencies, or owners or interest holders of property in multiple counties, venue is proper in Shawnee County or any county where there is proper venue, as described above.