

No. 114, A.]

[Published June 24, 1959.

**CHAPTER 117**

AN ACT to amend 59.903 of the statutes, relating to the disposition of unclaimed property in the hands of the sheriff.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

59.903 of the statutes is amended to read:

59.903. DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED PERSONAL PROPERTY OTHER THAN MONEY OR SECURITIES HELD BY: COUNTY INSTITUTIONS, CORONER, SHERIFF. All personal property other than money or securities of deceased persons who at the time of their death are patients at any county institution or whose body is taken in charge by the coroner, shall be preserved by the superintendent of such institution or the coroner or medical examiner for one year unless sooner claimed by a person having the legal right thereto. Annually on July 1 such superintendent or coroner or medical examiner shall make a verified written report listing all such personal property which has remained in his custody for one year without being claimed and giving such facts as to ownership thereof as his records contain. He shall file such report with the sheriff of the county and deliver such property to the sheriff, who shall receipt therefor. Thereupon such superintendent or coroner or medical examiner shall be discharged from further liability for such property, title to which shall then vest in the county. *Any property which is left at the county jail for a period of one year after the prisoner has been discharged, transferred or committed and any property, found or stolen, which comes into the hands of the sheriff and in any case remains unclaimed for a period of one year, shall be sold as prescribed in this section.* The sheriff shall, on or before August 1 annually, post a notice in 3 public places in the county, briefly describing such property and stating that he will sell the same at public auction on a certain date and at a named place, which auction shall be held accordingly. Any of such property which shall not be disposed of at such auction shall be sold for the best price obtainable, and if the same cannot be disposed of by sale, shall be destroyed in the presence of the sheriff. The sheriff shall, on or before September 1 annually, remit the proceeds of such auction or general sale to the county treasurer and shall file a verified report of his action in connection therewith. Such proceeds shall become a part of the general fund of the county.

Approved June 17, 1959.