



STATE BAR OF MONTANA LAWYERS' FUND FOR CLIENT PROTECTION

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Objective

The Purpose of the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection is to promote public confidence in the administration of justice and the integrity of the legal profession by reimbursing losses caused by the Dishonest Conduct of Lawyers admitted and licensed to practice law in the courts of Montana.

TO: Board of Trustees, State Bar of Montana

FROM: Regina Mercado, Staff Contact

RE: Report on Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection

DATE: September 10, 2024

On behalf of the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection Board, I submit the following report on the activities of the Fund for the period April, 2023 through August, 2024.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY:

There were no pending claims as of the end of FY 2023. Fifteen new claims were filed from April of 2023 to August of 2024. Fourteen of those claims have been approved by the Board and have been paid. One claim is currently under review.

TRUST ACCOUNT OVERDRAFTS:

No Overdraft Notifications are pending as of the last report. Four new notifications were received during this time and four have been reviewed and closed.

RESTITUTION:

We periodically receive minimal amounts of restitution payments from disbarred attorneys who are incarcerated. We have received fourteen reimbursements in the sum of \$2,763.52 from the U.S. Treasury, on behalf of an Anaconda attorney who was disbarred and is currently incarcerated in a federal penitentiary.