

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



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July 10, 2024

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House Appropriations Committee
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Lansing, MI 48933
angelawitwer@gouse.mi.gov

Mary Ann Cleary, Director
House Fiscal Agency
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House Appropriations Subcommittee on
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Katharyn Summers, Director
Senate Fiscal Agency
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Senator Sarah Anthony
Senate Appropriations Committee
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Jen Flood
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Senator John Cherry
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
General Government
3600 Binsfeld Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933
senjcherry@senate.michigan.gov

Sent by email only

Dear Representatives, Senators, and Directors;

Pursuant to 2019 PA 10, the Department is directed to provide a quarterly report on the wrongful imprisonment compensation fund. The specific report language and the department's responses for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2024 (April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024) are as follows:

Dear Representatives, Senators, and Directors;

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(a) All payments made from the wrongful imprisonment fund in each prior quarter of the fiscal year, and the total of those payments, including if each payment is part of a new settlement or part of an installment plan.

1. *Kenneth Webb v State of Michigan*, Court of Claims No. 23-000146-MZ. On April 1, 2024, a Stipulated Order of Judgment was issued providing that the State pay compensation in the amount of \$1,753,882.97.

On April 25, 2024, a Stipulated Order of judgment for Attorney Fees and Costs was entered providing for the payment of attorney fees in the amount of \$20,024.00, and costs in the amount of \$218.65.

2. *Dartanion Edwards v State of Michigan*, Court of Claims No. 23-000007- MZ. On May 28, 2024, a Settlement and Release was entered into providing that the State pay compensation in the amount of \$601,798.42.

C'Quan Hinton v State of Michigan, Court of Claims No. 23-000007-MZ. On May 28, 2024, a Settlement and Release was entered into providing that the State pay compensation in the amount of \$626,182.64.

Through that Settlement and Release, Mueller Law Firm was provided attorney fees in the amount of \$32,280.00 and costs in the amount of \$3,433.18, and Katten Muchin and Rosenman LLP was provided attorney fees in the amount of \$33,000.000.

TOTAL PAYMENTS OUT OF THE FUND: \$3,070,819.86

(b) Total payments made from each prior fiscal year and the total of all payments to date (per Treasury):

FY17:	\$2,101,235.47
FY18:	\$2,177,139.49
FY19 Total	\$5,913,335.04
FY20 Total	\$13,096,204.52
FY21 Total	\$10,297,740.23
FY22 Total	\$9,804,160.04
FY23 Total	\$5,190,308.39
FY24 Total	\$6,401,662.77

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CUMULATIVE TO DATE: \$54,981,785

(c) Any settlements that have been decided but have yet to receive a payment.

None.

(d) The number of known cases seeking a settlement, but do not have a final judgment, and the dollar amount of each potential payment for these known cases, and the total of these payments.

See Appendix A.

(e) The balance in the wrongful imprisonment fund at the end of the previous quarter.

Pursuant to the Department of Treasury's records, as of June 31, 2024, there was \$15,328,727.47, in the Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation Fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Steffen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ashley" and last name "Steffen" clearly distinguishable.

Ashley Steffen
Director, Office of Legislative Affairs
Department of Attorney General

AS/sg
Attachments

APPENDIX A

Number of known cases seeking a settlement, but do not have a final judgment, and the dollar amount of each potential payment for these known cases, and the total of these payments, at the end of the 3rd Quarter of the fiscal year 2024 (April 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024).

PLAINTIFF	COMPENSATION SOUGHT
Avery, Chamar**	\$383,500.00 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Christian, Kino	\$674,520.55 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Clark, Alphonso	\$892,465.75 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Edwards, Joshun	\$674,538.76 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Griffin, Michael	\$638,904.11 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Searcy, Thelonious*	\$892,763.83 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF POTENTIAL CLAIMS: \$4,156,693.00 (plus attorney fees and costs in each case up to \$50,000.00 or 10% of the compensation awarded whichever is less)

*Plaintiff did not specify the amount of compensation sought in his complaint. Consequently, the State has calculated the potential compensation.

**pending on appeal