

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



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January 29, 2026

Senator Sarah Anthony, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
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111 South Capitol Avenue
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Sent by email only

RE: 2025 PA 22 – WICA Quarterly Report – 1st Quarter of FY 2026

Dear Representatives, Senators, and Directors;

Pursuant to 2025 PA 22, 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 1st Quarter of the Fiscal Year 2026 (October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025) are as follows:

- (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.

TOTAL PAYMENTS OUT OF THE FUND: \$2,990,859.82

1. *Kenneth Milton v State of Michigan*, Court of Claims No. 24-000180-MZ. On October 13, 2025, the Court signed an Order of Judgement, awarding Milton with \$1,954,162.35 in WICA relief. An order awarding attorney fees and costs was entered providing for the payment of attorney fees in the amount of \$16,867.25 and costs of \$354.94.
 2. *Erone Shelman v State of Michigan*, Court of Claims No. 25-000004-MZ. On October 24, 2025, the parties signed a Release and Settlement Agreement awarding Shelman \$1,004,228.03 in WICA relief. The agreement also awarded \$15,000 in attorneys' fees and \$247.25 in costs.
- (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:	\$9,112,467.24
FY25 Total:	\$2,988,009.69
FY26 Total:	\$2,990,859.82

CUMULATIVE TO DATE: \$63,671,459.93

- (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 number of deposits made into the wrongful imprisonment fund during this quarter.

\$10,000,000 was transferred from general funds for the annual WICA appropriation.

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

Pursuant to the Department of Treasury's records, as of December 31, 2025, there was \$31,157,057.05 in the Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation Fund.

- (g) The percentage of claims received in the immediately preceding fiscal quarter that were awarded compensation.

0%

The Michigan Department of Attorney General is interpreting this as the percentage of complaints filed in Q4 of FY2025 that have already been awarded compensation in Q1 of FY 2026.

- (h) The percentage of claims received in the immediately preceding fiscal year that were awarded compensation.

11.11%

The Michigan Department of Attorney General is interpreting this as the percentage of the WICA complaints filed in FY2025 that have received compensation.

- (i) Claims paid in 2026 Q1 that did not receive the full amount of compensation sought.

Erone Shelman v State of Michigan

Court of Claims No. 25-000004-MZ

Compensation Sought: \$1,506,479.03

Compensation Received: \$1,004,228.03

Kenneth Milton v State of Michigan

Court of Claims No. 24-000180-MZ

Compensation Sought: \$1,954,299.34

Compensation Received: \$1,954,162.35

Due to a time calculation error in the Plaintiff's complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Steffen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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 1st Quarter of the fiscal year 2026 (October 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025).

PLAINTIFF	COMPENSATION SOUGHT
Bullock, Kenneth	\$613,500.00 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Clark, Alphonso	\$892,465.75 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Hickey, Kiante	\$768,493.20 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Manzo-Diaz, Antonio	\$300,684.93 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Pippen, Roderic	\$415,753.43 in compensation plus costs and attorney fees.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF POTENTIAL CLAIMS: \$2,990,897.31 (plus attorney fees and costs in each case up to \$50,000.00 or 10% of the compensation awarded whichever is less)