

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



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July 9, 2026

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Senate Appropriations Committee
S-324 Capitol Building
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Sent By Email Only

RE: 2025 PA 22 – WICA Quarterly Report – 3rd 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 **THIRD QUARTER** of the Fiscal Year 2026 (April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026) 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: \$942,027.23

1. *Kainte Hickey v State of Michigan*, Court of Claims No. 25-000069-MZ.
On April 27, 2026, the parties signed Release and Settlement, awarding Hickey with \$625,000.00 in WICA relief. The settlement also provided for the payment of attorney fees in the amount of \$9,822.00 and costs of \$6,045.99.
2. *Roderic Pippen v State of Michigan*, Court of Claims No. 25-000049-MP.
On May 13, 2026, the parties signed Release and Settlement, awarding Hickey with \$275,000.00 in WICA relief. The settlement also provided for the payment of attorney fees in the amount of \$25,350.00 and costs of \$809.24.

All payments were part of a new settlement. Treasury does not make installment payments out of the WICA Fund, nor does the Michigan Department of Attorney General ever agree to such.

- (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:	\$ 4,550,167.63

CUMULATIVE TO DATE: \$ 68,218,627.56

- (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.

\$287,217.79 was deposited in cash interest earnings.

- (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 June 30, 2026, there was \$30,155,133.54 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 Q2 of FY 2026 that have already been awarded compensation in Q3 of FY 2026.

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

At the close of Q3FY26, 77.7% of claims filed in FY25 were awarded compensation. 11.11% were dismissed and 11.11% are pending.

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

Kainte Hickey v State of Michigan, Court of Claims No. 25-000069-MZ.

Compensation Sought: \$768,493.20

Compensation Received: \$625,000

Roderic Phippen v State of Michigan, Court of Claims No. 25-000049-MP.

Compensation Sought: \$460,135.45

Compensation Received: \$275,000

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 THIRD QUARTER of the fiscal year 2026 (April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026).

PLAINTIFF

COMPENSATION SOUGHT

Brock, Corey	\$1,251,232.88 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Clark, Alphonso	\$892,465.75 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Crawford, Dell.....	\$858,516.33 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Jamison, Reinaldo.....	\$178,497.97 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.
Manzo-Diaz, Antonio	\$300,684.93 in compensation, plus costs and attorney fees.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF POTENTIAL CLAIMS: \$3,481,397.86 (plus attorney fees and costs in each case up to \$50,000.00 or 10% of the compensation awarded whichever is less)