

# The Client Protection Webb\*

## THE "WORK FROM HOME" EDITION

A Publication of the National  
Client Protection Organization

April, 2020

### *From New York Epicenter to the Hawaiian Islands -* **Funds Soldier On Through Pandemic**

*by Michael J. Knight, Sr.*<sup>1</sup>

We are all at home reading this. The current COVID-19 pandemic, and our collective efforts as a country to combat its spread have created a new, if not temporary norm in our daily lives. Social distancing, sheltering in place and remote interaction are the latest fashions. For all of us, this has created special challenges in protecting ourselves and our families, while still making an effort to do our jobs and protect the public.

New York has arguably been hardest hit by this frightening virus and since March 16, like most jurisdictions, non-essential State government has been effectively shut down. While our office immediately implemented suggested safety protocols, it has been difficult to consider the work of the Lawyers' Fund as non-essential. Relying on the availability of technology, and a dedicated staff, we have

been able to direct staff to stay home and yet stay current with our caseload.



New York has benefitted for years from remote access software, including GoToMyPC (permits remote operation and access to our office computers), Google Drive and Dropbox (both permit encrypted file sharing and transfer). When coupled with our document scanning practices, claim files, meeting materials, correspondence and research materials are electronically available. As well, electronic mail services ensure that none of our staff or Trustees are more than a

'click' away. As a result, action items for our Board have been handled efficiently, with little impact.

While unsettling, there is a silver lining in the timing of the shutdown - the fact that new claim filings before the national pause were at an all time low - a phenomena experienced by many other Funds and discussed at the last NCPO Regional Workshop. New York's Board of Trustees held their most recent quarterly meeting, in person, on March 13, literally days before the shutdown. Our next quarterly meeting is scheduled for mid-June. While we hope that face-to-face meeting restrictions will be eased by then, we are looking to remote meeting software programs like Skype or Zoom - programs with which parents and grandparents across the country have suddenly become proficient.

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Of course, staff still needs access to physical files and there are always phone calls. We have formally worked out an informal rotation among staff that permits each of us to float in and out of the office for physical files and also be responsive to the public, criminal and disciplinary agencies. As for processing of reimbursement awards, collection of notarized Reimbursement Agreements and Assignments of Judgment have been facilitated in New York by Executive Order 202.7 which permits notarization of official documents using remote audio-visual technology, as well as the ability to accept a facsimile copy of a notarized document which can be treated as an original.

While these are uncertain times, the upset is temporary. As seen in many examples, our use of innovation and technology coupled with our shared sense of purpose will allow us to weather this storm effectively, if remotely. Soon will be the day we return to the 'old' normal. As our national, state and local economies have been stressed by this event, history teaches us that an increased need for Client Protection is likely around the corner. So, until then, be safe,...and be ready

*IMichael J. Knight Sr., is the Executive Director and Counsel for the New York Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. Mr. Knight has*

## So how are other Funds handling the pandemic?

Because of its geographic challenges, for years, **Hawaii** has benefitted from electronic file exchange and remote meeting software. Mike Miyahira reports that Hawaii just completed its quarterly Trustees' meeting during the State's 'shelter in place' rule. Their Board's next meeting is scheduled for June. Mike added that while their office remains open, personal contact with claimants, respondents and others is discouraged in favor of email, phone calls and video chats.

Kathleen Lewis from the **District of Columbia** reported that the D.C. Fund continued to conduct business close to normal, with little impact on claimants. The D.C. Fund began working entirely remotely on March 16 and remains in that status. Their recent Trustees' meeting was held via conference call. Approved claims received reimbursement checks sent to claimants directly from the Fund's banking institution. The Fund is still receiving new Applications for Reimbursement, processing claims, and answering phone calls using Jabber, which sends phone calls from their office phone through their laptops using VPN (Virtual Private Network). Staff meetings are conducted by video conference using Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

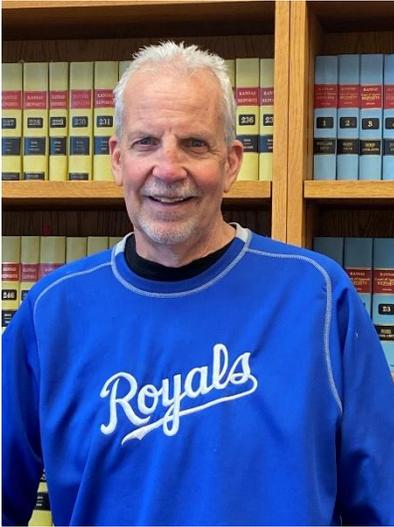
Theresa Freeman from **Nevada** advises that all State Bar workers are all working remotely from home and using video conferencing apps for meetings such as Zoom and Accession.

In **Michigan**, Alecia Chandler reports that one staff member goes into the building daily to process mail. Subrogation payments are forwarded to their finance department who has an individual come in to process checks. Reimbursement applications are scanned and emailed to Administrator Robin Lawnichak who prepares the appropriate correspondence and continues to remotely investigate claims. Alecia advises that Michigan's next Board meeting will take place using Zoom software. The Michigan State Bar IT department has moved Fund operations to OneDrive, Microsoft Teams, and SharePoint.

Karen Oschmann from **Arizona** relates that she has been working from home since March 16 and the Arizona State Bar closed to employees on March 30. Her department has weekly video conference check ins, and has conducted an all-staff remote video meeting as well as a "virtual" Board of Governors meeting. While their offices are regularly sanitized, employees are only allowed in for short periods to pick up work 'stuff' after obtaining supervisor and CEO permission. Karen expects this practice to continue until at least April 30.

In **Pennsylvania**, Kathy Morgan says her staff is able to work remotely, but not as efficiently. Limited visits to the Judicial Center are permitted to retrieve mail and get files, with the understanding that social distancing protocols must be observed.

# Better Days on the Way – NCPO Continues Plans for Kansas Workshop



Dear NCPO Colleagues,

**Greetings from Kansas.** I hope all is well with you, your families and those with whom you work during these unique and trying times. The cancellation of the conference in New Orleans was very disappointing to all of us, but clearly something that had to be done. The next chance for us to meet will be in Lawrence at the NCPO Workshop on Monday and Tuesday, September 14 and 15. I realize that COVID-19 may prevent us from holding the workshop, but I wanted to let you know I am proceeding as if the workshop will be held. Michael Harmon advised me that the annual meeting which was to be held in New Orleans will instead be held in Lawrence on Monday morning, September 14.

A booking agreement has been signed with the [Eldridge Hotel](#) in Lawrence. Reservations can be made at any time. The room rates are \$119 a night. The hotel is downtown and close to a number of good restaurants. I panicked a little recently when the hotel owner was convicted of a felony and the hotel's liquor license was suspended. That situation has been resolved and the bar will be open!

For the folks coming in Sunday we can meet at the hotel and have [dinner](#). If time permits, on Monday morning, I plan a stroll down Massachusetts Street, the main drag in Lawrence and where the Eldridge is located, with some historical information of Lawrence provided. If this sounds a lot like what happened in Princeton last September it is because I am shamelessly copying the highly successful New Jersey workshop model. After the Monday afternoon session we will have dinner and drinks at the [Free State Brewery](#), a half a block from the hotel. Tuesday morning breakfast will be served prior to the start of the presentations.

I want to let you know where I am on the presentations. I believe that the issue of lawyer well-being is a crucial issue in our society today. Our KALAP Executive Director and members of the [Kansas Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being](#) have agreed to make presentations. Recently I listened to a two hour presentation on suicide prevention. The individual who made that presentation has agreed to speak with us. A lawyer disbarred a year ago for conversion of funds has agreed to do an interview with me at the workshop. I will be seeking CLE credit for the presentations from the Kansas CLE Commission. If you need any information to obtain CLE in your jurisdiction, I am happy to get you the information that you need.

For those of you leaving Wednesday I will be hosting a cookout at my house after the conclusion of the workshop. The [weather](#) in September is usually the best of the year. The preliminary menu is Traeger smoked pulled pork sandwiches, cheesy corn and baked beans.

We are looking forward to hosting all of you. I hope that we get that chance and that things are on the way to being normal. Be safe all.

Sincerely,  
Stan Hazlet  
Disciplinary Administrator  
Kansas Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection



# The President's Corner -

**By Michael Harmon, NCPO President**

*Deputy Director of the Arkansas Supreme Court Office of Professional Conduct.*

I am certain you are well-aware that the American Bar Association has canceled the Forum on Client Protection scheduled for New Orleans for May 29 and 30, due to COVID-19 concerns. NCPO has traditionally held its annual meeting in conjunction with the ABA Forum. As a result of the cancellation of the Forum, your Board of Directors voted at its most recent meeting to reschedule the Annual Meeting for Monday, September 14, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. at the Eldridge Hotel in Lawrence, Kansas.

At the Annual Meeting, elections will be held for terms expiring this year. Those positions include President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, Director at Large, and Regional Vice President. Under the NCPO By-Laws, the Nominating Committee will submit to the membership the names of candidates for office.

Candidates may be added to the ballot from any member in attendance at the Annual Meeting. If you would like to submit your name for



consideration by the Nominating Committee, please send an email to me at [Michael.Harmon@arcourts.gov](mailto:Michael.Harmon@arcourts.gov). Otherwise, you can choose to place your name in nomination at the Annual Meeting.

Notices of the upcoming Annual Meeting will be sent to the membership as required by the NCPO By-Laws. Please make plans to attend the Annual Meeting and the Workshop. This year's Workshop Planner, Stan Hazlett, has done an outstanding job putting together speakers and interesting topics. More information about the Workshop will be forthcoming!

I would be remiss if I did not address the COVID-19 situation. As of right now, we intend to proceed with the

Annual Meeting and Workshop on September 14 and 15. The NCPO Board will continue to monitor the situation based on information from state and local health authorities. Should the situation change, information will be provided to the membership by email and on the NCPO website. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by email, [Michael.Harmon@arcourts.gov](mailto:Michael.Harmon@arcourts.gov).

I know many of you are working from home currently. Please continue to follow suggested guidelines such as social-distancing, frequent handwashing, and the use of masks when you have to go out. I realize I'm "preaching to the choir" but as has been said many times, "We're all in this together" and it is only together that we can get back to a "near normal". I look forward to seeing each one of you in Lawrence, Kansas.



# Lawyer Well-Being Week – Continuing the Movement

By Lindsey Draper  
Former Chair, Wisconsin Lawyers' Fund for Client  
Protection

Since the August 2017 release of the report of the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being, **The Path to Lawyer Well-Being: Practical Recommendations for Positive Change**

([https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/professional\\_responsibility/lawyer\\_well\\_being\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/professional_responsibility/lawyer_well_being_report_final.pdf)),



considerable progress has been made in the spread and understanding of the report's stated premise *"To be a good lawyer, one has to be a healthy lawyer."* The American Bar Association and the Conference of Chief Justices passed Resolutions urging all states to review and consider the 44 recommendations contained in the Report.

As a part of the Lawyer Well-Being initiative, in September 2017, the ABA established a Working Group to Advance Well-Being in the Legal Profession and a campaign to advance Well-Being that included a Pledge "calling upon legal employers (including law firms, corporate entities, government agencies and legal aid organizations) to first:

(a) recognize that substance use and mental health problems represent a significant challenge for the legal profession and acknowledge that more can and should be done to improve the health and well-being of lawyers; and,

(b) pledge to support the Campaign and work to adopt and prioritize its seven- point framework for building a better future."

([https://www.americanbar.org/groups/lawyer\\_assistance/working\\_group\\_to\\_advance\\_well-being\\_in\\_legal\\_profession/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/lawyer_assistance/working_group_to_advance_well-being_in_legal_profession/))

In August 2018, Anne Brafford, a member of the Task Force and Editor in Chief and co-author of the report, created a Well-Being Toolkit for Lawyers and Legal Employees ([https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/lawyer\\_assistance/lscola\\_p\\_well-being\\_toolkit\\_for\\_lawyers\\_legal\\_employers\\_authcheckdam.pdf](https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/lawyer_assistance/lscola_p_well-being_toolkit_for_lawyers_legal_employers_authcheckdam.pdf)) and as noted in the August 2019 Press Release that celebrated the second anniversary of the Task Force Report release, in the time since the release of the Report, more than half of the states have, "using the Report as a springboard,

- formed working groups or task forces
- revised regulations related to CLE programming and to bar admissions
- commissioned studies
- hosted well-being summits

- reallocated funds to enhance the well-being and support services offered to members of the profession”

The responses of respective states to the Lawyer Well-Being movement have included the issuance of state-level Task Force reports with recommendations; numerous Lawyer Well-Being-focused State Bar conferences; a number of Lawyer Well-Being webinars and presentations to conferences and orientation for those involved in the legal field; and an enhanced conversation around the need, as articulated by West Virginia Chief Justice Elizabeth D. Walker, to “develop a culture in our profession that encourages lawyers to get help *before* their professional abilities are impaired.”

[Links to State Action Plans and Reports are available at <https://lawyerwellbeing.net/resources-2/>].

Continuing the spread of the Lawyer Well-Being movement and message, the National Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being, the American Bar Association (ABA) Law Practice Division and its Attorney Well-Being Committee, and the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Program’s (CoLAP) Well-Being Committee, with a theme “*Because Your Best Work Starts with Your Best You,*” have designated **May 4-8, 2020** as **Lawyer Well-Being Week**, dates that place it



in National Mental Health Awareness Month. (<https://lawyerwellbeing.net/lawyer-well-being-week/>).

The website includes a Lawyer Well-Being Week Toolkit that includes a Social Media calendar, suggested Announcement Messaging with a Press Release template, and a Daily Social Media Post offering downloads and suggestions for participation in Lawyer Well-Being Week. Of particular note are the videos addressing Lawyer Well-Being issues on the Lawyer Well-Being *youtube* channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnQ-umHedGWctqiLRk0-p1A/>).

The ABA Law Practice Division will present five well-being webinars during Lawyer Well-Being Week. The webinars are free for ABA members. <https://lawyerwellbeing.net/well-being-week-webinars/>

NCPO members should also note that the 2020 NCPO Regional Workshop scheduled in Lawrence, KS September 14-15, 2020 also plans to address the issue of Lawyer Well-Being.

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*Quarantine Conundrums:*

*“I used to spin the toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I’m cracking a safe.”*

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# Good News About Lawyers: Client Protection

[Editor's note: This article appeared as a recent post on Ken Bossong's blog, *Other Aspects*. It is reprinted here to serve as a resource in our never-ending need to educate the public – and the Bar. Ken, a co-founder of NCPO, invites all to sample his musings on public policy, law, cultural trends and music at [www.OtherAspects.com](http://www.OtherAspects.com).]



Lawyer joke: What do you call 200 lawyers on the bottom of the sea?  
Answer: A good start.

As we slog through the shutdown, the need for something positive to

contemplate is real. Given all the jokes about lawyers, they might seem an unlikely source of uplift. The truth is that lawyers and judges do something terrific that is little known or understood.

As with any profession, Law is a barrel in which there are a few rotten apples. That's the bad news. The good news is (1) how few there are and (2) what all the honest lawyers do to address the harm done by the dishonest few.

What they do is maintain a Client Protection Fund. (By way of full disclosure, I served as director and counsel to New Jersey's Fund for thirty years.)

## The Basic Concept

Each state disciplines unethical lawyers. The rules (of professional conduct, or RPCs) tend to be similar across various jurisdictions, but not identical. Generally, a lawyer who has done something terrible, like stealing from a client, can expect to be disbarred.

All of which is good and necessary to prevent harm to future clients. But what happens to the clients already harmed? What happens to them, hopefully, is a remedy provided by the bench and bar of the state. Among the remedy's names are Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection, Client Security Fund, or Client Protection Fund. We'll just use "Fund".

Whatever it's called, the concept is simple: a trust fund paid for by the state's lawyers and judges to reimburse clients of dishonest lawyers. The Supreme Court appoints a cream-of-the-crop board of trustees to run every aspect of the Fund's operation. This includes deciding claims, hiring and firing staff, safeguarding and investing the Fund's assets, and proposing rule changes to the Supreme Court to which it reports.

The mission is to pay claims based on dishonest conduct (not malpractice) by a lawyer within an attorney-client or fiduciary relationship. The American Bar Association has a model rule for Funds (at [https://www.americanbar.org/groups/professional\\_responsibility/resources/client\\_protection/](https://www.americanbar.org/groups/professional_responsibility/resources/client_protection/)), and the National Client Protection Organization has a set of Standards (under "Resources" at [www.ncpo.org](http://www.ncpo.org)). Together, the Model Rule and the Standards lay out characteristics of a Fund that matter most.

## Most Important: the Fund's Nature as a Trust

It's hard to believe anything could be more important to a Fund than adequate resources, but something is – an independent organizational structure as a trust. To put it bluntly, being well funded doesn't matter if those assets or income

can be taken away for any other purpose. If the Fund is anything but a trust, and beholden to those who don't "get" client protection, there is ultimately no Fund.

The threat is no mere hypothetical. When Fund Trustees and their staff do their jobs well, the Fund grows a reserve even while paying all valid claims. Others inevitably find that reserve irresistible. If a Fund is just another committee among many, or a mere line item in a vast bureaucracy's budget, the risk can range from outright taking of the Fund's money to simply diverting needed income elsewhere.

Recognizing the Fund's nature as a trust exposes a delicious irony in threats against it: taking from it is a theft, the very sort of behavior that gets lawyers disbarred. That doesn't mean it can't happen, unfortunately.

So, the term "trustee" is not used lightly here. The role goes well beyond that of "committee member". Trustees of a Fund have fiduciary duties with respect to the trust: to the Supreme Court as grantor; to the state's lawyers as benefactors; and to the public as potential beneficiaries.

### Financial Health

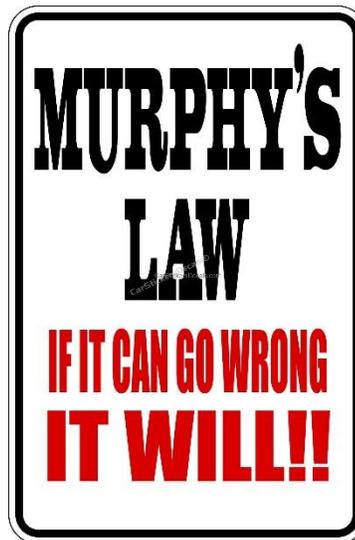
What is a Fund without steady, secure, and adequate funding? Well, nothing. If underfunded enough, it actually may be worse than nothing – an embarrassing sham.

Years of national experience show that a Fund can fully reimburse nearly all claimants with an annual assessment of between \$25 and \$50 per lawyer. (The amount needed depends on cost of living and whether loss prevention mechanisms exist.) Anyone doubting that this is a tremendous

bargain need only check the cost of comparable fidelity bonds for all lawyers.

Indeed, how *do* Funds do it? The first key is to collect the assessment *every* year, good and bad, growing the reserve when claim payments are mercifully low. The second is to exempt very few attorneys. Every honest lawyer can argue "I don't contribute to the risk" covered by the Fund. This misses the whole philosophical foundation of the Fund – see below. Another key is to pursue recovery from the disbarred lawyer, and anyone else liable from how the theft occurred. It's hard work, but worth the effort; Jersey has recovered \$24M of the \$92M paid since 1969.

Finally, Funds must not listen to anyone arguing it has "too much". Unless a Fund is fully



endowed – fully paying each year's claims and expenses out of *the reserve's* income – it doesn't have too much. The "Murphy's Law" of Client Protection is this: Any Fund that reduces or eliminates its assessment because it has "too much" will be decimated by catastrophic claims. Soon. Victims of catastrophic losses are no

less deserving.

### Accessibility

A Fund can't help people who don't know about it. Law clients who need the Fund must be able to find it. The Fund should not be the Bar's little secret. If lawyers have been disbarred for theft, but the Fund is getting no claims, something's amiss.

Some lawyers hate admitting a Fund is needed, but that's just silly. Human nature being what it is, all professions could use a Fund – more on that later. At least the Law has one; if done well, it's a source of pride. Robust efforts to get the word out should reflect that pride.

Publicity for a Fund isn't always easy, though. It's still bad news that sells. When a lawyer is suspended or disbarred, there are headlines. Indicted, convicted, or sentenced: *definitely* headlines. When a Fund supported by every lawyer and judge in the state takes care of each victimized client, however – not so much.

One other aspect of accessibility: After they find the Fund, clients must be able to file a claim without experiencing Dante's nine Circles of Hell. What is required to file a claim should be clear and doable.

### Responsiveness to the Need

There are two aspects to responsiveness: timing and amount of reimbursement. The only sensible goal for a Fund is to replace every dime stolen as quickly as possible.

Consider the message to a client, and to the public, when a Fund pays 20 cents on the dollar of a proven claim. We kinda, sorta regret what happened? We don't care enough to make you whole, but we wanted to make a gesture? Lawyers are 20% trustworthy? Other ways to limit claims, like needless disqualifications and limitations in the rules, similarly thwart the purpose of the Fund.

Timeliness matters, too. A claim should not outlive its claimant. Getting the evidence needed can be a chore, but once a claim is proven, relief should be on the way.

Trouble in this area – a Fund paying too little or too slowly – is often a funding problem in disguise.

### Philosophical Foundation: the Compact



In submitting ourselves to the rule of law, “We, the People” place special trust in the highest court of the state (often called the Supreme Court). Such courts not only are the last appeal in court cases but run the

judicial branch of government under state constitutions. In leading the systems of justice, it sensibly follows, these Supreme Courts regulate lawyers and the practice of law.

In deciding who may practice law (through bar admissions) and who may not (with discipline), the Supreme Court is telling the public which individuals are worthy of their trust. This is a very big deal.

As New Jersey Chief Justice Robert Wilentz said in a landmark 1979 case, *In Re Wilson*:

“Whatever the need may be for the lawyer's handling of clients' money, the client permits it because he trusts the lawyer.

It is a trust built on centuries of honesty and faithfulness. Sometimes it is reinforced by personal knowledge of a particular lawyer's integrity or a firm's reputation. The underlying faith, however, is in the legal profession, the bar as an institution. **No other**

**explanation can account for clients' customary willingness to entrust their funds to relative strangers simply because they are lawyers."** [My emphasis]

Thus, when a client is hurt for trusting a lawyer, "Gee whiz" is not an acceptable response by the bench and bar.

Much better is what a Fund says to clients in replacing all the stolen money: "You were not wrong in trusting your lawyer. Clients *need* to trust their lawyers for our system to work. The lawyer was wrong in abusing your trust. On behalf of all the state's honest lawyers and judges who make your award possible by paying into this Fund, we are sorry you had this terrible experience. We hope this award helps you going forward and begins to restore your faith in the profession."

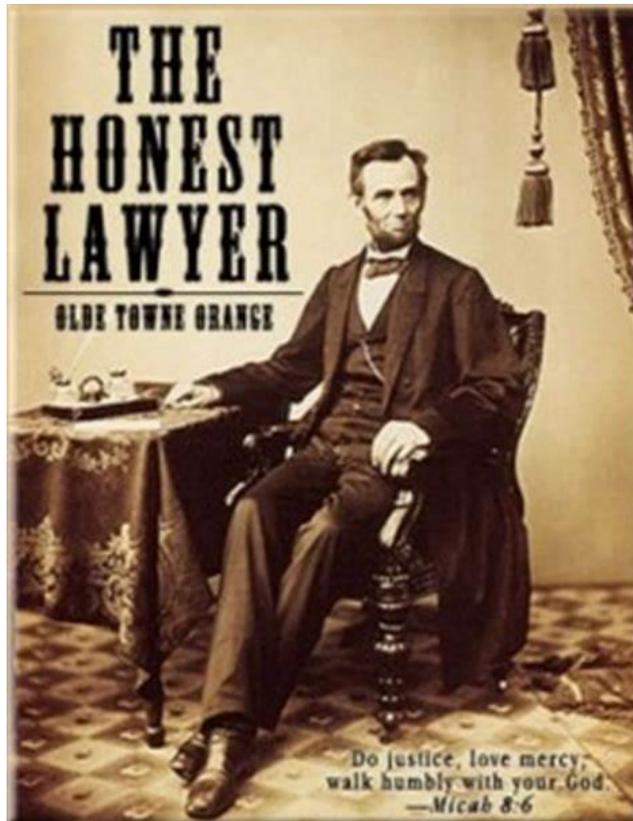
Restoring public trust vital to the justice system, the Fund is the best response to lawyer wrongdoing in light of the Compact between the People and the Court. It is essential to the rule of law.

### **Not Without Controversy**

The Fund is not really controversial. It generally enjoys wide support. Now and then, though, a lawyer will complain "Am I my brother's keeper?" To which there are at least three replies:

- 1) The Fund doesn't do this for the dishonest lawyers, but for their deserving clients. After paying, the Fund goes after the disbarred lawyers to collect.
- 2) See Chief Justice Wilentz, above.
- 3) Of all the heroes in the Bible available to quote, you chose *Cain*? Really?

The Fund's merits are clear enough that it is difficult to oppose publicly, but not everyone gets it. So, the Fund is not without controversy. The corresponding need for education never ends.



### **How Few Are the Dishonest Lawyers?**

Very few. In its 51-year history, the New Jersey Fund has paid claims against 840 lawyers. There are currently about 98,330 lawyers licensed in New Jersey. So, in over a half century the Fund has paid claims against 0.85% of lawyers *licensed now*. Add in all the lawyers who have passed away (and those disbarred) over these years, and there's little doubt that the percentage drops at least to one-half of one percent.

Note that 840 respondents in 51 years means that an average of 16 to 17 lawyers "go bad" each year.

Those few can do a lot of damage, however. The 840 have cost the Fund \$92,471,845, or an average of \$110,086 each. You wouldn't expect anyone to get disbarred over nickels and dimes, but some do. They balance off the huge claims in the statistics.

## One Last Subtle Point

# A MORAL IMPERATIVE

The Fund is a moral imperative, not a legal one. Lawyers are not *liable* for the misdeeds of total strangers, just because they're in the same profession. Clients do not have claims of right, but of grace; their claims are not causes of action.

The Fund exists because it's the right thing to do, not because it is legally compelled. Therein lies its beauty. Deciding claims in their discretion makes it *more* incumbent on the Trustees to do justice, not less. I've known many trustees from all over the country. Almost every one has been passionate about getting claims right and protecting the Fund. Anyone not so inclined should resign, or simply decline the appointment.

For those who argue that Law is no longer a profession but "merely" a business, the Fund is Exhibit A why they're wrong. The hallmark of true professionals is that they put the interests of clients before their own.

Other professions should consider it. The March 15 Philadelphia Inquirer had a story about a Pennsylvania payroll service that had failed to pay clients' payroll taxes for years. Not only were the clients' funds missing, but the IRS was looking for interest and penalties. Losses in the millions apparently have no remedy in that industry.

### Conclusion

Law clients facing ruin for having trusted a lawyer, only to have a Fund restore their life's savings, do not consider 200 lawyers on the bottom of the sea "a good start". (There may be one *ex-lawyer* they wouldn't mind seeing there, though.) Many a claimant has wept with joy and relief upon learning of a Fund award; there are hearings I will never forget. So, is an independent, well-funded, accessible, and responsive Fund good for the legal profession? You bet.

Working on something that is both this good and this prudent is quite a privilege. And, done right, Client Protection Funds are amazingly good for everyone – the bench, the bar, the public, the system. All 50 states plus the District of Columbia have a Fund. None is perfect, but most are quite good and diligently working toward the aspirations not yet attained.

I thought you'd like to know.

### Quarantine Conundrums:

*No one expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.*

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# **Top 10 Reasons to Attend the NCPO Workshop in Lawrence, Kansas September 14-15, 2020**

10. Lawrence is home to Kansas University and campus is beautiful, especially in the fall.



9. You can visit the cathedral of college basketball, Allen Fieldhouse – home of the Jayhawks!

8. We have a thriving (old-fashioned) downtown district with unique shops, bars, and restaurants.

7. Kansans have been accurately described as “ridiculously friendly.”

6. You will learn about utilizing electronic tools in client protection investigations as well as learn about the nationwide movement to advance attorney well-being.

5. Our town of 100,000 has three museums: Spencer Art Museum, Natural History Museum, and Watkins Museum. Additionally, Lawrence is home to the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics.



4. September weather in Kansas is wonderful – average high is 82 and average low is 60.

3. Kansas sunsets are amazing!

2. You can mark Kansas off your list of states to visit – and learn that Kansas is not just a fly-over state!

The number 1 reason to go to Lawrence for the NCPO Fall Workshop:

## **We need YOUR participation to make our organization even better!**

# Don't Forget.....

Watch for further information on the NCPO Regional Workshop in Lawrence, Kansas on September 14-15, 2020. Stan and our friends in Kansas continue to plan a great program for us. In addition to future editions of this newsletter and emails as needed, the NCPO website will be updated regularly at <https://www.ncpo.org/2020-ncpo-workshop>.



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*\*The Client Protection Webb is published in memory of Gilbert A. Webb, Esq., who served as Assistant Client Protection Counsel for the American Bar Association's Center for Professional Responsibility. Mr. Webb was dedicated to protecting the welfare of clients victimized by their attorneys and served as an editor of the ABA's first client protection newsletter. Submissions to the Webb are always welcome. Please send them to the editor, Mike McCormick at [Michael.McCormick@njcourts.gov](mailto:Michael.McCormick@njcourts.gov).*

