



Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 21, 2021

Honorable Shad White
Mississippi State Auditor
Post Office Box 956
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0956

Re: Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund

Dear Auditor White,

House Bill 1559, enacted on July 8, 2020, established the "Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund" to be administered by the Attorney General's Office. The bill further requires that my office "provide an itemized financial report to the Legislature and State Auditor of all expenditures, statistical data regarding services that have been provided, and a report of all service activity with geographical description."

My Office has established the "Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund" in accordance with this legislation. The balance of the Fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2021 (June 30, 2021) totaled \$3,101.25. With the exception of \$1.25 in interest earned, this amount is solely attributable to assessments that have been paid to the Fund by criminal defendants and which have been sent to the Fund by Mississippi's court clerks.

The Fund has received \$0 in appropriations from the Legislature and \$0 in private donations. The Victims of Human Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Fund Committee did not distribute any monies from the Fund during FY 2021. The Committee is working to develop an application and evaluation process for use at such time sufficient funds are available to distribute to service providers.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Anna Sukmann of my office, at anna.sukmann@ago.ms.gov or 769-234-0881.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Fitch".

Lynn Fitch
Attorney General
State of Mississippi