FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 103

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023

0795H.04T

AN ACT

To repeal sections 217.785, 475.040, 475.275, 476.055, 485.060, 488.650, 509.520, 565.240, and 595.209, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof twenty-nine new sections relating to judicial proceedings, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 217.785, 475.040, 475.275, 476.055,

- 2 485.060, 488.650, 509.520, 565.240, and 595.209, RSMo, are
- 3 repealed and twenty-nine new sections enacted in lieu thereof,
- 4 to be known as sections 210.1360, 361.749, 431.204, 436.550,
- 5 436.552, 436.554, 436.556, 436.558, 436.560, 436.562, 436.564,
- **6** 436.566, 436.568, 436.570, 436.572, 475.040, 475.275, 476.055,
- 7 476.1300, 476.1302, 476.1304, 476.1306, 476.1308, 476.1310,
- 8 476.1313, 485.060, 509.520, 565.240, and 595.209, to read as
- 9 follows:
 - 210.1360. 1. Any personally identifiable information
- 2 regarding any child under eighteen years of age receiving
- 3 child care from any provider or applying for or receiving
- 4 any services through a state program shall not be subject to
- 5 disclosure except as otherwise provided by law.
- 6 2. This section shall not prohibit any state agency
- 7 from disclosing personally identifiable information to
- 8 governmental entities or its agents, vendors, grantees, and

EXPLANATION-Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

- 9 contractors in connection to matters relating to its
- 10 official duties. The provisions of this section shall not
- 11 apply to any state, county, or municipal law enforcement
- 12 agency acting in its official capacity.
- 3. This section shall not prevent a parent or legal
- 14 guardian from accessing the parent's or legal guardian's
- 15 child's records.
- 361.749. 1. As used in this section, unless the
- 2 context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms
- 3 mean:
- 4 (1) "Consumer", any individual;
- 5 (2) "Consumer-directed wage access services", the
- 6 business of offering or providing earned wage access
- 7 services directly to a consumer based on the consumer's
- 8 representation and the provider's reasonable determination
- 9 of the consumer's earned but unpaid income;
- 10 (3) "Director", the director of the division of
- 11 finance within the department of commerce and insurance;
- 12 (4) "Division", the Missouri division of finance
- 13 within the department of commerce and insurance;
- 14 (5) "Earned but unpaid income", salary, wages,
- 15 compensation, or other income that a consumer or an employer
- 16 has represented, and that a provider has reasonably
- 17 determined, has been earned or has accrued to the benefit of
- 18 the consumer in exchange for the consumer's provision of
- 19 services to the employer or on behalf of the employer,
- 20 including on an hourly, project-based, piecework, or other
- 21 basis and including where the consumer is acting as an
- 22 independent contractor of the employer, but has not, at the
- 23 time of the payment of proceeds, been paid to the consumer
- 24 by the employer;

- 25 (6) "Earned wage access services", the business of 26 providing consumer-directed wage access services, employer-27 integrated wage access services, or both;
- 28 **(7)** "Employer":
- 29 (a) A person who employs a consumer; or
- 30 (b) Any other person who is contractually obligated to 31 pay a consumer earned but unpaid income in exchange for a 32 consumer's provision of services to the employer or on 33 behalf of the employer, including on an hourly, project-34 based, piecework, or other basis and including where the
- 35 consumer is acting as an independent contractor with respect
- 36 to the employer.
- 37 "Employer" does not include a customer of an employer or any
- 38 other person whose obligation to make a payment of salary,
- 39 wages, compensation, or other income to a consumer is not
- 40 based on the provision of services by that consumer for or
- 41 on behalf of such person;
- 42 (8) "Employer-integrated wage access services", the
- 43 business of delivering to consumers access to earned but
- 44 unpaid income that is based on employment, income, and
- 45 attendance data obtained directly or indirectly from an
- 46 employer;
- 47 **(9)** "Fee":
- 48 (a) A fee imposed by a provider for delivery or
- 49 expedited delivery of proceeds to a consumer;
- 50 (b) A subscription or membership fee imposed by a
- 51 provider for a bona fide group of services that includes
- 52 earned wage access services; or
- 53 (c) An amount paid by an employer to a provider on a
- 54 consumer's behalf, which entitles the consumer to receive
- 55 proceeds at reduced or no cost to the consumer.

- A voluntary tip, gratuity, or donation shall not be deemed a fee;
- 58 (10) "Outstanding proceeds", a payment of proceeds to 59 a consumer by a provider that has not yet been repaid to 60 that provider;
- (11) "Person", a partnership, corporation,
 association, sole proprietorship, limited liability company,
 or nonprofit or governmental entity;
- 64 (12) "Proceeds", a payment of funds to a consumer by a 65 provider that is based on earned but unpaid income;
- 66 (13) "Provider", a person who is in the business of 67 offering and providing earned wage access services to 68 consumers.
- 2. (1) No person shall engage in the business of
 earned wage access services in this state without first
 registering as an earned wage access services provider with
 the division.
- 73 (2) The annual registration fee shall be one thousand 74 dollars payable to the division as of the first day of July 75 of each year. The division may establish a biennial 76 registration arrangement, but in no case shall the 77 registration fee be payable for more than one year at a time.
- 78 (3) Registration shall be made on forms prepared by 79 the director and shall contain the following information:
- 80 (a) Name, business address, and telephone number of 81 the earned wage access services provider;
- 82 (b) Name and business address of corporate officers 83 and directors or principals or partners;
- (c) A sworn statement by an appropriate officer,

 principal, or partner of the earned wage access services

 provider that:

- a. The provider is financially capable of engaging in the business of earned wage access services; and
- b. If a corporation, that the corporation isauthorized to transact business in this state.
- 91 If any material change occurs in the information contained
- 92 in the registration form, a revised statement shall be
- 93 submitted to the director.
- 94 (4) A certificate of registration shall be issued by
- 95 the director within thirty calendar days after the date on
- 96 which all registration materials have been received by the
- 97 director and shall not be assignable or transferable, except
- 98 as approved by the director.
- 99 (5) Each certificate of registration shall remain in
- 100 full force and effect until surrendered, revoked, or
- suspended.
- 3. This section shall not apply to:
- 103 (1) A bank or savings and loan association whose
- 104 deposits or accounts are eligible for insurance by the
- 105 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or a subsidiary of
- 106 such a bank or savings and loan association;
- 107 (2) A credit union doing business in this state; or
- 108 (3) A person authorized to make loans or extensions of
- 109 credit under the laws of this state or the United States,
- 110 who is subject to regulation and supervision by this state
- 111 or the United States.
- 112 4. Each provider shall:
- 113 (1) Develop and implement policies and procedures to
- 114 respond to questions raised by consumers and address
- 115 complaints from consumers in an expedient manner;
- 116 (2) Before entering into an agreement with a consumer
- 117 for the provision of earned wage access services, provide a

- 118 consumer with a written paper or electronic document, which
- 119 can be included as part of the contract to provide earned
- 120 wage access services and which meets all of the following
- 121 requirements:
- 122 (a) Informs the consumer of his or her rights under
- 123 the agreement; and
- 124 (b) Fully and clearly discloses all fees associated
- 125 with the earned wage access services;
- 126 (3) Inform the consumer of the fact of any material
- 127 changes to the terms and conditions of the earned wage
- 128 access services before implementing those changes for that
- 129 consumer;
- 130 (4) Provide proceeds to a consumer by any means
- mutually agreed upon by the consumer and provider;
- 132 (5) Comply with all local, state, and federal privacy
- 133 and information security laws;
- 134 (6) In any case in which the provider will seek
- 135 repayment of outstanding proceeds, fees, or other payments,
- including voluntary tips, gratuities, or other donations
- 137 from a consumer's account at a depository institution and
- including via electronic funds transfer:
- 139 (a) Comply with applicable provisions of the federal
- 140 Electronic Funds Transfer Act and its implementing
- 141 regulations; and
- 142 (b) Reimburse the consumer for the full amount of any
- overdraft or nonsufficient funds fees imposed on a consumer
- 144 by the consumer's depository institution that were caused by
- 145 the provider attempting to seek payment of any outstanding
- 146 proceeds, fees, voluntary tips, gratuities, or other
- donations on a date before, or in an incorrect amount from,
- 148 the date or amount disclosed to the consumer.

- 149 The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply with
- respect to payments of outstanding proceeds, fees, tips,
- 151 gratuities, or other donations incurred by a consumer
- through fraudulent or other means; and
- 153 (7) If a provider solicits, charges, or receives a
- 154 tip, gratuity, or donation from a consumer:
- 155 (a) Clearly and conspicuously disclose to the consumer
- immediately prior to each transaction that a tip, gratuity,
- or donation amount may be zero and is voluntary;
- 158 (b) Clearly and conspicuously disclose in its service
- 159 contract with the consumer and elsewhere that tips,
- 160 gratuities, or donations are voluntary and that the offering
- of earned wage access services, including the amount of the
- 162 proceeds a consumer is eligible to request and the frequency
- with which proceeds are provided to a consumer, is not
- 164 contingent on whether the consumer pays any tip, gratuity,
- or donation or on the size of any tip, gratuity, or donation;
- 166 (c) Refrain from misleading or deceiving consumers
- 167 about the voluntary nature of such tips, gratuities, or
- 168 donations; and
- 169 (d) Refrain from making representations that tips or
- 170 gratuities will benefit any specific, individual person.
- 171 5. A provider shall not:
- 172 (1) Share with an employer any fees, voluntary tips,
- 173 gratuities, or other donations that were received from or
- 174 charged to a consumer for earned wage access services;
- 175 (2) Charge interest for failure to repay outstanding
- 176 proceeds, fees, voluntary tips, gratuities, or other
- 177 donations;
- 178 (3) Report any information about the consumer
- 179 regarding the inability of the provider to be repaid
- 180 outstanding proceeds, fees, voluntary tips, gratuities, or

- other donations to a consumer credit reporting agency or a debt collector;
- 183 (4) Require a consumer's credit report or credit score 184 to determine a consumer's eligibility for earned wage access 185 services;
- 186 (5) Accept payment from a consumer of outstanding 187 proceeds, fees, voluntary tips, gratuities, or other 188 donations via credit card or charge card; or
- (6) Compel or attempt to compel repayment by a consumer of outstanding proceeds, fees, voluntary tips, gratuities, or other donations through any of the following means:
- 193 (a) A suit against the consumer in a court of 194 competent jurisdiction;
- 195 (b) Use of a third party to pursue collection from the 196 consumer on the provider's behalf; or
- 197 (c) Sale of outstanding amounts to a third-party
 198 collector or debt buyer for collection from the consumer.
- The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to
 payments of outstanding proceeds, fees, tips, gratuities, or
 other donations incurred by a consumer through fraudulent or
 other means or preclude a provider from pursuing an employer
 for breach of its contractual obligations to the provider.
- 204 6. For purposes of the laws of this state:
- 205 (1) Earned wage access services offered and provided 206 by a registered provider shall not be considered to be any 207 of the following:
- 208 (a) A violation of or noncompliance with the laws
 209 governing the sale or assignment of or an order for earned
 210 but unpaid income;

- A loan or other form of credit, and the provider 211 shall not be considered a creditor or a lender; 212
- 213 Money transmission, and the provider shall not be 214 considered a money transmitter;
- Fees, voluntary tips, gratuities, or other 215 216 donations shall not be considered interest or finance 217 charges.
- The director, or his or her duly authorized 218 7. representative, may make such investigation as is deemed 219 220 necessary and, to the extent necessary for this purpose, may 221 examine the registrant or any other person having personal knowledge of the matters under investigation, and shall have 222 223 the power to compel the production of all relevant books, 224 records, accounts, and documents by registrants.
- 225 8. An earned wage access services provider shall 226 maintain records of its earned wage access services 227 transactions and shall preserve its records for at least two 228 years after the final date on which it provides proceeds to 229 a consumer.
- (2) Records required by this section may be maintained 231 electronically.
- 232 The division may promulgate rules as may be 233 necessary for the administration of this section. Any rule 234 or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 235 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in 236 this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, 237 238 if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 239 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with 240 the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to 241 delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule 242 are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of

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- rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after
 August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void.
- 10. (1) Any provider registered pursuant to this 245 section who fails, refuses, or neglects to comply with the 246 provisions of this section or commits any criminal act may 247 248 have its registration suspended or revoked by the director, after a hearing before the director on an order of the 249 250 director to show cause why such order of suspension or 251 revocation should not be entered specifying the grounds 252 therefor, which shall be served on the registrant at least

ten days prior to the hearing.

- Whenever it shall appear to the director that any 254 (2) provider registered pursuant to this section is failing, 255 256 refusing, or neglecting to make a good faith effort to 257 comply with the provisions of this section, the director may issue an order to cease and desist, which order may be 258 259 enforceable by a civil penalty of not more than one thousand dollars per day for each day that the neglect, failure, or 260 refusal shall continue. The penalty shall be assessed and 261 262 collected by the director. In determining the amount of the 263 penalty, the director shall take into account the appropriateness of the penalty with respect to the gravity 264 265 of the violation, the history of previous violations, and 266 such other matters as justice may require.
 - 11. All revenues collected by or paid to the director pursuant to this section shall be forwarded immediately to the director of revenue, who shall deposit them in the division of finance fund.
- 12. Any earned wage access services provider knowingly and willfully violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

- 13. If there is a conflict between the provisions of this section and any other state statute, the provisions of this section shall control.
 - 431.204. 1. A reasonable covenant in writing
 - 2 promising not to solicit, recruit, hire, induce, persuade,
 - 3 encourage, or otherwise interfere with, directly or
 - 4 indirectly, the employment of one or more employees or
 - 5 owners of a business entity shall be presumed to be
 - 6 enforceable and not a restraint of trade pursuant to
 - 7 subsection 1 of section 416.031 if it is between a business
 - 8 entity and the owner of the business entity and does not
 - 9 continue for more than two years following the end of the
- 10 owner's business relationship with the business entity.
- 11 2. A reasonable covenant in writing promising not to
- 12 solicit, induce, direct, or otherwise interfere with,
- directly or indirectly, a business entity's customers,
- 14 including any reduction, termination, or transfer of any
- 15 customer's business, in whole or in part, for the purposes
- 16 of providing any product or any service that is competitive
- 17 with those provided by the business entity shall be presumed
- 18 to be enforceable and not a restraint of trade pursuant to
- 19 subsection 1 of section 416.031 if the covenant is limited
- 20 to customers with whom the owner dealt and if the covenant
- 21 is between a business entity and an owner, so long as the
- 22 covenant does not continue for more than five years
- 23 following the end of the owner's business relationship with
- 24 the business entity.
- 25 3. A provision in writing by which an owner promises
- 26 to provide prior notice of the owner's intent to terminate,
- 27 sell, or otherwise dispose of such owner's ownership
- 28 interest in the business entity shall be presumed to be

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- 29 enforceable and not a restraint of trade pursuant to 30 subsection 1 of section 416.031.
- 4. If a covenant is overbroad, overlong, or otherwise not reasonably necessary to protect the protectable business interests of the business entity seeking enforcement of the covenant, a court shall modify the covenant, enforce the covenant as modified, and grant only the relief reasonably necessary to protect such interests.
- 5. Nothing in this section is intended to create or to affect the validity or enforceability of covenants not to compete, other types of covenants, or nondisclosure or confidentiality agreements, except as expressly provided in this section.
- 6. Except as provided in subsection 3 of this section, nothing in this section shall be construed to limit an owner's ability to seek or accept employment with another business entity immediately upon, or at any time subsequent to, termination of the owner's business relationship with the business entity, whether such termination was voluntary or nonvoluntary.

436.550. Sections 436.550 to 436.572 shall be known and may be cited as the "Consumer Legal Funding Act".

436.552. As used in sections 436.550 to 436.572, the following terms mean:

3 (1) "Advertise", publishing or disseminating any
4 written, electronic, or printed communication or any
5 communication by means of recorded telephone messages or
6 transmitted on radio, television, the internet, or similar
7 communications media, including film strips, motion
8 pictures, and videos, published, disseminated, circulated,
9 or placed before the public, directly or indirectly, for the

- purpose of inducing a consumer to enter into a consumer legal funding contract;
- 12 (2) "Affiliate", as defined in section 515.505;
- 13 (3) "Charges", the amount of moneys to be paid to the
- 14 consumer legal funding company by or on behalf of the
- 15 consumer above the funded amount provided by or on behalf of
- the company to a consumer under sections 436.550 to
- 17 436.572. Charges include all administrative, origination,
- 18 underwriting, or other fees, no matter how denominated;
- 19 (4) "Consumer", a natural person who has a legal claim
- 20 and resides or is domiciled in Missouri;
- 21 (5) "Consumer legal funding company" or "company", a
- 22 person or entity that enters into a consumer legal funding
- 23 contract with a consumer for an amount less than five
- 24 hundred thousand dollars. The term shall not include:
- 25 (a) An immediate family member of the consumer;
- 26 (b) A bank, lender, financing entity, or other special
- 27 purpose entity:
- a. That provides financing to a consumer legal funding
- 29 company; or
- 30 b. To which a consumer legal funding company grants a
- 31 security interest or transfers any rights or interest in a
- 32 consumer legal funding; or
- 33 (c) An attorney or accountant who provides services to
- 34 a consumer;
- 35 (6) "Consumer legal funding contract", a nonrecourse
- 36 contractual transaction in which a consumer legal funding
- 37 company purchases and a consumer assigns to the company a
- 38 contingent right to receive an amount of the potential
- 39 proceeds of a settlement, judgment, award, or verdict
- 40 obtained in the consumer's legal claim, so long as all of
- 41 the following apply:

- 42 (a) The consumer, at their sole discretion, shall use
- 43 the funds to address personal needs or household expenses;
- 44 (b) The consumer shall not use the funds to pay for
- 45 attorneys' fees, legal filings, legal marketing, legal
- 46 document preparation or drafting, appeals, expert testimony,
- 47 or other litigation-related expenses;
- 48 (7) "Director", the director of the division of
- 49 finance within the department of commerce and insurance;
- 50 (8) "Division", the division of finance within the
- 51 department of commerce and insurance;
- 52 (9) "Funded amount", the amount of moneys provided to
- or on behalf of the consumer in the consumer legal funding
- 54 contract. "Funded amount" shall not include charges;
- 55 (10) "Funding date", the date on which the funded
- 56 amount is transferred to the consumer by the consumer legal
- 57 funding company either by personal delivery, via wire,
- 58 automated clearing house transfer, or other electronic
- 59 means, or by insured, certified, or registered United States
- 60 mail;
- 61 (11) "Immediate family member", a parent; sibling;
- 62 child by blood, adoption, or marriage; spouse; grandparent;
- 63 or grandchild;
- 64 (12) "Legal claim", a bona fide civil claim or cause
- 65 of action;
- 66 (13) "Medical provider", any person or business
- 67 providing medical services of any kind to a consumer
- 68 including, but not limited to, physicians, nurse
- 69 practitioners, hospitals, physical therapists,
- 70 chiropractors, or radiologists as well as any of their
- 71 employees or contractors or any practice groups,
- 72 partnerships, or incorporations of the same;

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- 73 (14) "Resolution date", the date the amount funded to 74 the consumer, plus the agreed-upon charges, is delivered to 75 the consumer legal funding company.
- 436.554. 1. All consumer legal funding contracts shall meet the following requirements:
- 3 (1) The contract shall be completely filled in when 4 presented to the consumer for signature;
- 5 (2) The contract shall contain, in bold and boxed 6 type, a right of rescission allowing the consumer to cancel 7 the contract without penalty or further obligation if, 8 within ten business days after the funding date, the 9 consumer either:
- 10 (a) Returns the full amount of the disbursed funds to
 11 the consumer legal funding company by delivering the
 12 company's uncashed check to the company's office in person;
 13 or
- (b) Mails a notice of cancellation by insured,
 certified, or registered United States mail to the address
 specified in the contract and includes a return of the full
 amount of disbursed funds in such mailing in the form of the
 company's uncashed check or a registered or certified check
 or money order;
 - (3) The contract shall contain the initials of the consumer on each page; and
 - (4) The contract shall require the consumer to give nonrevocable written direction to the consumer's attorney requiring the attorney to notify the consumer legal funding company when the legal claim has been resolved. Once the consumer legal funding company confirms in writing the amount due under the contract, the consumer's attorney shall pay, from the proceeds of the resolution of the legal claim,

- 29 the consumer legal funding company the amount due within ten 30 business days.
- The consumer legal funding company shall provide 31 the consumer's attorney with a written notification of the 32 33 consumer legal funding contract provided to the consumer 34 within three business days of the funding date by way of
- postal mail, courier service, facsimile, or other means of 35 36 proof of delivery method.
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A consumer legal funding contract shall be entered 38 into only if the contract involves an existing legal claim in which the consumer is represented by an attorney. 39

436.556. No consumer legal funding company shall:

- (1) Pay or offer to pay commissions, referral fees, or 2 3 other forms of consideration to any attorney, law firm, 4 medical provider, chiropractor, or physical therapist or any 5 of their employees for referring a consumer to the company;
- (2) Accept any commissions, referral fees, rebates, or other forms of consideration from an attorney, law firm, 7 medical provider, chiropractor, or physical therapist or any 8 9 of their employees;
 - Intentionally advertise materially false or (3) misleading information regarding its products or services;
- Refer, in furtherance of an initial legal funding, 12 13 a customer or potential customer to a specific attorney, law 14 firm, medical provider, chiropractor, or physical therapist or any of their employees. However, the company may refer 15 the customer to a local or state bar association referral 16 service if a customer needs legal representation; 17
- (5) Fail to promptly supply a copy of the executed 18 19 contract to the consumer's attorney;
- 20 Knowingly provide funding to a consumer who has previously assigned or sold a portion of the right to 21

- 22 proceeds from the consumer's legal claim unless the consumer
- 23 legal funding company pays or purchases the entire
- 24 unsatisfied funded amount and contracted charges from the
- 25 prior consumer legal funding company or the two companies
- 26 agree to a lesser amount in writing. However, multiple
- 27 companies may agree to contemporaneously provide funding to
- 28 a consumer, provided that the consumer and the consumer's
- 29 attorney consent to the arrangement in writing;
- 30 (7) Receive any right to or make any decisions with
- 31 respect to the conduct of the underlying legal claim or any
- 32 settlement or resolution thereof. The right to make such
- 33 decisions shall remain solely with the consumer and the
- 34 attorney in the legal claim;
- 35 (8) Knowingly pay or offer to pay for court costs,
- 36 filing fees, or attorney's fees either during or after the
- 37 resolution of the legal claim by using funds from the
- 38 consumer legal funding contract. The consumer legal funding
- 39 contract shall include a provision advising the consumer
- 40 that the funding shall not be used for such costs or fees; or
- 41 (9) Sell a consumer litigation funding contract in
- 42 whole or in part to a third party. However, if the consumer
- 43 legal funding company retains responsibility for collecting
- 44 payment, administering, and otherwise enforcing the consumer
- 45 legal funding contract, the provisions of this subdivision
- 46 shall not apply to any of the following:
- 47 (a) An assignment to a wholly owned subsidiary of the
- 48 consumer legal funding company;
- 49 (b) An assignment to an affiliate of the consumer
- 50 legal funding company that is under common control;
- 51 (c) The granting of a security interest under Article
- 52 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code, or as otherwise permitted
- 53 **by law**.

- 436.558. 1. The contracted amount to be paid to the
- 2 consumer legal funding company shall be set as a
- 3 predetermined amount based upon intervals of time from the
- 4 funding date to the resolution date and shall not be
- 5 determined as a percentage of the recovery from the legal
- 6 claim.
- 7 2. No consumer legal funding contract shall be valid
- 8 if its terms exceed a period of forty-eight months. No
- 9 consumer legal funding contract shall be automatically
- 10 renewed.
 - 436.560. All consumer legal funding contracts shall
- 2 contain the disclosures specified in this section, which
- 3 shall constitute material terms of the contract. Unless
- 4 otherwise specified, the disclosures shall be typed in at
- 5 least twelve-point bold-type font and be placed clearly and
- 6 conspicuously within the contract, as follows:
- 7 (1) On the front page under appropriate headings,
- 8 language specifying:
- 9 (a) The funded amount to be paid to the consumer by
- 10 the consumer legal funding company;
- 11 (b) An itemization of one-time charges;
- 12 (c) The total amount to be assigned by the consumer to
- 13 the company, including the funded amount and all charges; and
- 14 (d) A payment schedule to include the funded amount
- 15 and charges, listing all dates and the amount due at the end
- 16 of each six-month period from the funding date until the
- 17 date the maximum amount due to the company by the consumer
- 18 to satisfy the amount due pursuant to the contract;
- 19 (2) Within the body of the contract, in accordance
- 20 with the provisions under subdivision (2) of subsection 1 of
- 21 section 436.554: "Consumer's Right to Cancellation: You may
- 22 cancel this contract without penalty or further obligation

- within ten business days after the funding date if you either:
- 25 (a) Return the full amount of the disbursed funds to 26 the consumer legal funding company by delivering the
- 27 company's uncashed check to the company's office in person;
- 28 or
- 29 (b) Mail a notice of cancellation by insured,
- 30 certified, or registered United States mail to the company
- 31 at the address specified in the contract and include a
- 32 return of the full amount of disbursed funds in such mailing
- in the form of the company's uncashed check or a registered
- or certified check or money order.";
- 35 (3) Within the body of the contract, a statement that
- 36 the company has no influence over any aspect of the
- 37 consumer's legal claim or any settlement or resolution of
- 38 the consumer's legal claim and that all decisions related to
- 39 the consumer's legal claim remain solely with the consumer
- 40 and the consumer's attorney;
- 41 (4) Within the body of the contract, in all capital
- 42 letters and in at least twelve-point bold-type font
- 43 contained within a box: "THE FUNDED AMOUNT AND AGREED-UPON
- 44 CHARGES SHALL BE PAID ONLY FROM THE PROCEEDS OF YOUR LEGAL
- 45 CLAIM AND SHALL BE PAID ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT THERE ARE
- 46 AVAILABLE PROCEEDS FROM YOUR LEGAL CLAIM. IF THERE IS NO
- 47 RECOVERY OF ANY DAMAGES FROM YOUR LEGAL CLAIM OR IF THERE IS
- 48 NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY BACK THE CONSUMER LEGAL FUNDING
- 49 COMPANY IN FULL, YOU WILL NOT BE OBLIGATED TO PAY THE
- 50 CONSUMER LEGAL FUNDING COMPANY ANYTHING IN EXCESS OF YOUR
- 51 RECOVERY UNLESS YOU HAVE VIOLATED THIS CONTRACT. YOU WILL
- 52 NOT OWE (INSERT NAME OF THE CONSUMER LEGAL FUNDING COMPANY)
- 53 ANYTHING IF THERE ARE NO PROCEEDS FROM YOUR LEGAL CLAIM
- 54 UNLESS YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY HAVE VIOLATED ANY MATERIAL TERM

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- OF THIS CONTRACT OR UNLESS YOU HAVE COMMITTED FRAUD AGAINST
 THE CONSUMER LEGAL FUNDING COMPANY."; and
- 57 Located immediately above the place on the contract where the consumer's signature is required, in 58 twelve-point font: "Do not sign this contract before you 59 60 read it completely or if it contains any blank spaces. You 61 are entitled to a completely filled-in copy of the 62 contract. Before you sign this contract, you should obtain 63 the advice of an attorney. Depending on the circumstances, you may want to consult a tax, public or private benefits 64 planning, or financial professional. You acknowledge that 65 your attorney in the legal claim has provided no tax, public 66 or private benefit planning, or financial advice regarding 67 68 this transaction.".
 - 436.562. 1. Nothing in sections 436.550 to 436.572 shall be construed to restrict the exercise of powers or the performance of the duties of the state attorney general that he or she is authorized to exercise or perform by law.
 - 2. If a court of competent jurisdiction determines that a consumer legal funding company has intentionally violated the provisions of sections 436.550 to 436.572 in a consumer legal funding contract, the consumer legal funding contract shall be voided.
 - 436.564. 1. The contingent right to receive an amount of the potential proceeds of a legal claim is assignable.
- 2. Nothing contained in sections 436.550 to 436.572

 shall be construed to cause any consumer legal funding

 contract conforming to sections 436.550 to 436.572 to be

 deemed a loan or to be subject to any of the provisions

 governing loans. A consumer legal funding contract that

 complies with sections 436.550 to 436.572 is not subject to

 any other statutory or regulatory provisions governing loans

- 10 or investment contracts. To the extent that sections
- 436.550 to 436.572 conflict with any other law, such
- 12 sections shall supersede the other law for the purposes of
- 13 regulating consumer legal funding in this state.
- 3. Only attorney's liens related to the legal claim,
- 15 Medicare, or other statutory liens related to the legal
- 16 claim shall take priority over claims to proceeds from the
- 17 consumer legal funding company. All other liens and claims
- 18 shall take priority by normal operation of law.
- 19 4. No consumer legal funding company shall report a
- 20 consumer to a credit reporting agency if insufficient funds
- 21 remain from the net proceeds to repay the company.
 - 436.566. An attorney or law firm retained by the
- 2 consumer in the legal claim shall not have a financial
- 3 interest in the consumer legal funding company offering
- 4 consumer legal funding to that consumer. Additionally, any
- 5 practicing attorney who has referred the consumer to his or
- 6 her retained attorney shall not have a financial interest in
- 7 the consumer legal funding company offering consumer legal
- 8 funding to that consumer.
 - 436.568. No communication between the consumer's
- 2 attorney in the legal claim and the consumer legal funding
- 3 company necessary to ascertain the status of a legal claim
- 4 or a legal claim's expected value shall be discoverable by a
- 5 party with whom the claim is filed or against whom the claim
- 6 is asserted. This section does not limit, waive, or
- 7 abrogate the scope or nature of any statutory or common-law
- 8 privilege, including the work-product doctrine and attorney-
- 9 client privilege.
 - 436.570. 1. A consumer legal funding company shall
- 2 not engage in the business of consumer legal funding in this

- 3 state unless it has first obtained a license from the 4 division of finance.
- 2. A consumer legal funding company's initial or renewal license application shall be in writing, made under oath, and on a form provided by the director.
- 3. Every consumer legal funding company, at the time of filing a license application, shall pay the sum of five hundred fifty dollars for the period ending the thirtieth day of June next following the date of payment; thereafter, a like fee shall be paid on or before June thirtieth of each year and shall be credited to the division of finance fund established under section 361.170.
- 4. A consumer legal funding license shall not be issued unless the division of finance, upon investigation, finds that the character and fitness of the applicant company, and of the officers and directors thereof, are such as to warrant belief that the business shall operate honestly and fairly within the purposes of sections 436.550 to 436.572.
- Every applicant shall also, at the time of filing 22 such application, file a bond satisfactory to the division 23 of finance in an amount not to exceed fifty thousand 24 25 The bond shall provide that the applicant shall 26 faithfully conform to and abide by the provisions of 27 sections 436.550 to 436.572, to all rules lawfully made by the director under sections 436.550 to 436.572, and the bond 28 shall act as a surety for any person or the state for any 29 and all amount of moneys that may become due or owing from 30 the applicant under and by virtue of sections 436.550 to 31 32 436.572, which shall include the result of any action that 33 occurred while the bond was in place for the applicable

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- period of limitations under statute and so long as the bond is not exhausted by valid claims.
- 6. If an action is commenced on a licensee's bond, the director may require the filling of a new bond. Immediately upon any recovery on the bond, the licensee shall file a new bond.
- 7. To ensure the effective supervision and enforcement of sections 436.550 to 436.572, the director may, under chapter 536:
- (1) Deny, suspend, revoke, condition, or decline to renew a license for a violation of sections 436.550 to 436.572, rules issued under sections 436.550 to 436.572, or order or directive entered under sections 436.550 to 436.572;
- 47 (2) Deny, suspend, revoke, condition, or decline to
 48 renew a license if an applicant or licensee fails at any
 49 time to meet the requirements of sections 436.550 to
 50 436.572, or withholds information or makes a material
 51 misstatement in an application for a license or renewal of a
 52 license;
- 53 (3) Order restitution against persons subject to 54 sections 436.550 to 436.572 for violations of sections 55 436.550 to 436.572; and
- 56 (4) Order or direct such other affirmative action as 57 the director deems necessary.
 - 8. Any letter issued by the director and declaring grounds for denying or declining to grant or renew a license may be appealed to the circuit court of Cole County. All other matters presenting a contested case involving a licensee may be heard by the director under chapter 536.
- 9. Notwithstanding the prior approval requirement of subsection 1 of this section, a consumer legal funding company that has applied with the division of finance

- between the effective date of sections 436.550 to 436.572,
- or when the division of finance has made applications
- 68 available to the public, whichever is later, and six months
- 69 thereafter may engage in consumer legal funding while the
- 70 license application of the company or an affiliate of the
- 71 company is awaiting approval by the division of finance and
- 72 until such time as the applicant has pursued all appellate
- 73 remedies and procedures for any denial of such application.
- 74 All funding contracts in effect prior to the effective date
- of sections 436.550 to 436.572 are not subject to the terms
- 76 of sections 436.550 to 436.572.
- 77 10. If it appears to the director that any consumer
- 78 legal funding company is failing, refusing, or neglecting to
- 79 make a good faith effort to comply with the provisions of
- 80 sections 436.550 to 436.572, or any laws or rules relating
- 81 to consumer legal funding, the director may issue an order
- 82 to cease and desist, which may be enforceable by a civil
- 83 penalty of not more than one thousand dollars per day for
- 84 each day that the neglect, failure, or refusal continues.
- 85 The penalty shall be assessed and collected by the
- 86 director. In determining the amount of the penalty, the
- 87 director shall take into account the appropriateness of the
- 88 penalty with respect to the gravity of the violation, any
- 89 history of previous violations, and any other matters
- 90 justice may require.
- 91 11. If any consumer legal funding company fails,
- 92 refuses, or neglects to comply with the provisions of
- 93 sections 436.550 to 436.572, or of any laws or rules
- 94 relating to consumer legal funding, its license may be
- 95 suspended or revoked by order of the director after a
- 96 hearing before said director on any order to show cause why
- 97 such order of suspension or revocation should not be entered

- 98 and that specifies the grounds therefor. Such an order 99 shall be served on the particular consumer legal funding 100 company at least ten days prior to the hearing. Any order 101 made and entered by the director may be appealed to the 102 circuit court of Cole County.
- 103 12. (1) The division shall conduct an examination of
 104 each consumer funding company at least once every twenty105 four months and at such other times as the director may
 106 determine.
- 107 (2) For any such investigation or examination, the
 108 director and his or her representatives shall have free and
 109 immediate access to the place or places of business and the
 110 books and records, and shall have the authority to place
 111 under oath all persons whose testimony may be required
 112 relative to the affairs and business of the consumer legal
 113 funding company.
- 114 The director may also make such special investigations or examination as the director deems 115 116 necessary to determine whether any consumer legal funding company has violated any of the provisions of sections 117 118 436.550 to 436.572 or rules promulgated thereunder, and the director may assess the reasonable costs of any 119 120 investigation or examination incurred by the division to the 121 company.
- The division of finance shall have the authority 122 to promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of sections 123 436.550 to 436.572. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that 124 125 term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under 126 the authority delegated in this section shall become 127 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of 128 the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 129 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and

- 130 if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
- 131 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
- date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
- 133 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
- authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,
- 135 2023, shall be invalid and void.
 - 436.572. A consumer legal funding contract is a fact subject to the usual rules of discovery.
 - 475.040. If it appears to the court, acting on the
 - 2 petition of the guardian, the conservator, the respondent or
 - 3 of a ward over the age of fourteen, or on its own motion, at
 - 4 any time before the termination of the guardianship or
 - 5 conservatorship, that the proceeding was commenced in the
 - 6 wrong county, or that the domicile [or residence] of the
 - 7 ward or protectee has [been] changed to another county, or
 - 8 in case of conservatorship of the estate that it would be
 - 9 for the best interest of the ward or disabled person and his
- 10 estate, the court may order the proceeding with all papers,
- 11 files and a transcript of the proceedings transferred to the
- 12 probate division of the circuit court of another county.
- 13 The court to which the transfer is made shall take
- 14 jurisdiction of the case, place the transcript of record and
- 15 proceed to the final settlement of the case as if the
- 16 appointment originally had been made by it.
 - 475.275. 1. The conservator, at the time of filing
- 2 any settlement with the court, shall exhibit all securities
- 3 or investments held by him to an officer of the bank or
- 4 other depositary wherein the securities or investments are
- 5 held for safekeeping or to an authorized representative of
- 6 the corporation which is surety on his bond, or to the judge
- 7 or clerk of a court of record in this state, or upon request
- 8 of the conservator or other interested party, to any other

- 9 reputable person designated by the court, who shall certify
- 10 in writing that he has examined the securities or
- 11 investments and identified them with those described in the
- 12 account and shall note any omission or discrepancies. If
- 13 the depositary is the conservator, the certifying officer
- 14 shall not be the officer verifying the account. The
- 15 conservator may exhibit the securities or investments to the
- 16 judge of the court, who shall endorse on the account and
- 17 copy thereof, a certificate that the securities or
- 18 investments shown therein as held by the conservator were
- 19 each in fact exhibited to him and that those exhibited to
- 20 him were the same as those in the account and noting any
- 21 omission or discrepancy. The certificate, and the
- 22 certificate of an official of the bank in which are
- 23 deposited any funds for which the conservator is
- 24 accountable, showing the amount on deposit, shall be
- 25 prepared and signed in duplicate and one of each shall be
- 26 filed by the conservator with his account.
- 2. (1) As used in and pursuant to this section, a
- 28 "pooled account" is an account within the meaning of this
- 29 section and means any account maintained by a fiduciary for
- 30 more than one principal and is established for the purpose
- 31 of managing and investing and to manage and invest the funds
- 32 of such principals. No fiduciary shall or may place funds
- into a pooled account unless the account meets the following
- 34 criteria:
- 35 (a) The pooled account is maintained at a bank or
- 36 savings and loan institution;
- 37 (b) The pooled account is titled in such a way as to
- 38 reflect that the account is being held by a fiduciary in a
- 39 custodial capacity;

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- 40 The fiduciary maintains, or causes to be maintained, records containing information as to the name 41 42 and ownership interest of each principal in the pooled 43 account:
- The fiduciary's records contain a statement of all 44 (d) accretions and disbursements; and 45
- The fiduciary's records are maintained in the 46 47 ordinary course of business and in good faith.
- (2) The public administrator of any county [with a 48 49 charter form of government and with more than six hundred thousand but less than seven hundred thousand inhabitants] 50 serving as a conservator or personal representative and 51 using and utilizing pooled accounts for the investing[, 52 investment,] and management of [conservatorship] estate 53 54 funds shall have any such accounts [audited] examined on at 55 least an annual basis [and no less than one time per year] 56 by an independent certified public accountant. [The audit provided shall review the records of the receipts and 57 58 disbursements of each estate account. Upon completion of the investigation, the certified public accountant shall 59 render a report to the judge of record in this state showing 60 the receipts, disbursements, and account balances as to each 61 estate and as well as the total assets on deposit in the 62 63 pooled account on the last calendar day of each year.] The 64 examination shall:
 - Compare the pooled account's year-end bank statement and obtain the reconciliation of the pooled account from the bank statement to the fiduciary's general ledger balance on the same day;
- Reconcile the total of individual accounts in the 70 fiduciary's records to the reconciled pooled account's 71 balance and note any difference;

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- 72 (c) Confirm if collateral is pledged to secure amounts 73 on deposit in the pooled account in excess of Federal 74 Deposit Insurance Corporation coverage; and
- 75 (d) Confirm the account balance with the financial 76 institution.
 - (3) A public administrator using and utilizing pooled accounts as provided by this section shall certify by affidavit that he or she has met the conditions for establishing a pooled account as set forth in subdivision (2) of this subsection.
 - audit] the report. If and where the public administrator has provided the judge with [the audit] the report pursuant to and required by this subsection and section, the public administrator shall not be required to obtain the written [certification] verification of an officer of a bank or other depository on any estate asset maintained within the pooled account as otherwise required in and under subsection 1 of this section.
- 476.055. 1. There is hereby established in the state 2 treasury the "Statewide Court Automation Fund". All moneys 3 collected pursuant to section 488.027, as well as gifts, contributions, devises, bequests, and grants received 4 5 relating to automation of judicial record keeping, and moneys received by the judicial system for the dissemination 6 of information and sales of publications developed relating 7 to automation of judicial record keeping, shall be credited 8 to the fund. Moneys credited to this fund may only be used 9 10 for the purposes set forth in this section and as appropriated by the general assembly. Any unexpended 11 balance remaining in the statewide court automation fund at 12 the end of each biennium shall not be subject to the 13

- 14 provisions of section 33.080 requiring the transfer of such
- unexpended balance to general revenue[; except that, any
- unexpended balance remaining in the fund on September 1,
- 2023, shall be transferred to general revenue].
- 18 2. The statewide court automation fund shall be
- 19 administered by a court automation committee consisting of
- 20 the following: the chief justice of the supreme court, a
- 21 judge from the court of appeals, four circuit judges, four
- 22 associate circuit judges, four employees of the circuit
- 23 court, two employees who work full-time in a municipal
- 24 division of a circuit court, the commissioner of
- 25 administration, two members of the house of representatives
- 26 appointed by the speaker of the house, two members of the
- 27 senate appointed by the president pro tem of the senate, the
- 28 executive director of the Missouri office of prosecution
- 29 services, the director of the state public defender system,
- 30 and two members of the Missouri Bar. The judge members and
- 31 employee members shall be appointed by the chief justice.
- 32 The commissioner of administration shall serve ex officio.
- 33 The members of the Missouri Bar shall be appointed by the
- 34 board of governors of the Missouri Bar. Any member of the
- 35 committee may designate another person to serve on the
- 36 committee in place of the committee member.
- 3. The committee shall develop and implement a plan
- 38 for a statewide court automation system. The committee
- 39 shall have the authority to hire consultants, review systems
- 40 in other jurisdictions and purchase goods and services to
- 41 administer the provisions of this section. The committee
- 42 may implement one or more pilot projects in the state for
- 43 the purposes of determining the feasibility of developing
- 44 and implementing such plan. The members of the committee
- 45 shall be reimbursed from the court automation fund for their

- 46 actual expenses in performing their official duties on the 47 committee.
- 4. Any purchase of computer software or computer
- 49 hardware that exceeds five thousand dollars shall be made
- 50 pursuant to the requirements of the office of administration
- 51 for lowest and best bid. Such bids shall be subject to
- 52 acceptance by the office of administration. The court
- 53 automation committee shall determine the specifications for
- 54 such bids.
- 55 5. The court automation committee shall not require
- 56 any circuit court to change any operating system in such
- 57 court, unless the committee provides all necessary
- 58 personnel, funds and equipment necessary to effectuate the
- 59 required changes. No judicial circuit or county may be
- 60 reimbursed for any costs incurred pursuant to this
- 61 subsection unless such judicial circuit or county has the
- 62 approval of the court automation committee prior to
- 63 incurring the specific cost.
- 6. Any court automation system, including any pilot
- 65 project, shall be implemented, operated and maintained in
- 66 accordance with strict standards for the security and
- 67 privacy of confidential judicial records. Any person who
- 68 knowingly releases information from a confidential judicial
- 69 record is guilty of a class B misdemeanor. Any person who,
- 70 knowing that a judicial record is confidential, uses
- 71 information from such confidential record for financial gain
- 72 is guilty of a class E felony.
- 7. On the first day of February, May, August and
- 74 November of each year, the court automation committee shall
- 75 file a report on the progress of the statewide automation
- 76 system with:
- 77 (1) The chair of the house budget committee;

- 78 (2) The chair of the senate appropriations committee;
- 79 (3) The chair of the house judiciary committee; and
- 80 (4) The chair of the senate judiciary committee.
- 8. [Section 488.027 shall expire on September 1,
- 82 2023.] The court automation committee established pursuant
- 83 to this section may continue to function until completion of
- its duties prescribed by this section[, but shall complete
- its duties prior to September 1, 2025.
- 9. This section shall expire on September 1, 2025].
- 476.1300. 1. Sections 476.1300 to 476.1310 shall be
- 2 known and may be cited as the "Judicial Privacy Act".
- 3 2. As used in sections 476.1300 to 476.1310, the
- 4 following terms mean:
- 5 (1) "Government agency", all agencies, authorities,
- 6 boards, commissions, departments, institutions, offices, and
- 7 any other bodies politic and corporate of the state created
- 8 by the constitution or statute, whether in the executive,
- 9 judicial, or legislative branch; all units and corporate
- 10 outgrowths created by executive order of the governor or any
- 11 constitutional officer, by the supreme court, or by
- 12 resolution of the general assembly; agencies, authorities,
- 13 boards, commissions, departments, institutions, offices, and
- 14 any other bodies politic and corporate of a political
- 15 subdivision, including school districts; and any public
- 16 governmental body as that term is defined in section 610.010;
- 17 (2) "Home address", a judicial officer's permanent
- 18 residence and any secondary residences affirmatively
- 19 identified by the judicial officer, but does not include a
- 20 judicial officer's work address;
- 21 (3) "Immediate family", a judicial officer's spouse,
- 22 child, adoptive child, foster child, parent, or any
- 23 unmarried companion of the judicial officer or other

- 24 familial relative of the judicial officer or the judicial
- officer's spouse who lives in the same residence;
- 26 (4) "Judicial officer", actively employed, formerly
 27 employed, or retired:
- 28 (a) Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States;
- 29 (b) Judges of the United States Court of Appeals;
- 30 (c) Judges and magistrate judges of the United States 31 District Courts;
- 32 (d) Judges of the United States Bankruptcy Court;
- 33 (e) Judges of the Missouri supreme court;
- 34 (f) Judges of the Missouri court of appeals;
- 35 (g) Judges and commissioners of the Missouri circuit 36 courts, including of the divisions of a circuit court; and
- 37 (h) Prosecuting or circuit attorney, or assistant 38 prosecuting or circuit attorney;
- 39 (5) "Personal information", a home address, home 40 telephone number, mobile telephone number, pager number, 41 personal email address, Social Security number, federal tax 42 identification number, checking and savings account numbers, 43 credit card numbers, marital status, and identity of
- 44 children under eighteen years of age;
- 45 (6) "Publicly available content", any written,
- 46 printed, or electronic document or record that provides
- 47 information or that serves as a document or record
- 48 maintained, controlled, or in the possession of a government
- 49 agency that may be obtained by any person or entity, from
- 50 the internet, from the government agency upon request either
- 51 free of charge or for a fee, or in response to a request
- 52 pursuant to chapter 610 or the federal Freedom of
- 53 Information Act, 5 U.S.C. Section 552, as amended;
- 54 (7) "Publicly post or display", to communicate to 55 another or to otherwise make available to the general public;

- 56 (8) "Written request", written or electronic notice 57 signed by:
- (a) A state judicial officer and submitted to the clerk of the Missouri supreme court or the clerk's designee;
- 60 or
- 61 (b) A federal judicial officer and submitted to that
- 62 judicial officer's clerk of the court or the clerk's
- 63 designee;
- 64 that is transmitted by the applicable clerk to a government
- 65 agency, person, business, or association to request such
- 66 government agency, person, business, or association refrain
- 67 from posting or displaying publicly available content that
- 68 includes the judicial officer's personal information.
 - 476.1302. 1. A government agency shall not publicly
- 2 post or display publicly available content that includes a
- 3 judicial officer's personal information, provided that the
- 4 government agency has received a written request that the
- 5 agency refrain from disclosing the judicial officer's
- 6 personal information. After a government agency has
- 7 received a written request, the government agency shall
- 8 remove the judicial officer's personal information from
- 9 publicly available content within five business days. After
- 10 the government agency has removed the judicial officer's
- 11 personal information from publicly available content, the
- 12 government agency shall not publicly post or display the
- 13 judicial officer's personal information and the judicial
- 14 officer's personal information shall be exempted from the
- 15 provisions of chapter 610, unless the government agency has
- 16 received written consent from the judicial officer to make
- 17 the personal information available to the public.

- 18 2. If a government agency fails to comply with a
- 19 written request to refrain from disclosing personal
- 20 information, the judicial officer may bring an action
- 21 seeking injunctive or declaratory relief in any court of
- 22 competent jurisdiction. If the court grants injunctive or
- 23 declaratory relief, the court may award costs and reasonable
- 24 attorney's fees to the judicial officer.
- 25 3. The provisions of subsection 1 of this section
- shall not apply to any government agency created under
- 27 section 43.020.
 - 476.1304. 1. No person, business, or association
- 2 shall publicly post or display on the internet publicly
- 3 available content that includes a judicial officer's
- 4 personal information, provided that the judicial officer has
- 5 made a written request to the person, business, or
- 6 association that it refrain from disclosing the personal
- 7 information.
- No person, business, or association shall solicit,
- 9 sell, or trade on the internet a judicial officer's personal
- 10 information for purposes of tampering with a judicial
- 11 officer in violation of section 575.095 or with the intent
- 12 to pose an imminent and serious threat to the health and
- 13 safety of the judicial officer or the judicial officer's
- 14 immediate family.
- 3. As prohibited in this section, persons, businesses,
- or associations posting, displaying, soliciting, selling, or
- 17 trading a judicial officer's personal information on the
- 18 internet includes, but is not limited to, internet phone
- 19 directories, internet search engines, internet data
- 20 aggregators, and internet service providers.
 - 476.1306. 1. After a person, business, or association
- 2 has received a written request from a judicial officer to

- 3 protect the privacy of the officer's personal information,
- 4 that person, business, or association shall have five
- 5 business days to remove the personal information from the
- 6 internet.
- 7 2. After a person, business, or association has
- 8 received a written request from a judicial officer, that
- 9 person, business, or association shall ensure that the
- 10 judicial officer's personal information is not made
- 11 available on any website or subsidiary website controlled by
- 12 that person, business, or association.
- 3. After receiving a judicial officer's written
- 14 request, no person, business, or association shall make
- 15 available the judicial officer's personal information to any
- other person, business, or association through any medium.
 - 476.1308. A judicial officer whose personal
- 2 information is made public as a result of a violation of
- 3 sections 476.1304 to 476.1306 may bring an action seeking
- 4 injunctive or declaratory relief in any court of competent
- 5 jurisdiction. If the court grants injunctive or declaratory
- 6 relief, the person, business, or association responsible for
- 7 the violation shall be required to pay the judicial
- 8 officer's costs and reasonable attorney's fees.
 - 476.1310. 1. No government agency, person, business,
- 2 or association shall be found to have violated any provision
- 3 of sections 476.1300 to 476.1310 if the judicial officer
- 4 fails to submit a written request calling for the protection
- of the judicial officer's personal information.
- 6 2. A written request shall be valid if:
- 7 (1) The judicial officer sends a written request
- 8 directly to a government agency, person, business, or
- 9 association; or

- 10 (2) The judicial officer complies with a Missouri
 11 supreme court rule for a state judicial officer to file the
 12 written request with the clerk of the Missouri supreme court
 13 or the clerk's designee to notify government agencies and
 14 such notice is properly delivered by mail or electronic
 15 format.
 - 3. In each quarter of a calendar year, the clerk of the Missouri supreme court or the clerk's designee shall provide a list of all state judicial officers who have submitted a written request under this section to the appropriate officer with ultimate supervisory authority for a government agency. The officer shall promptly provide a copy of the list to all government agencies under his or her supervision. Receipt of the written request list compiled by the clerk of the Missouri supreme court or the clerk's designee by a government agency shall constitute a written request to that government agency for the purposes of sections 476.1300 to 476.1310.
 - 4. The chief clerk or circuit clerk of the court where the judicial officer serves may submit a written request on the judicial officer's behalf, provided that the judicial officer gives written consent to the clerk and provided that the clerk agrees to furnish a copy of that consent when a written request is made. The chief clerk or circuit clerk shall submit the written request as provided by subsection 2 of this section.
- 5. A judicial officer's written request shall specify
 what personal information shall be maintained as private.

 If a judicial officer wishes to identify a secondary
 residence as a home address, the designation shall be made
 in the written request. A judicial officer shall disclose
 the identity of his or her immediate family and indicate

- 42 that the personal information of those members of the
- 43 immediate family shall also be excluded to the extent that
- 44 it could reasonably be expected to reveal the personal
- 45 information of the judicial officer. A judicial officer
- 46 shall make reasonable efforts to identify specific publicly
- 47 available content in the possession of a government agency.
- 48 6. A judicial officer's written request is valid until
- 49 the judicial officer provides the government agency, person,
- 50 business, or association with written consent to release the
- 51 personal information. A judicial officer's written request
- 52 expires on such judicial officer's death.
- 7. The provisions of sections 476.1300 to 476.1310
- 54 shall not apply to any disclosure of personal information of
- 55 a judicial officer or a member of a judicial officer's
- 56 immediate family as required by Article VIII, Section 23 of
- 57 the Missouri Constitution, sections 105.470 to 105.482,
- 58 section 105.498, and chapter 130.
 - 476.1313. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of
- law to the contrary, a recorder of deeds shall meet the
- 3 requirements of the provisions of sections 476.1300 to
- 4 476.1310 by complying with this section. As used in this
- 5 section, the following terms mean:
- 6 (1) "Eliqible documents", documents or instruments
- 7 that are maintained by and located in the office of the
- 8 recorder of deeds that are accessed electronically;
- 9 (2) "Immediate family", shall have the same meaning as
- 10 in section 476.1300;
- 11 (3) "Indexes", indexes maintained by and located in
- 12 the office of the recorder of deeds that are accessed
- 13 electronically;
- 14 (4) "Judicial officer", shall have the same meaning as
- 15 in section 476.1300;

- 16 (5) "Recorder of deeds", shall have the same meaning 17 as in section 59.005;
- 18 (6) "Shield", "shielded", or "shielding", a
- 19 prohibition against the general public's electronic access
- 20 to eligible documents and the unique identifier and
- 21 recording date contained in indexes for eligible documents;
- 22 (7) "Written request", written or electronic notice
- 23 signed by:
- 24 (a) A state judicial officer and submitted to the
- 25 clerk of the Missouri supreme court or the clerk's designee;
- 26 **or**
- 27 (b) A federal judicial officer and submitted to that
- 28 judicial officer's clerk of the court or the clerk's
- 29 designee;
- 30 that is transmitted electronically by the applicable clerk
- 31 to a recorder of deeds to request that eligible documents be
- 32 shielded.
- 33 2. Written requests transmitted to a recorder of deeds
- 34 shall only include information specific to eligible
- 35 documents maintained by that county. Any written request
- 36 transmitted to a recorder of deeds shall include the
- 37 requesting judicial officer's full legal name or legal alias
- 38 and a document locator number for each eligible document for
- 39 which the judicial officer is requesting shielding. If the
- 40 judicial officer is not a party to the instrument but is
- 41 requesting shielding for an eligible document in which an
- 42 immediate family member is a party to the instrument, the
- 43 full legal name or legal alias of the immediate family
- 44 member shall also be provided.
- 45 3. Not more than five business days after the date on
- 46 which the recorder of deeds receives the written request,

- the recorder of deeds shall shield the eligible documents
 listed in the written request. Within five business days of
 receipt, the recorder of deeds shall electronically reply to
 the written request with a list of any document locator
 numbers submitted under subsection 2 of this section not
 found in the records maintained by that recorder of deeds.
 - 4. If the full legal name or legal alias of the judicial officer or immediate family member provided does not appear on an eligible document listed in the written request, the recorder of deeds may electronically reply to the written request with this information. The recorder of deeds may delay shielding such eligible document until electronic confirmation is received from the applicable court clerk or judicial officer.
 - 5. In order to shield subsequent eligible documents, the judicial officer shall present to the recorder of deeds at the time of recording a copy of his or her written request. The recorder of deeds shall ensure that the eligible document is shielded within five business days.
 - 6. Eligible documents shall remain shielded until the recorder of deeds receives a court order or notarized affidavit signed by the judicial officer directing the recorder of deeds to terminate shielding.
 - 7. The provisions of this section shall not prohibit access to a shielded eligible document by an individual or entity that provides to the recorder of deeds a court order or notarized affidavit signed by the judicial officer.
 - 8. No recorder of deeds shall be liable for any damages under this section, provided the recorder of deeds made a good faith effort to comply with the provisions of this section. No recorder of deeds shall be liable for the release of any eligible document or any data from any

eligible document that was released or accessed prior to the eligible document being shielded pursuant to this section.

485.060. 1. Each court reporter for a circuit judge

- 2 shall receive an annual salary of twenty-six thousand nine
- 3 hundred dollars beginning January 1, 1985, until December
- 4 31, 1985, and beginning January 1, 1986, an annual salary of
- 5 thirty thousand dollars.
- 6 2. Such annual salary shall be modified by any salary 7 adjustment provided by section 476.405.
- 8 3. Beginning January 1, 2022, the annual salary, as
- 9 modified under section 476.405, shall be adjusted upon
- 10 meeting the minimum number of cumulative years of service as
- 11 a court reporter with a circuit court of this state by the
- 12 following schedule:
- 13 (1) For each court reporter with zero to five years of
- 14 service: the annual salary shall be increased only by any
- 15 salary adjustment provided by section 476.405;
- 16 (2) For each court reporter with six to ten years of
- 17 service: the annual salary shall be increased by the whole
- 18 sum of five and one-quarter percent in addition to the
- 19 increase provided by subdivision (1) of this subsection;
- 20 (3) For each court reporter with eleven to fifteen
- 21 years of service: the annual salary shall be increased by
- 22 the whole sum of eight and one-quarter percent in addition
- 23 to the increase provided by subdivision (2) of this
- 24 subsection;
- 25 (4) For each court reporter with sixteen to twenty
- years of service: the annual salary shall be increased by
- 27 the whole sum of eight and one-half percent in addition to
- 28 the increase provided by subdivision (3) of this subsection;
- **29** or

- 30 For each court reporter with twenty-one or more years of service: the annual salary shall be increased by 31 32 the whole sum of eight and three-quarters percent in 33 addition to the increase provided by subdivision (4) of this subsection. 34 35 [A court reporter may receive multiple adjustments under this subsection as his or her cumulative years of service 36 increase, but only one percentage listed in subdivisions (1) 37 to (5) of this subsection shall apply to the annual salary 38 39 at a time.] Salaries shall be payable in equal monthly 40 4. 41 installments on the certification of the judge of the court or division in whose court the reporter is employed. 42 43 paid by the state, the salaries of such court reporters shall be paid in semimonthly or monthly installments, as 44 45 designated by the commissioner of administration. 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to 2 the contrary, beginning August 28, [2009] 2023, pleadings, 3 attachments, [or] exhibits filed with the court in any case, as well as any judgments or orders issued by the court, or 4 5 other records of the court shall not include the following 6 confidential and personal identifying information: 7 The full Social Security number of any party or 8 any child [who is the subject to an order of custody or 9 support]; The full credit card number [or other], financial 10 institution account number, personal identification number, 11 or password used to secure an account of any party; 12
- 13 (3) The full motor vehicle operator license number;
- (4) Victim information, including the name, address, and other contact information of the victim;

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- 16 (5) Witness information, including the name, address, 17 and other contact information of the witness;
 - (6) Any other full state identification number;
- 19 (7) The name, address, and date of birth of a minor 20 and, if applicable, any next friend; or
- 21 (8) The full date of birth of any party; however, the 22 year of birth shall be made available, except for a minor.
- 23. The information provided under subsection 1 of this 24 section shall be provided in a confidential information 25 filing sheet contemporaneously filed with the court or 26 entered by the court, which shall not be subject to public 27 inspection or availability.
- 3. Nothing in this section shall preclude an entity including, but not limited to, a financial institution, insurer, insurance support organization, or consumer reporting agency that is otherwise permitted by law to access state court records from using a person's unique identifying information to match such information contained in a court record to validate that person's record.
 - 4. The Missouri supreme court shall promulgate rules to administer this section.
- 5. Contemporaneously with the filing of every petition for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, motion for modification, action to establish paternity, and petition or motion for support or custody of a minor child, the filing party shall file a confidential case filing sheet with the court which shall not be subject to public inspection and which provides:
- 44 (1) The name and address of the current employer and 45 the Social Security number of the petitioner or movant, if a 46 person;

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- 47 (2) If known to the petitioner or movant, the name and 48 address of the current employer and the Social Security 49 number of the respondent; and
- 50 (3) The names, dates of birth, and Social Security 51 numbers of any children subject to the action.
- [3.] 6. Contemporaneously with the filing of every responsive pleading petition for dissolution of marriage, legal separation, motion for modification, action to establish paternity, and petition or motion for support or custody of a minor child, the responding party shall file a confidential case filing sheet with the court which shall not be subject to public inspection and which provides:
- 59 (1) The name and address of the current employer and 60 the Social Security number of the responding party, if a 61 person;
 - (2) If known to the responding party, the name and address of the current employer and the Social Security number of the petitioner or movant; and
 - (3) The names, dates of birth, and Social Security numbers of any children subject to the action.
- [4.] 7. The full Social Security number of any party 67 or child subject to an order of custody or support shall be 68 retained by the court on the confidential case filing sheet 69 70 or other confidential record maintained in conjunction with the administration of the case. The full credit card number 71 72 or other financial account number of any party may be retained by the court on a confidential record if it is 73 necessary to maintain the number in conjunction with the 74 administration of the case. 75
- 76 [5.] 8. Any document described in subsection 1 of this 77 section shall, in lieu of the full number, include only the 78 last four digits of any such number.

- 79 [6.] 9. Except as provided in section 452.430, the 80 clerk shall not be required to redact any document described
- 81 in subsection 1 of this section issued or filed before
- 82 August 28, 2009, prior to releasing the document to the
- 83 public.
- [7.] 10. For good cause shown, the court may release
- 85 information contained on the confidential case filing sheet;
- 86 except that, any state agency acting under authority of
- 87 chapter 454 shall have access to information contained
- 88 herein without court order in carrying out their official
- 89 duty.
 - 565.240. 1. A person commits the offense of unlawful
- 2 posting of certain information over the internet if he or
- 3 she knowingly posts the name, home address, Social Security
- 4 number, telephone number, or any other personally
- 5 identifiable information of any person on the internet
- 6 intending to cause great bodily harm or death, or
- 7 threatening to cause great bodily harm or death to such
- 8 person.
- 9 2. The offense of unlawful posting of certain
- 10 information over the internet is a class C misdemeanor,
- 11 unless the person knowingly posts on the internet the name,
- 12 home address, Social Security number, telephone number, or
- any other personally identifiable information of any law
- 14 enforcement officer, corrections officer, parole officer,
- 15 judge, commissioner, or prosecuting attorney, or of any
- 16 immediate family member of such law enforcement officer,
- 17 corrections officer, parole officer, judge, commissioner, or
- 18 prosecuting attorney, intending to cause great bodily harm
- 19 or death, or threatening to cause great bodily harm or
- 20 death, in which case it is a class E felony, and if such
- 21 intention or threat results in bodily harm or death to such

- 22 person or immediate family member, the offense of unlawful
- 23 posting of certain information over the internet is a class
- 24 D felony.
 - 595.209. 1. The following rights shall automatically
- 2 be afforded to victims of dangerous felonies, as defined in
- 3 section 556.061, victims of murder in the first degree, as
- 4 defined in section 565.020, victims of voluntary
- 5 manslaughter, as defined in section 565.023, victims of any
- 6 offense under chapter 566, victims of an attempt to commit
- 7 one of the preceding crimes, as defined in section 562.012,
- 8 and victims of domestic assault, as defined in sections
- 9 565.072 to 565.076; and, upon written request, the following
- 10 rights shall be afforded to victims of all other crimes and
- vitnesses of crimes:
- 12 (1) For victims, the right to be present at all
- 13 criminal justice proceedings at which the defendant has such
- 14 right, including juvenile proceedings where the offense
- 15 would have been a felony if committed by an adult, even if
- 16 the victim is called to testify or may be called to testify
- 17 as a witness in the case;
- 18 (2) For victims, the right to information about the
- 19 crime, as provided for in subdivision (5) of this subsection;
- 20 (3) For victims and witnesses, to be informed, in a
- 21 timely manner, by the prosecutor's office of the filing of
- 22 charges, preliminary hearing dates, trial dates,
- 23 continuances and the final disposition of the case. Final
- 24 disposition information shall be provided within five days;
- 25 (4) For victims, the right to confer with and to be
- 26 informed by the prosecutor regarding bail hearings, guilty
- 27 pleas, pleas under chapter 552 or its successors, hearings,
- 28 sentencing and probation revocation hearings and the right
- 29 to be heard at such hearings, including juvenile

- proceedings, unless in the determination of the court the interests of justice require otherwise;
- 32 (5) The right to be informed by local law enforcement 33 agencies, the appropriate juvenile authorities or the 34 custodial authority of the following:
- 35 (a) The status of any case concerning a crime against 36 the victim, including juvenile offenses;
- 37 The right to be informed by local law enforcement agencies or the appropriate juvenile authorities of the 38 39 availability of victim compensation assistance, assistance in obtaining documentation of the victim's losses, 40 including, but not limited to and subject to existing law 41 42 concerning protected information or closed records, access to copies of complete, unaltered, unedited investigation 43 reports of motor vehicle, pedestrian, and other similar 44 45 accidents upon request to the appropriate law enforcement agency by the victim or the victim's representative, and 46 emergency crisis intervention services available in the 47 48 community;
- 49 (c) Any release of such person on bond or for any 50 other reason;
- 51 (d) Within twenty-four hours, any escape by such 52 person from a municipal detention facility, county jail, a 53 correctional facility operated by the department of 54 corrections, mental health facility, or the division of 55 youth services or any agency thereof, and any subsequent 56 recapture of such person;
- 57 (6) For victims, the right to be informed by
 58 appropriate juvenile authorities of probation revocation
 59 hearings initiated by the juvenile authority and the right
 60 to be heard at such hearings or to offer a written
 61 statement, video or audio tape, counsel or a representative

- 62 designated by the victim in lieu of a personal appearance,
- 63 the right to be informed by the board of probation and
- 64 parole of probation revocation hearings initiated by the
- 65 board and of parole hearings, the right to be present at
- 66 each and every phase of parole hearings, the right to be
- 67 heard at probation revocation and parole hearings or to
- offer a written statement, video or audio tape, counsel or a
- 69 representative designated by the victim in lieu of a
- 70 personal appearance, and the right to have, upon written
- 71 request of the victim, a partition set up in the probation
- 72 or parole hearing room in such a way that the victim is
- 73 shielded from the view of the probationer or parolee, and
- 74 the right to be informed by the custodial mental health
- 75 facility or agency thereof of any hearings for the release
- of a person committed pursuant to the provisions of chapter
- 77 552, the right to be present at such hearings, the right to
- 78 be heard at such hearings or to offer a written statement,
- 79 video or audio tape, counsel or a representative designated
- 80 by the victim in lieu of personal appearance;
- 81 (7) For victims and witnesses, upon their written
- 82 request, the right to be informed by the appropriate
- 83 custodial authority, including any municipal detention
- 84 facility, juvenile detention facility, county jail,
- 85 correctional facility operated by the department of
- 86 corrections, mental health facility, division of youth
- 87 services or agency thereof if the offense would have been a
- 88 felony if committed by an adult, postconviction or
- 89 commitment pursuant to the provisions of chapter 552 of the
- 90 following:
- 91 (a) The projected date of such person's release from
- 92 confinement;
- 93 (b) Any release of such person on bond;

- 94 (c) Any release of such person on furlough, work 95 release, trial release, electronic monitoring program, or to 96 a community correctional facility or program or release for 97 any other reason, in advance of such release;
- 98 (d) Any scheduled parole or release hearings,
 99 including hearings under section 217.362, regarding such
 100 person and any changes in the scheduling of such hearings.
 101 No such hearing shall be conducted without thirty days'
 102 advance notice;
- (e) Within twenty-four hours, any escape by such
 person from a municipal detention facility, county jail, a
 correctional facility operated by the department of
 corrections, mental health facility, or the division of
 youth services or any agency thereof, and any subsequent
 recapture of such person;
- (f) Any decision by a parole board, by a juvenile releasing authority or by a circuit court presiding over releases pursuant to the provisions of chapter 552, or by a circuit court presiding over releases under section 217.362, to release such person or any decision by the governor to commute the sentence of such person or pardon such person;
- 115 (g) Notification within thirty days of the death of 116 such person;
- 117 (8) For witnesses who have been summoned by the
 118 prosecuting attorney and for victims, to be notified by the
 119 prosecuting attorney in a timely manner when a court
 120 proceeding will not go on as scheduled;
- 121 (9) For victims and witnesses, the right to reasonable
 122 protection from the defendant or any person acting on behalf
 123 of the defendant from harm and threats of harm arising out
 124 of their cooperation with law enforcement and prosecution
 125 efforts;

- (10) For victims and witnesses, on charged cases or 126 127 submitted cases where no charge decision has yet been made, 128 to be informed by the prosecuting attorney of the status of the case and of the availability of victim compensation 129 130 assistance and of financial assistance and emergency and 131 crisis intervention services available within the community and information relative to applying for such assistance or 132 133 services, and of any final decision by the prosecuting
- (11) For victims, to be informed by the prosecuting attorney of the right to restitution which shall be enforceable in the same manner as any other cause of action as otherwise provided by law;

attorney not to file charges;

- (12) For victims and witnesses, to be informed by the court and the prosecuting attorney of procedures to be followed in order to apply for and receive any witness fee to which they are entitled;
- When a victim's property is no longer needed for 143 144 evidentiary reasons or needs to be retained pending an appeal, the prosecuting attorney or any law enforcement 145 agency having possession of the property shall, upon request 146 147 of the victim, return such property to the victim within five working days unless the property is contraband or 148 149 subject to forfeiture proceedings, or provide written explanation of the reason why such property shall not be 150 151 returned;
- 152 (14) An employer may not discharge or discipline any
 153 witness, victim or member of a victim's immediate family for
 154 honoring a subpoena to testify in a criminal proceeding,
 155 attending a criminal proceeding, or for participating in the
 156 preparation of a criminal proceeding, or require any
 157 witness, victim, or member of a victim's immediate family to

- use vacation time, personal time, or sick leave for honoring a subpoena to testify in a criminal proceeding, attending a criminal proceeding, or participating in the preparation of a criminal proceeding;
- 162 (15) For victims, to be provided with creditor
 163 intercession services by the prosecuting attorney if the
 164 victim is unable, as a result of the crime, temporarily to
 165 meet financial obligations;
- 166 (16) For victims and witnesses, the right to speedy 167 disposition of their cases, and for victims, the right to speedy appellate review of their cases, provided that 168 nothing in this subdivision shall prevent the defendant from 169 having sufficient time to prepare such defendant's defense. 170 171 The attorney general shall provide victims, upon their 172 written request, case status information throughout the 173 appellate process of their cases. The provisions of this 174 subdivision shall apply only to proceedings involving the particular case to which the person is a victim or witness; 175
- (17) For victims and witnesses, to be provided by the court, a secure waiting area during court proceedings and to receive notification of the date, time and location of any hearing conducted by the court for reconsideration of any sentence imposed, modification of such sentence or recall and release of any defendant from incarceration;
- 182 (18) For victims, the right to receive upon request
 183 from the department of corrections a photograph taken of the
 184 defendant prior to release from incarceration.
- 2. The provisions of subsection 1 of this section
 shall not be construed to imply any victim who is
 incarcerated by the department of corrections or any local
 law enforcement agency has a right to be released to attend
 any hearing or that the department of corrections or the

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- 190 local law enforcement agency has any duty to transport such
 191 incarcerated victim to any hearing.
- 3. Those persons entitled to notice of events pursuant to the provisions of subsection 1 of this section shall provide the appropriate person or agency with their current addresses, electronic mail addresses, and telephone numbers or the addresses, electronic mail addresses, or telephone numbers at which they wish notification to be given.
 - 4. Notification by the appropriate person or agency utilizing the statewide automated crime victim notification system as established in section 650.310 shall constitute compliance with the victim notification requirement of this section. If notification utilizing the statewide automated crime victim notification system cannot be used, then written notification shall be sent by certified mail or electronic mail to the most current address or electronic mail address provided by the victim.
- 5. Victims' rights as established in Section 32 of 207 Article I of the Missouri Constitution or the laws of this 208 state pertaining to the rights of victims of crime shall be 209 granted and enforced regardless of the desires of a 210 defendant and no privileges of confidentiality shall exist 211 212 in favor of the defendant to exclude victims or prevent 213 their full participation in each and every phase of parole 214 hearings or probation revocation hearings. The rights of 215 the victims granted in this section are absolute and the policy of this state is that the victim's rights are 216 paramount to the defendant's rights. The victim has an 217 absolute right to be present at any hearing in which the 218 219 defendant is present before a probation and parole hearing 220 officer.

[217.785. 1. As used in this section, the term "Missouri postconviction drug treatment program" means a program of noninstitutional and institutional correctional programs for the monitoring, control and treatment of certain drug abuse offenders.

- 2. The department of corrections shall establish by regulation the "Missouri Postconviction Drug Treatment Program". The program shall include noninstitutional and institutional placement. The institutional phase of the program may include any offender under the supervision and control of the department of corrections. The department shall establish rules determining how, when and where an offender shall be admitted into or removed from the program.
- 3. Any first-time offender who has been found quilty of violating the provisions of chapter 195 or 579, or whose controlled substance abuse was a precipitating or contributing factor in the commission of his offense, and who is placed on probation may be required to participate in the noninstitutional phase of the program, which may include education, treatment and rehabilitation programs. Persons required to attend a program pursuant to this section may be charged a reasonable fee to cover the costs of the program. Failure of an offender to complete successfully the noninstitutional phase of the program shall be sufficient cause for the offender to be remanded to the sentencing court for assignment to the institutional phase of the program or any other authorized disposition.
- 4. A probationer shall be eliqible for assignment to the institutional phase of the postconviction drug treatment program if he has failed to complete successfully the noninstitutional phase of the program. If space is available, the sentencing court may assign the offender to the institutional phase of the program as a special condition of probation, without the necessity of formal revocation of probation.
- 5. The availability of space in the institutional program shall be determined by the department of corrections. If the sentencing court is advised that there is no space available, then the court shall consider other authorized dispositions.
- 6. Any time after ninety days and prior to one hundred twenty days after assignment of the offender to the institutional phase of the program, the department shall submit to the court a report outlining the performance of the offender in the program. If the department

determines that the offender will not participate or has failed to complete the program, the department shall advise the sentencing court, who shall cause the offender to be brought before the court for consideration of revocation of the probation or other authorized disposition. If the offender successfully completes the program, the department shall release the individual to the appropriate probation and parole district office and so advise the court.

7. Time spent in the institutional phase

7. Time spent in the institutional phase of the program shall count as time served on the sentence.]

[488.650. There shall be assessed as costs a surcharge in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars on all petitions for expungement filed under the provisions of section 610.140. The judge may waive the surcharge if the petitioner is found by the judge to be indigent and unable to pay the costs. Such surcharge shall be collected and disbursed by the clerk of the court as provided by sections 488.010 to 488.020. Moneys collected from this surcharge shall be payable to the general revenue fund.]