AARON J. TOLSON
(Client Assistance Fund Payment)

On October 5, 2026, the Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners entered an Order that concluded Aaron J. Tolson engaged in Dishonest Conduct by refusing to refund an advance payment of fees that he had not earned or incurred, as required by Rule 1.16 of the Idaho Rules of Professional Conduct. The evidence showed that Claimant paid Mr. Tolson a $5,000 retainer to represent her in divorce proceedings. Claimant then gave Mr. Tolson an additional $30,000 to hold in trust. Thereafter, Mr. Tolson ignored Claimant's requests to return the money that had not been earned. The Board recognized that pursuant to Idaho Bar Commission Rule 606, "the maximum amount that may be recovered from the [Client Assistance] Fund arising from an instance or course of Dishonest Conduct by a Lawyer is $25,000." The Board ordered Claimant should be reimbursed the maximum amount authorized by the Fund based on Mr. Tolson's failure to refund the advance payment of fees that had not been earned or incurred and ordered Claimant be reimbursed $25,000.

Inquiries about this matter may be directed to Bar Counsel, Idaho State Bar, P.O. Box 895, Boise, Idaho 83701, (208) 334-4500