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Christopher Roberts
Director

MEMORANDUM

To: All Indigent Defense Attorneys and Investigators

Form: Chris E. Roberts *CR*
Division Director, Office of Indigent Defense Services

Date: June 14, 2017

Re: *Payment of Investigators from Fair Trial Tax Fund*

Alabama Code Section 34-25B-3 became effective as of August 1, 2013. That Code section provides "no person shall practice private investigation or hold himself or herself out to the public as a private investigator or use any term, title or abbreviation that expresses, infers or implies that the person is licensed as a private investigator, unless the person at the time holds a valid license to practice private investigation as provided in this chapter." Licensing of private investigators is under the auspices of the Alabama Private Investigation Board pursuant to Alabama Code Section 34-25B-1, et.seq. Administrative Rule 355-9-1.07, available at <http://oids.alabama.gov/pdfs/oidsadmrules.pdf> provides that payment of expenses related to the employment of experts, investigators and court reporters will be in accordance with Alabama law. As such, it is the policy of OIDS that any investigator retained by counsel for the provision of indigent defense services pursuant to Alabama Code §15-12-21(d)(6) must be licensed, or exempted from licensing, pursuant to §34-25B-1, et seq. to receive reimbursement from the Fair Trial Tax Fund.