# Department of Law – Civil Division
# Judgments/Claims Settlements for Payment

*This form will be used for the purpose of standardizing the submission of claims to the legislature. Complete and accurate information will expedite payment to the claimants, thereby reducing the amount of interest required to be paid by the state. This form and any attachments will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget. After obtaining the required signatures, please submit this form to the department's Budget Manager, Administrative Services Division, P.O. Box 110300, Juneau, AK 99811, or call (907) 465-3674 with questions.*

## PART ONE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **CASE NAME:** | *Blanford v. Dunleavy* | | |
| **CASE NUMBER:** | 3:19-cv-00036-JWS | | |
| **JUDGE(S)/JUSTICES:** | Sedwick | | |
| **JUDGMENT ENTERED:** | | | |
| **THE CAUSE OF ACTION:** | ☐ Occurred *before* August 7, 1997<br>☑ Occurred *on or after* August 7, 1997 | | |
| **PROLAW NUMBER:** | N/A | | |
| **AMOUNT TO BE PAID:** | $ 495,000 ($220K Anthony Blanford, $275K John Bellville) | | |
| **INTEREST RATE:** | N/A | **EFFECTIVE DATE:** | |
| **REQUESTED HOURLY RATE AND TOTAL COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEYS TO BE PAID:** | $ | | |
| **COURT APPROVED / ORDERED HOURLY RATE AND TOTAL COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEYS TO BE PAID:** | $ | | |
| **SEND CHECK TO:** | ☑ SEND CHECK TO THIS ADDRESS:<br>c/o Stephen Koteff, Legal Director, ACLU of Alaska Foundation<br>1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 207<br>Anchorage, AK 99503<br><br>☐ SEND CHECK TO DEPT CONTACT: | | |

## PART TWO

*This information needs to be provided on all judgment awards and/or settlements made against the State of Alaska.*

**1. Describe the circumstances or events resulting in this case and ultimately this judgment/settlement against the State.**

Mr. Blanford and Mr. Bellville were employed at the Alaska Psychiatric Institute during the transition of administrations and were asked to submit resignations for the new adminsitration to determine whether it wanted to retain them. The plaintiffs refused to submit a resignation letter and were terminated for that failure. The federal district court determined that the termination was wrongful. Defendants, Governor Dunleavy and Tuckerman Babcock, filed an interlocutory appeal on the issue of qualified immunity. Instead of proceeding further with the case, the parties settled.

**2. Describe issues of state policy or law involved in this case, if they are relevant to and resulted in substantial effort and expense for the department to bring or defend this case.**

The State employed outside counsel to represent the defendants in this case. The main issues in the case focused on whether or not Mr. Blanford and Mr. Bellville were considered "policymakers," and whether qualified immunity applied to the governor and the chief of staff.

**3. Did the State prevail on any issues? If yes, describe.**

No.

**4. Did we challenge plaintiff's request for costs and fees or in other ways seek to reduce the costs to the State? If so, describe to what extent we were successful.**

N/A

**5. What was the source of the State's liability in this case?**

Employment actions taken by the administration.

**6. What, if any, preventative action has been taken by the involved agency to prevent or reduce the potential for such liability in the future?**

**7. If the information is available to you, has the agency involved taken any corrective action as a result of this case? If the information is not protected from publication by statute, privilege, or right to privacy, indicate what the corrective action was.**

**8. Any recommendations concerning cases of this type in the future?**

**9. Any recommendations for changes in statutes, regulations, or policy? Cite any applicable statutes or regulations.**

## APPROVALS

**Lead Attorney** **Date**

**Name** Cori Mills
**Title** Deputy Attorney General
**Phone** 907-465-2132

**Section Chief** **Date**

Cori Mills Digitally signed by Cori Mills Date: 2022.02.03 13:01:39 -09'00' 2/3/22

**Deputy AG or Delegate** **Date**

**Required attachments may include**

- Judgment or Order Awarding Fees/Costs
- Copy of the settlement outlining payment terms
- EIN/SSN information for payment
- W9 for Division of Finance, if requested

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