# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND Crownsville, Maryland

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS June 30, 2008 and 2007

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Commissioners Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of Attorney Grievance Commission of the Maryland Court of Appeals of the State of Maryland as of June 30, 2008, and the related statements of budget, receipts, expenditures and fund balance for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. The financial statements of Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland as of June 30, 2007 were audited by other auditors whose report dated September 15, 2007 on those statements was qualified because of the departures from generally accepted accounting principles described in the third paragraph.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The Commission declined to present statements of cash flows for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007. Presentation of such statement summarizing the Commission's operating, investing, and financing activities is required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, as more fully described in Note 1, the Commission has expensed property and equipment at the date of purchase. In our opinion, property and equipment should be recorded at cost, if purchased, or at fair value, if received by donation or contribution, to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and those amounts should be depreciated over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matters discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland as of June 30, 2008 and 2007, and the results of its operations for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Annapolis, Maryland October 3, 2008

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# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND BALANCE SHEETS June 30, 2008 and 2007

# **ASSETS**

	2008	2007
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 85,032	\$ 177,144
Investments - U.S. Treasury Bills	4,916,897	3,574,528
Due from Client Protection Fund	66,357	74,136
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 5,068,286	\$ 3,825,808
LIABILITIES AND FUR	ND BALANCE	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	\$ 6,489	\$ 12,185
Accrued compensated absences	177,037	149,288
Total liabilities	183,526	161,473
FUND BALANCE		
Undesignated	4,884,760	3,664,335
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$ 5,068,286	\$ 3,825,808

# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND STATEMENTS OF BUDGET, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCE

Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

	2008						2007						
		Budget		Actual		Variance Positive (Negative)		Budget		Actual		Variance Positive (Negative)	
RECEIPTS						<u> </u>		3					
Attorney assessments	\$	3,694,000	\$	3,912,493	\$	218,493	\$	3,562,900	\$	3,687,054	\$	124,154	
Investment income		85,000		213,867		128,867		60,000		163,769		103,769	
Recovered court costs		15,000		13,939		(1,061)		13,000		49,317		36,317	
Fees from CPF - administrator		114,863		110,936		(3,927)		100,155		99,393		(762)	
Fees from CPF - secretarial		53,401		52,932		(469)		99,158		97,480		(1,678)	
Fees from CPF - administrative assistant		69,545		69,858		313		63,783		15,746		(48,037)	
Total receipts		4,031,809		4,374,026		342,217		3,898,996		4,112,759		213,763	
EXPENDITURES													
Salary - bar counsel		120,592		120,592		-		115,954		115,954		-	
- deputy bar counsel		98,500		98,500		-		94,568		94,568		-	
- assistant bar counsel		494,422		483,925		10,497		509,502		458,088		51,414	
- investigators		360,707		360,977		(270)		423,898		339,012		84,886	
- office mgr. & admn. assistant		111,080		111,080		-		99,720		99,720		-	
- paralegal		87,719		90,987		(3,268)		81,421		81,421		-	
- secretaries		325,493		310,662		14,831		332,787		271,855		60,932	
- CPF - secretarial		32,971		32,971		-		70,435		72,471		(2,036)	
- CPF - administrator		82,638		82,638		-		71,188		71,188		-	
- CPF - administrative assistant		44,985		59,659		(14,674)		42,443		-		42,443	
- Lawyer counseling		111,613		111,438		175		114,311		114,311		-	
- Executive secretary		93,998		93,998		-		86,411		86,411		-	
FICA		118,154		112,604		5,550		122,031		103,778		18,253	
Medicare		27,632		26,619		1,013		28,540		24,560		3,980	
Employee benefits		645,848		538,825		107,023		611,466		493,078		118,388	
Telephone		20,000		10,435		9,565		20,000		11,854		8,146	
Photocopy		10,000		10,516		(516)		10,000		7,211		2,789	
Postage meter		6,000		4,450		1,550		5,700		5,160		540	
Office supplies		30,000		22,170		7,830		30,000		22,258		7,742	
Postage		30,000		23,147		6,853		25,000		18,181		6,819	
Insurance and bonds		11,500		10,383		1,117		11,500		8,475		3,025	
Travel and mileage		50,000		50,507		(507)		45,000		51,487		(6,487)	
Equipment maintenance		9,100		3,932		5,168		7,300		6,739		561	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND STATEMENTS OF BUDGET, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCE

# Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

(Continued)

	2008					2007						
	Budget			Variance Positive Actual (Negative)			Budget	Actual		Variance Positive (Negative)		
EXPENDITURES (Continued)		3				3 /		3				<u> </u>
Dues/professional organizations	\$	8,000	\$	5,239	\$	2,761	\$	8,000	\$	4,518	\$	3,482
Investigator/related costs		55,000		85,946		(30,946)		55,000		36,764		18,236
Depositions and transcripts		23,000		20,297		2,703		23,000		22,151		849
Expenses - commission		14,000		11,709		2,291		13,000		10,250		2,750
Peer Review Committee		98,552		62,641		35,911		92,281		52,810		39,471
Audit		9,600		11,100		(1,500)		9,000		9,000		-
Outside services		5,000		10,175		(5,175)		5,000		2,485		2,515
Office furniture and equipment		25,000		82,433		(57,433)		25,000		16,562		8,438
Training seminars		10,000		(498)		10,498		7,000		1,783		5,217
Law library		12,000		12,166		(166)		11,000		11,547		(547)
Legal secretary		43,341		43,341		-		39,912		39,912		-
Office supplies		1,800		917		883		1,800		1,627		173
Mailing costs		2,500		5,000		(2,500)		2,500		1,064		1,436
Equipment purchases		5,500		-		5,500		5,500		-		5,500
Equipment maintenance		4,800		4,273		527		4,800		3,865		935
Telephone		3,000		-		3,000		3,000		180		2,820
Miscellaneous		500		97		403						
Compensated absences				27,749		(27,749)				5,923		(5,923)
Total Expenditures	\$	3,244,545	\$	3,153,601	\$	90,944	\$	3,264,968	\$	2,778,221	\$	486,747
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER												
EXPENDITURES	\$	787,264	\$	1,220,425	\$	251,273	\$	634,028	\$	1,334,538	\$	700,510
UNDESIGNATED NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR			\$	3,664,335					\$	2,329,797		
UNDESIGNATED NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR			\$	4,884,760					\$	3,664,335		

# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2008 and 2007

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES

### **Nature of the Organization**

The Commission was authorized and created by the Court of Appeals of Maryland on February 10, 1975 to supervise and administer the discipline and inactive status of attorneys under Maryland Rules of Procedure - Chapter 1100. Significant accounting policies followed by the Commission are presented below.

#### **Basis of Accounting**

As an instrumentality of the State of Maryland, the Commission maintains its accounting records on a basis consistent with a governmental special revenue fund. These funds are used to account for the proceeds of revenue sources that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. These financial statements reflect only the activity of this fund.

## **Attorney Assessments**

Attorney assessments are received through payments made by attorneys to the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland on a billing which includes assessment for both the Fund and the Commission.

The assessment for the Commission for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was \$115 and \$110, respectively, for each attorney in practice. The number of practicing attorneys assessed during the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 was 33,934 and 33,698, respectively.

#### **Income Tax Status**

The Commission is an instrumentality of the State of Maryland and as such is not subject to income taxes. Accordingly, no provision has been made.

## **Cash and Equivalents**

Cash and equivalents represent cash held in checking, savings and money market accounts.

#### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ form those estimates.

#### **Property and Equipment**

As an instrumentality of the State of Maryland, the Commission customarily budgets for and expenses property and equipment in the year of purchase. The historical cost of these assets still on hand amounted to \$496,428 at June 30, 2008 and \$412,274 at June 30, 2007.

#### **Investments**

The Commission invests in US Government securities, including Treasury Bills and Treasury notes. Investments are recorded at market value as of the balance sheet date.

# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS June 30, 2008 and 2007

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES - (continued)

### **Compensated Absences**

The entity accrues a liability for annual leave which has been earned but not taken by the employees. Employees can earn a maximum of 25 days for annual leave a year. Annual leave can be accumulated up to 35 days. There is no requirement that annual leave be taken in the year earned. Upon termination, employees are paid for any accumulated annual leave. Employees hired after 1988 are not reimbursed for accumulated sick leave. Payments made to employees for sick leave are recorded as expenses when paid.

#### **NOTE 2 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Commission has significant transactions with the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland, an instrumentality of the State of Maryland. All assessments of the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland and the Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland are billed and collected by the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland and the Commission's portion is transferred periodically by a bank transfer.

At June 30, 2008 and 2007, the Client Protection Fund of the Bar of Maryland owed the Commission \$58,432 and \$74,136, respectively, for assessments and fees not yet remitted. They also incurred fees in the amount of \$233,727 and \$212,619 to the Commission for labor used in the billing and collection process for the years ending June 30, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

#### **NOTE 3 - BOND**

The Commission has a \$3,000,000 blanket crime protection insurance policy in effect for employee dishonesty.

#### **NOTE 4 - PENSION PLAN**

A defined contribution pension plan for full-time employees of the Commission was adopted with an effective date of July 1, 1976.

Contributions to the plan during the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2007 were \$266,156 and \$256,414, respectively. This amount is equal to 15% of the participant's compensation.

All contributions due have been paid and no prior service liability existed at June 30, 2008 and 2007.

# ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMISSION OF MARYLAND NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS June 30, 2008 and 2007

## **NOTE 5 – INVESTMENTS**

For the years ending June 30, 2008 and 2007, investment income consisted of the following:

Year ending	June	30, 2008	June :	30, 2007
Interest Income	\$	223,516	\$	156,446
Realized Gain/(Loss)		(313)		-
Unrealized Gain/(Loss)		(9,336)		7,323
Total Investment Income	\$	213,867	\$	163,769