

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

One Ashburton Place, 9th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02108 (617) 727-5000 MACOMPTROLLER.ORG



May 8, 2024

Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues, Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means State House – Room 212 Boston, MA 02133

Honorable Aaron Michlewitz, Chair House Committee on Ways and Means State House – Room 243 Boston, MA 02133

RE: Settlements and Judgments Report —Fiscal Year 2024 Quarter 3

Dear Chair Rodrigues and Chair Michlewitz:

Pursuant to Section 2 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023, the Office of the Comptroller hereby submits to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means a report on payments from the Settlements and Judgments reserve (1599-3384) for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

The Settlements & Judgements reserve entered Fiscal Year 2024 in a strong position because of the substantial \$15 million appropriation included by the Legislature in the General Appropriation Act. As previously reported, the fund was depleted by claims received in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2. An additional \$358,205.00 in claims was paid out during Quarter 3, using the "spend in anticipation" authorization.

FY24 – Spending Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024)		
Original Appropriation	\$15,000,000.00	
Spend in Anticipation mechanism*	\$725,854.00	
Quarter 1 Spending	(\$4,549,010.00)	
Quarter 2 Spending	(\$10,812,879.00)	
Quarter 3 Spending	(\$358,205.00)	
Reserve Balance as of March 31, 2024	\$5,760.00	

<sup>\*</sup> The "spend in anticipation" mechanism provided in the FY24 GAA allows payments to be made beyond the appropriated fund availability up to a defined ceiling, determined by the average of five years of payment history.

Settlements and Judgements Report – Fiscal Year 2024 Quarter 3 May 8, 2024

A detailed report is attached that provides information on payees, amounts, and the associated department or agency for settlements and judgments paid during Quarter 3 from appropriation account 1599-3384. This information is also posted quarterly on the Comptroller's transparency website, CTHRU, which may be accessed via this portal link, <a href="https://www.macomptroller.org/cthru">https://www.macomptroller.org/cthru</a>.

Although the reporting period covered in this report ends March 31, 2024, the Fiscal Year 2024 Supplemental Budget that was enacted in recent weeks has provided an additional \$15 million appropriation to the reserve. Claims have accumulated in the period between the depletion of the reserve and the additional funding. On a rough basis, there are more than 50 claims, totaling more than \$12 million, that we are now in the process of paying.

We will monitor activity and the reserve balance through the end of Fiscal Year 2024.

Sincerely,

—DocuSigned by:

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William McNamara

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Comptroller of the Commonwealth

WMcN/jc

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cc: Matthew Gorzkowicz, Secretary, Executive Office for Administration and Finance Danielle Cerny, Chief of Staff, Executive Office for Administration and Finance Christopher Marino, Assistant Secretary of Budget, Executive Office for Administration and Finance

Martha Kwasnik, General Counsel, Executive Office for Administration and Finance Brian Melanson, Director of Operations, Executive Office for Administration and Finance

Christopher Czepiel, Budget Director, Senate Committee on Ways and Means Brian Donahue, Budget Director, House Committee on Ways and Means Thomas Smith-Vaughan, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Comptroller Tryntje Bumgardner, Assistant Comptroller for Payroll and Payments, Office of the Comptroller

Amy Nable, General Counsel / Assistant Comptroller, Office of the Comptroller Jessica Cogswell, Statewide Payments and Tax Reporting Officer, Office of the Comptroller

## FY24 Q3 Settlement and Judgment Payments Appropriation 1599-3384

Third Quarter BFY2	<del>2</del> 024		
Paid on Behalf of	Payee Name	Payment Date	Line Amount
DSS	Joseph, Stephanie B	03-Jan-24	\$101,567.00
EHS	Guerra Castillo, Emilio Jose	03-Jan-24	\$55,000.00
SDN	Van Ness, Jared M	31-Jan-24	\$29,204.00
SSA	Carr, Jennifer A	10-Feb-24	\$250.00
NEC	Clemenzi, Gayle	10-Feb-24	\$3,000.00
SSA	CRONIN LAW P.C.	08-Jan-24	\$1,000.00
SSA	CRONIN LAW P.C.	08-Jan-24	\$4,377.49
AGO	THOMAS J O'CONNOR JR	09-Feb-24	\$12,625.55
AGO	EDWARD B FOGARTY	14-Feb-24	\$5,500.00
DDS	CHETAN TIWARI	04-Jan-24	\$137,425.25
Payroll Taxes Fourth	Quarter 2024	·	\$8,255.43
Total		<u> </u>	\$358,204.72