



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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January 31, 2003

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210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
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Re: Recovery of attorney fees in legislative corruption cases

Dear Gentlemen:

I write to ask your assistance in recovering attorneys fees paid by taxpayers to anyone **convicted** of a crime in the ongoing investigation and prosecution of legislative corruption. As you probably know, the Governor has asked this office to take steps to recover such fees and it appears that over \$100,000 in public funds have been paid to those already charged by your offices in the matter. See the enclosed summary published by the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign. I understand that if any person charged with such crimes is convicted your offices would be in the position either to recover these payments as taxable costs, under Wis. Stat. § 973.06(1)(e), or to request the defendant's repayment of these amounts as a condition of probation under Wis. Stat. § 973.09(1g). I hope you will give serious consideration to any opportunity to recover these payments should it arise. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this suggestion or if you wish to discuss this matter in more detail. Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

Peggy A. Lautenschlager
Attorney General

PAL:drm

Enclosure