

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

April Term, A.D. 2026

In the Matter of Amending Rule 1.15 of)
the Rules of Professional)
Conduct for Attorneys at Law)

**ORDER AMENDING RULE 1.15 OF THE RULES OF PROFESSIONAL
CONDUCT FOR ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

Bar Counsel for the Wyoming State Bar has recommended the Wyoming Supreme Court amend Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys at Law. This Court finds the proposed amendment should be adopted. It is, therefore,

ORDERED that the amendment to Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys at Law, attached hereto, be, and hereby is, adopted by the Court to be effective September 21, 2026; and it is further

ORDERED that this order and the attached amendment be published in the advance sheets of the Pacific Reporter; the attached amendment be published in the Wyoming Court Rules Volume; and this order and the attached amendment be published online at the Wyoming Judicial Branch's website, <https://www.wyocourts.gov/>. The amendment shall also be recorded in the journal of this Court.

DATED this 21st day of July, 2026.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

LYNNE BOOMGAARDEN
Chief Justice

RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Rule 1.15. Safekeeping Property.

(a) A lawyer shall hold property of clients or third persons that is in a lawyer's possession in connection with a representation separate from the lawyer's own property. All client or third person funds shall be deposited in an "IOLTA Account" or "Non-IOLTA Account" (or accounts). Other property shall be identified as belonging to the appropriate entity and appropriately safeguarded.

(1) "IOLTA Account" refers to a trust account, at an "IOLTA-Eligible Institution" from which funds may be withdrawn upon request as soon as permitted by law. An IOLTA Account is a pooled interest-bearing account that shall include only client or third person funds that cannot earn income for the client or third person in excess of the costs incurred to secure such income while the funds are held. All other client or third person funds shall be deposited into a Non-IOLTA Account.

(ii) Lawyers may only place their IOLTA Accounts in IOLTA Eligible Institutions. IOLTA Eligible Institutions are depository institutions which voluntarily offer IOLTA Accounts and meet the requirements of this Rule. The ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice will maintain a list of IOLTA Eligible Institutions currently holding IOLTA Accounts, and shall provide the list upon request.

(iii) An IOLTA Eligible Institution shall:

(C) remit, each month, interest or dividends, net of any service charges or fees, on the average monthly balance in the account, or as otherwise computed in accordance with the institution's standard accounting practice for other depositors, to the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice, a tax exempt entity;

(D) transmit with each remittance to the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice, in an electronic format to be specified by the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice, a statement which shall include the following: (1) the name of the member or the member's law firm for whom the remittance is sent, (2) the account number of each account, (3) the rate of interest applied, (4) the amount of interest or dividends remitted, (5) the amount and type of charges or fees deducted, if any, and (6) the average account balance for the period in which the report is made; and

(iv) All interest transmitted to the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice shall be distributed by the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice for the purposes of providing legal services to the indigent of Wyoming, who would otherwise be unable to obtain legal assistance; providing public education projects which promote a knowledge and awareness of the law; providing projects which improve the administration of justice; or providing for the reasonable costs of administration of interest earned on accounts

under this Rule. Subject to the fulfillment of fund purposes, the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice shall have the sole discretion of allocation, division, and distribution of funds.

(v) The ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice shall have authority to promulgate administrative policies and rules consistent with this Rule, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court.

(b) Any trust account shall comply with the following provisions:

(1) The account shall be with a regulated financial institution that is located or has a branch located in Wyoming, the deposits of which are insured by an agency of the federal government and which has been approved by the Wyoming State Bar to serve as a depository for lawyer trust accounts.

(iv) The overdraft notification agreement must provide that a financial institution is not prohibited from charging the lawyer for the reasonable cost of providing the reports and records required by this rule, but those costs may not be charged against principal, nor against interest earned on trust accounts, including earnings on IOLTA Accounts payable to the ~~Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation~~ Wyoming Foundation for Civil Justice. Such costs, if charged, shall not be borne by clients.