

(k) (1) The Maryland Victims of Crime Fund shall be used for the purpose of implementation of the guidelines for treatment and assistance for crime victims and witnesses described in Article 27, § 761 of the Code and other laws adopted to benefit victims and witnesses of crime.

(2) Any cost for the administration of the Fund may be paid from the Fund.

(3) The Fund shall be administered by the State Board of Victim Services under Title 6.5 of the State Government Article.

(l) After payment of the claims described in subsection (i) of this section, the Attorney General shall deposit the moneys remaining in the escrow account in the Maryland Victims of Crime Fund Account.

(m) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Attorney General has exclusive jurisdiction and control as escrow agent over any moneys or other consideration subject to this section.

(2) A distribution of moneys in an escrow account may be made only by a determination and order of the Attorney General under this section.

(3) The Attorney General may adopt regulations for the purpose of implementation of this section.

(n) Any person aggrieved by a final determination and order of the Attorney General under this section may seek judicial review.

(o) (1) Any person who willfully fails to DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF NOT LESS THAN \$10,000 FOR EACH OFFENSE AND NOT MORE THAN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO 3 TIMES THE CONTRACT AMOUNT:

(I) [~~submit~~] SUBMIT to the Attorney General a copy of the contract described in subsection (b) of this section [,] ; or

(II) [~~willfully fails to pay~~] PAY over to the Attorney General any moneys or other consideration as required by this section [~~shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 for each offense and not more than an amount equal to 3 times the contract amount~~].

(2) If 2 or more persons are subject to the penalties provided in this section, those persons shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of the penalty imposed.

(3) After notice and opportunity to be heard is provided, the Attorney General may by order assess the penalties described in this section.

(4) If not paid within 30 days from the date of the order, any penalty assessed under this section shall bear interest at the rate of 1 percent per month, compounded monthly.