

PUC 8-3

Request:

Question whether the interest money is swept into RI Bar Foundation.

Response:

The EERMC's account was switched from an IOLTA account - which had been in place with Desautel Law since December of 2015 - to a Money Market Account in February 2019, per client request, such that interest accrued would remain with EERMC and could be invested in the public interest in pursuit and fulfillment of the EERMC's statutory authority and objectives. Interest has been accruing on the funds in the Money Market Account since it was opened in February of 2019.

Prior to the establishment of the Money Market Account, any interest earned on EERMC funds held in the IOLTA account managed by Desautel Law was forwarded to the Rhode Island Bar Association, per Rhode Island Supreme Ct. Rule 1.15¹.

PUC 8-5

Request:

Client account spreadsheets for 2021.

Response:

Attached please find an Excel Document containing the client account spreadsheet for 2021 referenced by Mr. Cleveland in his testimony during the PUC hearing on Tuesday, January 11, 2021.

PUC 8-7

Request:

Does EERMC have an EIN (not the number itself, but whose number is used for the client account).

Response:

There is no known EIN established for the EERMC. The EERMC does not retain employees and we are unaware of any direct tax liability for this body, which, to our knowledge, are the most common reasons why a given entity might require an EIN.

The number associated with the EERMC's Money Market Client Fund Account is that of Desautel Law.

¹ <https://casetext.com/rule/rhode-island-court-rules/rhode-island-supreme-court-rules/admission-discipline-registration-and-conduct-of-attorneys/article-v-rules-of-professional-conduct/lawyer-client-relationship/rule-115-safekeeping-property>

PUC 8-9

Request:

Understand how EERMC developed plan – all minutes from 2021.

Response:

Attached please find meeting minutes for the January through November 2021 EERMC meetings. Note that at the time of this filing, the EERMC has not yet reviewed and approved meeting minutes from the December 2021 meeting.