

**THE LAW OFFICE OF
STEPHEN T. CARMICK, P.S.**

Attorney
Stephen T. Carmick

(360) 748-0226
Fax (360) 748-6230
carmick@starband.net

June 23, 2009

Clerk of the Supreme Court
PO Box 40929
Olympia, WA 98504-0929

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to support the proposed IOLTA comparability rule, which would require Washington Lawyers to maintain IOLTA accounts at financial institutions that pay the same interest rate on those accounts as they do on other similarly situated accounts. As you can see, I am, and have been since 1972, in the private practice of law.

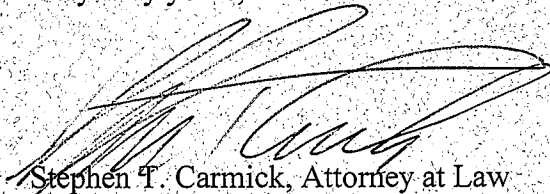
I am a strong supporter of local Legal Aid organizations, where the generation of additional funding is critical to the survival these entities. For some banks to pay little or no interest on lawyer trust accounts is an anachronism, a throw back to another time. It has no place in Washington today.

Similar interest comparability rules are in place in numerous other states. This would seem to show that banks have no trouble in making this adjustment. In fact, I very much doubt whether there will be many, if any, banks which will adhere to this outmoded practice, and force their attorney clients to move their trust accounts to another institution.

If that were to be the case, I would not hesitate at all to move my trust (and general accounts) to a bank which paid the same interest on all accounts, and didn't treat lawyer trust accounts as "second class deposits".

I urge the passage of this rule.

Very truly yours,



Stephen T. Carmick, Attorney at Law

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STATE OF WASHINGTON