



**STATE OF MAINE
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT**

**STATEMENT OF THE COURT'S DECISION ON PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO THE USE OF IOLTA FUNDS**

On May 8, 2019, the Maine Supreme Judicial Court posted for comment a proposed amendment to Rule 6 of the Maine Bar Rules that proposed limitations on the use of IOLTA funding by providers who engage in various types of lobbying advocacy.¹

On July 18, 2019, the Court established a Working Group, chaired by Attorney Taylor Asen, for the purpose of obtaining broad-based stakeholder input on the issue of use of IOLTA funds. The Majority Report of the Judicial Branch IOLTA Working Group and two Separate Statements of Non-Concurrence were submitted to the court in December 2019.

The Court then held a public hearing at the Capital Judicial Center on March 2, 2020. Having given due consideration to the comments at the public hearing, the input of the Working Group, the Statements of Non-Concurrence, and comments previously received, the Court unanimously concludes that **no further amendment of Rule 6** is called for at this time.

Dated: March 9, 2020

For the Court,*

_____/s/_____
Hon. Leigh I. Saufley
Chief Justice, Maine Supreme Judicial Court

¹ The Court also proposed and, on June 27, 2019, promulgated an amendment to Rule 6 that established new requirements, effective July 1, 2019, for the management of IOLTA funds by the Maine Bar Foundation.

* Saufley, C.J., and Mead, Gorman, Jabar, Humphrey, Horton, and Connors, JJ.