

## Financial Deductions & Legal Financial Obligations

**Legal Financial Obligations (LFO)** are court-ordered amounts of money an incarcerated individual is sentenced to pay to the county where they were convicted in.

- To find out the total amount of LFOs and interest owed, incarcerated individuals must contact the County Clerk's Office of the county or counties where they were sentenced.
- Family members may also contact the county directly to get balance and address information to pay off an incarcerated individual's LFO.
- County Clerk contact information can be found in your facility's law library.

**Debt** is owed to DOC for supplies/services provided when an individual does not have sufficient funds to pay for those supplies/services.

**Trust Accounting System (TAS)** tracks an incarcerated individual's indigent status based on the combined balance of an individual's spendable and commissary sub accounts.

**Indigence** is a legal term referring to an incarcerated individual who has less than a \$25 balance in their DOC account on the day they ask to use funds and if it was less than \$25 for 30 days before the request.

Each time the balance falls below \$25, the TAS starts a 30-day countdown and when 30 days has passed with the balance remaining below \$25 the account is flagged as indigent.

If an individual is flagged as indigent, they can purchase indigent supplies at the commissary (hygiene, over-the counter medications, pre-franked envelopes) and the system will create debt for the entire amount of the purchase without withdrawing any of the individual's funds that may be beneath \$25. This same rule applies to some other withdrawals such as legal copies, legal mail, health services copays, non-legal postage and TV fees.

### Common Deductions

**Crime Victim Compensation (CVC)** is paid out to an outside fund administered by the Department of Labor & Industries and used to help crime victims. Not affiliated with an individual's victim restitution that may be ordered as a component of LFO.

**Savings** is an amount retained in a sub account electronically in the TAS within an individual's resident trust account. Individuals are given the entire balance of their savings at release.

**Division of Child Services (DCS)** deductions are paid out to the Department of Health & Social Services – Department of Child Support (DCS) for payment toward an individual's outstanding child support obligation. DCS is responsible for these, not DOC.

**Cost of Incarceration (COI)** is a deduction that is given to Correctional Industries (CI) to create and maintain job opportunities for the incarcerated.

**The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA)** is a required deduction under Federal Law. A PLRA obligation comes from a US District Court when an individual is approved to file an appeal without paying the required filing fee up front. These are typically \$455 but may vary depending on the court. Each will collect at 20%, which means you if you have more than one, you will pay 20% for each one.

**CIVJDG** stands for **civil judgement** and is brought against an incarcerated individual by an employee of DOC when assaulted and/or injured by the individual in the course of their official duties. These are usually \$5,000.

### **Where to find more information on indigence, LFOs and other deductions:**

You can find a copy of *DOC Policy 200.000 Trust Accounts for Incarcerated Individuals* in the FYI app on your Securus Tablet or in the law library if your facility has one.

- Attached to DOC Policy 200.000 you can also find other resources including the deductions matrix, a list of deductions and a subaccounts explainer.