# **BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2021**

Fiscal Services Division July 1, 2020

Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319



515.281.3566

# **Consumer Education and Litigation Fund**

#### Purpose

The Attorney General is charged with the enforcement of Iowa Code section <u>714.16</u>, the Consumer Fraud Act. The Consumer Education and Litigation Fund is created in Iowa Code section <u>714.16C</u> and is administrated by the Attorney General. The Fund is used for consumer education and investigation and prosecution of consumer fraud, and its use is restricted by law.

#### Funding

Receipts to the Fund include amounts received from State or federal consumer fraud judgments or settlements; civil penalties, costs, or attorney fees; amounts specifically directed to the Fund by judgments or settlements; and amounts that are designated by the judgments or settlements for use by the Attorney General for consumer litigation or education purposes. The year-end balance carries forward to the next fiscal year. Interest earnings remain in the Fund.

## Appropriations

lowa Code section <u>714.16C(2)</u> makes two standing limited appropriations from the Fund to the Office of the Attorney General:

- \$1.1 million for public education related to consumer fraud as well as enforcement of Iowa and federal consumer fraud laws.
- \$75,000 for investigation, prosecution, and consumer education related to consumer and criminal fraud committed against older lowans.

#### **Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

lowa Code chapter  $\underline{13}$  lowa Code sections  $\underline{714.16}$  and  $\underline{714.16C}$  lowa Administrative Code  $\underline{61}$ 

## **Budget Unit Number**

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#### More Information

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