

## WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §38-16-303

### **§38-16-303. Claim of lien against a federal official or employee or a state or local official or employee; performance of duties; validity; no duty to accept filing; notice of invalid lien.**

(a) Any claim of lien against a federal official or employee or a state or local official or employee that is based on the performance or nonperformance of that official's or employee's duties is invalid unless it arises from a specific order of a court of competent jurisdiction authorizing the filing of the lien or unless a specific statute authorizes the filing of the lien.

(b) A person is not obligated to accept for filing any purported claim of lien against a federal official or employee or a state or local official or employee that is based on the performance or nonperformance of that official's or employee's duties unless the claim is accompanied by a specific order from a court of competent jurisdiction authorizing the filing of such lien or unless a specific statute authorizes the filing of such lien. A person has no duty to reject for filing or recording any claim of lien against a federal official or employee or a state or local official or employee that is based on the performance or nonperformance of that official's or employee's duties, and the inadvertent or negligent recordation of such a claim by a clerk of a county commission or other recorder does not create a cause of action against that official.

(c) If a claim of lien as described in subsection (a) of this section has been accepted for filing, the recording officer shall accept for filing a notice of invalid lien signed and submitted by the assistant United States attorney or other counsel representing the federal agency of which the individual is an official or employee; the assistant Attorney General or other counsel representing the state agency, board, commission, department, or institution of higher education of which the individual is an official or employee; or the prosecuting attorney or municipal attorney or other counsel representing the school district, political subdivision, or unit of local government of this state of which the individual is an official or employee. A copy of the notice of invalid lien shall be mailed by the attorney to the person who filed the claim of lien, at his or her last known address. The clerk of the county commission shall file and index the notice of invalid lien in the same class of records in which the purported claim of lien was originally filed.