

# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §38-16-501

## PART V. LIABILITY FOR FRAUDULENT COURT RECORD OR A FRAUDULENT LIEN.

### §38-16-501. Liability.

(a) A person may not make, present, or use a document or other record with:

(1) Knowledge that the document or other record is a fraudulent court record or a fraudulent lien or claim against real or personal property or an interest in real or personal property;

(2) Intent that the document or other record be given the same legal effect as a court record or document of a court created by or established under the Constitution or laws of this state or the United States, evidencing a valid lien or claim against real or personal property or an interest in real or personal property; and

(3) Intent to cause another person to suffer:

(A) Physical injury;

(B) Financial injury; or

(C) Mental anguish or emotional distress.

(b) A person who violates subsection (a) is liable to each injured person for:

(1) The greater of:

(A) \$10,000; or

(B) The actual damages caused by the violation;

(2) Court costs;

(3) Reasonable attorney's fees; and

(4) Exemplary damages in an amount determined by the court.