

## CHAPTER 8

### ATTORNEY GENERAL

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#### 8.15 ATTORNEY GENERAL COSTS.

The attorney general in consultation with the commissioner of finance shall assess executive branch agencies the cost of legal services rendered to them. The assessment against appropriations from other than the general fund must be the full amount of the cost. The assessment against appropriations supported by fees must be included in the fee calculation. Unless appropriations are made for these costs, no payment by the agency is required. The assessment against appropriations from the general fund not supported by fees must be one-fourth of the cost. Receipts from assessments must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

**History:** *1Sp1985 c 13 s 75*

#### 8.31 ADDITIONAL DUTIES OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1984]*

**Subd. 2. Attorney general to assist in discovery and punishment of illegal practices.** When the attorney general, from information in his possession, has reasonable ground to believe that any person has violated, or is about to violate, any of the laws of this state referred to in subdivision 1, he shall have power to investigate those violations, or suspected violations, and to take such steps as are necessary to cause the arrest and prosecution of all persons violating any of the statutes specifically mentioned in subdivision 1 or any other laws respecting unfair, discriminatory, or other unlawful practices in business, commerce, or trade. In connection with investigation under this section the attorney general upon specifying the nature of the violation or suspected violation may obtain discovery from any person regarding any matter, fact or circumstance, not privileged, which is relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending investigation, in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision. The discovery may be obtained without commencement of a civil action and without leave of court, except as expressly required by the provisions of subdivision 2a. The applicable protective provisions of rules 26.02, 26.03, and 30.04 of the rules of civil procedure for the district courts shall apply to any discovery procedures instituted pursuant to this section. The attorney general or any person to whom discovery is directed may apply to and obtain leave of the district court in order to reduce or extend the time requirements of this subdivision, and upon a showing of good cause the district court shall order such a reduction or extension. In order to obtain discovery, the attorney general may:

(a) Serve written interrogatories on any person. Within 20 days after service of interrogatories, separate written answers and objections to each interrogatory shall be mailed to the attorney general.

(b) Upon reasonable written notice of no less than 15 days, require any person to produce for inspection and copying any documents, papers, books, accounts, letters, photographs, objects, or tangible things which are in his possession, custody, or control.

(c) Upon reasonable written notice of no less than 15 days, take the testimony of any person by deposition as to any fact or opinion relevant to the subject matter involved in the pending investigation.

For the purposes of this subdivision the term "person" has the meaning specified in section 325F.68.

*[For text of subds 2a to 3b, see M.S.1984]*

**History:** 1985 c 248 s 2