

From: GWRRA Director  
To: All GWRRA Officers

## Chapter and District Funds Legal Action

The misappropriation of Chapter or District funds (theft) is not only morally wrong but also illegal. Officers of any organization have a fiduciary responsibility for fiscal accuracy in the accounting of their expenditures.

**Chapter funds belong to the CHAPTER for the operations of the Chapter as District funds belong to the District.** The funds do not belong to the residing or retiring Officers. When a new Director is appointed to an existing Chapter or District, the Chapter or District Treasurer must close out the books and prepare a closing financial statement. If a new bank account is being opened (not the recommended approach) a check must then be made payable to the depository institution selected by the new Director for the balance of the account, less any checks that have not been presented for payment. Once any outstanding checks have cleared the old bank account must be immediately closed.

The monies that are acquired through various fundraising activities do not belong to any individual but to the GWRRA organization. Misappropriating funds is no different than taking the money directly out of the pocket of the Members. Again, the monies come from the Membership, the monies belong to the GWRRA Chapter or District, and it is absolutely mandatory that monies, property, and equipment be responsibly managed on behalf of our members.

**NEVER, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, should funds be removed from any checking account by the Director, Treasurer, Team Officer or any Member for their personal use or to start or join another motorcycle organization.** If such a circumstance occurs, GWRRA Inc. will pursue the matter by using any and all legal recourses to the fullest extent.

This memo is a good reminder about being good stewards of Chapter or District funds. We know that 99.9% of GWRRA's Officers and their team and staff who are entrusted with custodial responsibilities do not abuse the trust placed in them and when it comes time to transfer GWRRA property, monetary or otherwise, it is done so in full and without misguided justification. However, we must be aware that, as unfortunate as it is, it does occur. As said previously, GWRRA Inc. will prosecute all such occurrences.

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