
What is an heirfinder?

An heirfinder, also known as a third-party tracer, is someone who charges you a fee to find your unclaimed property.

As a consumer, you need to be aware that the State returns 100% of unclaimed property to the rightful owner or heir.

The Law

The State of Wyoming does not charge a fee for returning unclaimed property to you. Signing an agreement to have someone assist you in recovering unclaimed property may entail the payment of substantial fees.

Such an agreement is unenforceable if it covers property which has not been in the state's custody for 24 months.

Also, an agreement is unenforceable if the property is scheduled to come to the State within 12 months, whether or not the property remains in the possession of the company or entity (holder) until the reporting date.

If you are contacted by an heirfinder (third-party tracer), please read the following information. You may wish to contact this office to see when funds were reported. You may not have to pay a finder's fee.

What is unclaimed property?

Unclaimed property can be any financial asset, including unclaimed savings and checking accounts, unpaid wages or commissions, stock, uncashed dividends, customer deposits or overpayments, credit balances, refunds, money orders, travelers checks, paid-up life insurance policies, etc.

Is an heirfinder required to have a license?

A license is not required in Wyoming; however, there are some standards that an heirfinder must follow in order to research Wyoming accounts.

Do other states have heirfinder laws?

Yes, most states have regulations regarding heirfinders.

What percentage of unclaimed property is the heirfinder legally entitled to if I sign a contract with them?

Call our office before you sign anything! Wyoming has no cap on the percentage fee charged.

What should I do if an heirfinder contacts me?

Contact our office for assistance.

Do heirfinders outside the State of Wyoming have to obey Wyoming standards and laws?

Wyoming standards and laws pertain to all heirfinders when Wyoming is the custodian of the unclaimed property or when the property is scheduled to come to Wyoming.

How long must an account be dormant before it is considered unclaimed?

As a general rule, most property is determined to be unclaimed if it has been inactive for five (5) years.

How do I find out if I have unclaimed property in Wyoming?

You should call or write us:

Wyoming Unclaimed Property Division
2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 502
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-5590

You can also check our website:

www.unclaimed.org - Click on "Wyoming"

Unclaimed property owner information is not available for public inspection until 24 months after payment or delivery. The names on the website are owners who have \$10 or more due them and their property has been held by our office for more than 24 months. To see if we are holding "current" funds or property, please contact our office.

Who may claim unclaimed property?

The owner, executor/trix or the direct heir of the estate if an owner is deceased can claim the property.

What happens to unclaimed property that remains unclaimed?

All unclaimed assets remitted to Wyoming are held in perpetual custody until the rightful owner or their heirs claim those assets. The owner maintains the right to claim the property and this right is never lost.

What is the responsibility of the Unclaimed Property Division?

The Unclaimed Property Division administers one of the most important consumer protection laws in Wyoming - the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act.

The Wyoming legislature realized that it was unfair for a company or individual (holder) holding unclaimed property to profit from the use of money that belonged to others.

The Act was created as a consumer protection law designed to collect, safeguard and return lost or forgotten property to its rightful owner.

There is no cost to inquire about or receive Wyoming unclaimed property.

How to avoid having your property become unclaimed:

1. Notify institutions that hold your money or property of an address change, name change and/or marital status change.
2. Keep accurate financial records. Record all insurance policies, bank account numbers, types of accounts, stock certificates, utility and rent deposits, and bank names and addresses.
3. Every four years, write or call institutions that hold your money, asking them to make note of your call or place your letter in their files. This indicates your interest and awareness of the account and holdings.
4. Cash all checks for dividends, wages and insurance settlements without delay.
5. Record all CD, stock and bond registration numbers, dates of issue, and corporate issuer or stockbroker names and addresses. Make sure you have received and cashed all declared dividends.
6. Respond in writing to requests for confirmation of account balances from banks, stockbrokers, utility companies, and others that owe you money.
7. If you have a safe deposit box, record its number, bank name and address and give the extra key to a family member or trusted advisor.
8. Prepare a checklist of all of these items to be reviewed if you change your address. Make sure you notify all concerned parties of your new address. It is also a good idea to make a family member or trusted advisor aware of the location of your property or records.
9. Prepare a will detailing disposition of assets.

Wyoming Unclaimed Property Division
2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 502
Cheyenne, WY 82002



Have you been contacted by an heirfinder?

Do not sign anything until contacting a representative at the Wyoming Unclaimed Property Division.



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