

VOID JUDGMENTS

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Void judgments have become the sensation of the year in pro se and related circles. Seminars, special reports, and person to person networking have produced a number of efforts at eliminating bad results in Court, as well as some frustration. While there is an abundance of legal authority to the effect that a void judgment can be overturned by motion or litigation, too many people are clearly developing unrealistic expectations as to the extent of the problems it can resolve.

A body of law on the subject of void judgments exists at both the state and federal levels. See *Sisk v Garey*, 27 Md. 401, 414-19 (1867). See also *Welden v United States* 70 F3 1, 10-11, *Barrows v Hutton*, 99 U.S. 80, 83 (1878); and *Catz v Chalker*, 142 F3d 79. In Virginia, a 2-year time limit exists to challenge a void judgment under Section 8.01-428(A) (ii) and a collateral attack by an independent equity action if a party can show non-receipt of ...notice and a meritorious defense. See also *Miserandino v Resort Properties* 345 Md 43

Wyoming also has cases on the subject of void judgments. For example, in *Olson v Leith* 71 Wyo 316, a discussion on void judgments means situations where a personal judgment was rendered against the defendant without acquiring jurisdiction over the person, or wherever a judgment was entered by the clerk of court without authority. See 61 Wyo. At 203.