

**In recognition of the heavy burden borne by one seeking to estop the government, courts have held that the doctrine of estoppel may be raised against the government only if, in addition to the traditional elements of estoppel, the party raising the estoppel proves affirmative misconduct or wrongful conduct by the government or a government agent.**

**Hudkins v. State Consol. Pub. Ret. Bd., 220 W. Va. 275, 647 S.E.2d 711, (2007).**