

Minnesota Client Security Board

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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
January 30, 2012

CLIENT SECURITY BOARD APPROVES CLAIMS

ST. PAUL -- At its January 2012 meeting, the Minnesota Client Security Board approved payment of two claims, in the total amount of \$17,522.98, against disbarred attorneys Michal Frants and Jay Gerard Swokowski.

The Board approved one claim against Michael Frants in the total amount of \$15,598.48. The Board has now approved two claims against Frants in the total amount of \$22,265.15. Frants last practiced law in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was suspended by the Minnesota Supreme Court in September 2009.

The Board approved one claim against Jay Gerard Swokowski in the total amount of \$1,924.50. The Board has now approved four claims against Swokowski in the total amount of \$7,724.50. Swokowski last practiced law in Anoka, Minnesota. He was disbarred by the Minnesota Supreme Court in April 2011.

The Client Security Fund was established by the Minnesota Supreme Court, and is funded by Minnesota attorneys, to reimburse clients who suffer loss of money or other property from the dishonest conduct of their attorney. The Fund is administered by a Board appointed by the Court, and consists of five lawyer members and two non-lawyer members. All serve without compensation as a public service.

The Client Security Fund covers most situations in which lawyers have stolen clients' money or other property entrusted to them. The Fund does not cover losses resulting from the malpractice or negligence of lawyers.

The Board will next meet in April 2012. For more information on the Client Security Fund, visit the Board's Web site at <http://csb.mncourts.gov>.

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