

Minnesota Client Security Board

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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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CLIENT SECURITY BOARD APPROVES CLAIMS

ST. PAUL -- At its April 2011 meeting, the Minnesota Client Security Board approved payment of eight claims, in the total amount of \$17,599, against three former Minnesota attorneys.

The Board approved three claims against Albert A. Garcia, Jr. in the total amount of \$11,000. The Board has now approved eight claims against Garcia in the total amount of \$24,840. Garcia last practiced law in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was disbarred by the Minnesota Supreme Court in December 2010.

The Board approved two claims against Michael Harnois in the total amount of \$1,999. Harnois last practiced law in Duluth, Minnesota. He was placed on disability/inactive status by the Minnesota Supreme Court in December 2010.

The Board approved three claims against Nathan K. McLean in the total amount of \$4,600. McLean last practiced law in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was suspended by the Minnesota Supreme Court in January 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 June 2011. For more information on the Client Security Fund, visit the Board's website at <http://csb.mncourts.gov>.

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