

## 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 2014 meeting, the Minnesota Client Security Board approved payment of seven claims, in the total amount of \$289,506.44, against former attorneys Deno W. Berndt, Thomas G. Harrigan and James Carl Duchon, disabled attorney Shana Gail Buchanan, and deceased attorney Travis D. Stottler.

The Board approved one claim against Deno W. Berndt in the amount of \$150,000. The Board has now approved 15 claims against Berndt in the total amount of \$588,012.94. Berndt last practiced law in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was disbarred by the Minnesota Supreme Court in March 2012.

The Board approved two claims against Thomas G. Harrigan in the total amount of \$131,356.44. Harrigan last practiced in Edina, Minnesota. He was disbarred by the Minnesota Supreme Court in January 2014.

The Board approved one claim against James Carl Duchon in the amount of \$1,750. Duchon last practiced in Edina, Minnesota. He was suspended by the Minnesota Supreme Court in March 2013.

The Board approved two claims against Shana Gail Buchanan in the total amount of \$4,900. The Board has now approved four claims against Buchanan in the total amount of \$16,100. Buchanan last practiced law in St. Paul, Minnesota. Buchanan was placed on disability inactive status by the Minnesota Supreme Court in September 2013.

The Board approved one claim against deceased attorney Travis D. Stottler in the amount of \$1,500. The Board has now approved two claims against Stottler in the total amount of \$4,000. Stottler last practiced law in Lino Lakes, Minnesota.

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 does not cover losses resulting from the malpractice or negligence of lawyers. 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.

For more information on the Client Security Fund, visit the Board's Web site at <http://csb.mncourts.gov>.

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