

# The Supreme Court of Ohio

CLIENTS' SECURITY FUND  
65 SOUTH FRONT STREET, 5TH FLOOR, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3431

**ORIGINAL**

CHIEF JUSTICE  
MAUREEN O'CONNOR

JUSTICES  
PAUL E. PFEIFER  
EVELYN LUNDBERG STRATTON  
TERRENCE O'DONNELL  
JUDITH ANN LANZINGER  
ROBERT R. CUPP  
YVETTE MCGEE BROWN

ADMINISTRATOR  
JANET GREEN MARBLEY

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October 27, 2011

09-1522

Kristina Frost, Clerk  
Supreme Court of Ohio  
65 South Front Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Michelle Anne Smithern

Dear Ms. Frost:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Claim Determination Entry for award made by the Board of Commissioners of the Clients' Security Fund of Ohio in the following claim:

<u>CSF CLAIM NO.</u>	<u>CLAIMANT</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
10-0073	Sandra Rouse	\$1,750
10-0073	Gary Rouse	\$1,750

This award arose from the dishonest conduct of Michelle Anne Smithern. We ask that the information concerning the award made by the Clients' Security Fund be placed in the attorney's file.

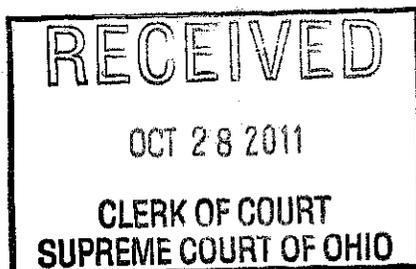
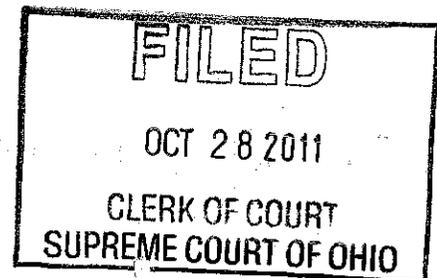
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

*Janet Green Marbley*  
Janet Green Marbley, Administrator  
Clients' Security Fund

JGM/pdl

Enclosure(s): as stated



**The Supreme Court of Ohio**  
**Clients' Security Fund**  
**65 South Front Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Columbus, Ohio 43215-3431**

*Maureen O'Connor*  
Chief Justice

*Jerome Phillips*  
Chair

*Janet Green Marbley*  
Administrator

**CLAIM DETERMINATION ENTRY**

In Re Application of Sandra Rouse v. Michelle Anne Smithern  
Claim Number 10-0073

This cause came on for hearing before the Board of Commissioners of the Clients' Security Fund this 16th day of September, 2011 on the application of Sandra Rouse alleging a loss in the amount of \$3,500, caused by dishonest conduct of an attorney duly licensed to practice in the State of Ohio

The Commissioners of the Clients' Security Fund of Ohio find that:

- a) An attorney client relationship did exist between the claimant and Michelle Anne Smithern.
- b) The claimant suffered a loss of \$3,500 on or about 2006.

The Commissioners further find that the dishonest conduct consisted of theft of unearned fees, and that the following disciplinary proceedings were taken:

**Suspended Indefinitely on 3/3/2010**

The Commissioners further find that the claimant took affirmative action against the attorney within one year of becoming aware of the loss; and that there is no insurance or bond which will benefit the claimant; and that said claimant is not a spouse, close relative, partner, insurer or bonding company, nor a governmental unit.

Therefore the Commissioners of the Clients' Security Fund do hereby determine that the claim of Sandra Rouse is eligible for reimbursement in the amount of \$3,500.

Payment of said amount is conditioned upon claimant complying with the subrogation assignment and other requirements of Sec. 6 of GOV. Rule VIII of the Ohio Supreme Court.

Date

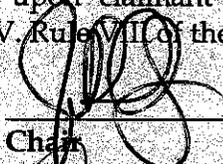
4-28-11

Date

Sept. 23, 2011

Chair

Secretary

  
Janet Green Marbley