

Law Firm Recovers No Attorney's Fees After Trial Court Concluded

"An Illinois appellate court affirmed the adjudication of a firm's attorney's liens down to zero, where the discharged firm failed to provide any evidence of the amount of hours it had spent on the case, and also where the firm had engaged in multiple breaches of its fiduciary duties to its clients. As a matter of law, the firm was not barred from receiving attorney's fees, but the breaches of fiduciary duty were reasonable factors for the trial court to consider in determining the appropriate amount of fees to award," reports Hinshaw Law in their *Legal Updates*.

"Scot Vandenberg was paralyzed after he fell off the upper deck of a yacht manufactured by Brunswick Corporation and Brunswick Boat Group, which was owned and operated by RQM, LLC. The McNabola Law Group represented Vandenberg and his wife in a negligence and strict liability action against Brunswick and RQM. The Vandenberg's signed a contingency fee agreement with the Firm, and agreed to pay the Firm's actual expenses. The fee agreement also provided for compensation to the Firm in the event the Firm withdrew prior to the resolution of the Vandenberg's claims. In that case, the Vandenberg's agreed to pay the Firm at a rate of \$450 per hour for the time spent on the claims, or 33.33% of the amount being offered in settlement at the time of the request to withdraw, whichever was greater."

Read the article.