## **Case of the Month September 2011**

## **Violation of Compensation Agreement Returns \$611.7K**

Behling v. Crabel Capital Mgmt.

# Case Type:

Labor & Employment - Breach of Contract Labor & Employment - Wage Disputes

## **Specific Liability:**

Former employer breached oral agreement regarding yearly bonus

# **General Injury:**

Monetary damages

### Jurisdiction:

State: Wisconsin

Court: Circuit Court of Wisconsin, First Judicial District, Milwaukee County.

#### **Related Court Documents:**

Plaintiff's complaint: 2009 WL 8154610

Defendant's pretrial memorandum: 2010 WL 6763851

Verdict form: <u>2010 WL 6763417</u>

#### Case Name:

Stefan Behling v. Crabel Capital Management LLC

## **Docket/File Number:**

09CV011864

#### Verdict:

Plaintiff, \$611,706.65

## **Verdict Date:**

Dec. 15, 2010

## Judge:

John Siefert

## **Attorneys:**

Plaintiff: Terry E. Johnson and Tiffany J. Jones, Peterson, Johnson & Murray, Milwaukee, Wis.

Defendant: James W. Greer, Whyte Hirschboeck Dudek SC, Milwaukee, Wis.

# Trial Type:

Jury

# **Experts:**

Plaintiff: None mentioned

Defendants: None mentioned

## **Breakdown of Award:**

\$611,706.65 to plaintiff (answered by court)

## **Summary of Facts:**

Stefan Behling was employed 2000 to 2009 by Crabel Capital Management, an investment and asset-management business located at 312 E. Buffalo St.

Behling filed a claim in the Milwaukee County Circuit Court against Crabel for breach of contract. The plaintiff alleged the defendant breached an oral agreement obligating the company to pay him a yearly 2.5 percent annual bonus of the company net income. Behling asserted he did not receive his 2008 annual bonus. Behling sought judgment against the defendant for 50 percent of this amount pursuant to Wis. Stat. 109.03(5), attorney fees, interest and taxable costs.

Crabel alleged the plaintiff was paid more than he was entitled to. The defendant claimed Behling received \$200,000 in salary and a bonus of \$700,000 representing 2.5 percent of the \$1,511,706.65 corporate net for 2008.

A jury convened before Judge John Siefert returned a verdict Dec. 15, 2010 for the plaintiff. Behling was awarded \$611,706.65, an amount answered by the court.

The case was dismissed Jan. 14, 2011.

Court: Circuit Court of Wisconsin, First Judicial District, Milwaukee County.

## **Westlaw Citation:**

2010 WL 6819482

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