

## Did You Know?

**Joe Van Sloun**, a paralegal with our litigation team, in his capacity as Executive Director of The Van Sloun Foundation, recently donated the entire amount needed to fund one of the very first K-9 protective vests in the State of Minnesota. The protective vest is now being worn by a Brooklyn Park police dog named Ozzy, a two and one-half year old Belgian Malinois. The Van Sloun Foundation's donation was made through Vested Interest in K-9s, Inc., an organization dedicated to providing protective vests to K-9 dogs.

Joe and his wife, Benita, will be donating another vest shortly to Officer Mike Running and his German Shepherd, Sammy, of the South Saint Paul Police Department. Sammy became South St. Paul's newest K-9 on June 7, 2012, when Officer Running and Sammy graduated from Washington County Sheriff Canine Training School.

The Van Sloun Foundation supports other canine and dog assistance programs, including Guiding Eyes for the Blind and America's Vet Dogs, which provides assistance dogs to returning veterans

who were severely wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan.

The Van Sloun Foundation was established in 1991 in Massachusetts by Joe's uncle and aunt, Neil and Sue Van Sloun, and provides grants to over 35 organizations annually. The Foundation supports established and developing charities in the veterinary and medical sciences, botanical and horticultural development, land conservation, and education. Besides giving to several organizations around the country, the Foundation directly supports the following organizations in Minnesota and Wisconsin:

- Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
- Landscape Plant Development Center
- Minnesota Land Trust
- Minnesota-based projects with Ducks Unlimited
- University of Minnesota Cancer Research Center
- University of Minnesota Raptor Center
- Faith's Lodge

To view the March 28, 2013 Fox 9 News story regarding The Van Sloun Foundation's donation to Ozzy, visit Joe's bio on our website, [www.LawMoss.com](http://www.LawMoss.com), or go to our YouTube channel, [www.YouTube.com/MossandBarnett](http://www.YouTube.com/MossandBarnett).



Brooklyn Park Police Officer Mike Ploumen,  
Brooklyn Park Police K-9 Ozzy,  
Moss & Barnett paralegal Joe Van Sloun