

LAW FIRMS FACE PROBE

By PETER SAMSON and
IAN METCALFE

THE affairs of two other Scottish law firms are being probed.

And in one case Fraud Squad officers have been called in.

"Irregularities" amounting to around £150,000 have surfaced in that firm.

Last night it was understood that officers from the Law Society of Scotland are investigating the Edinburgh-based practices.

GUARANTEE

At Burnett, Walker, senior partner Ian Walker was found dead in his Edinburgh home in June.

Police said there were no suspicious circumstances.

At the time of his death the Fraud Squad and the Law Society had started their probes ... £150,000 of irregularities have been uncovered.

Last night police said: "We are inves-

£150,000 riddle for police

tigating allegations of criminality in the firm."

Bosses at another Edinburgh firm are believed to have called in the Law Society themselves after the sudden resignation of one of the partners.

The police are not involved in the inquiries at this stage.

Any cash losses suffered by clients at the hands of rogue lawyers are met by the Law Society. A guarantee fund has been set up, and members contribute on a yearly basis.

Every Scottish law firm will have to fork out to pay for Jim McQueenie's dirty dealings.

For Law Society chiefs will be sending out demands for £100 from each partner to boost the guarantee fund.

Last November the levy was doubled to meet the drain from the fund.

The Law Society's own probes had revealed that four suspended lawyers - including McQueenie - had left them with a bill for £860,000.



GRAEME ADAM
£500,000



TOM McCOOL
£450,000

Last year it was revealed that Ayrshire lawyer Graeme Adam's dealings would leave the society fund short of a bumper £500,000.

And seven years ago Glasgow lawyer Tom McCool vanished with debts to the fund of around £450,000.

