

Instructions: Please complete this form and return to:

Fee Arbitration Committee
Hampden County Bar Association
50 State Street, Room 137
Springfield, MA 01103

PETITION FOR ARBITRATION OF FEE DISPUTE

Before the
LEGAL FEE ARBITRATION BOARD
of the
HAMPDEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

_____ No. _____
Petitioner

vs.

Respondent

To the Legal Fee Arbitration Board of the Hampden County Bar Association:

1. The Petitioner is _____ of _____
(Telephone & Address)

2. The Respondent is _____ of _____
(Telephone & Address)

3. The undersigned hereby requests arbitration of the dispute set forth below.
4. The undersigned agrees to be bound by the award of arbitrators and the Rules of the Hampden County Bar Association Legal Fee Arbitration Board.
5. The Petitioner represents that he has made a good faith effort to resolve the dispute with the Respondent before filing this petition and that the matters in controversy are not now the subject of legal action initiated by the Petitioner nor has there been any final adjudication of the matter herein by any Court of competent jurisdiction.
6. Each party acknowledges his/her right to be represented, at their own expense, by an attorney-at-law at each and every stage of these arbitration proceedings.
7. The parties agree that any Award of Arbitration shall be final and binding upon each signatory and that a Judgment may be entered by a Court of competent jurisdiction upon said Award.
8. Each signatory hereto acknowledges and agrees that either party may deposit funds in escrow with the Hampden County Bar Association Legal Fee Arbitration Board and in such an event, the Board shall distribute such funds together with any interest thereon, in accordance with the Award of Arbitrators.

9. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE LEGAL FEES CHARGED WAS \$_____.

10. Each party must answer the following questions:

a. Was there any discussion concerning the fee between the client and the lawyer?

_____ Yes

_____ No

_____ I don't remember

b. If your answer to Question #1 is yes, when did you discuss the fee?

_____ At the first conference

_____ At the end of the case.

_____ Other (Explain when)

c. What specific legal services were to be rendered by the lawyer for the stated fee?

d. Was the client to be charged

_____ by the hour. If so, how much? \$_____ per hour.

_____ flat fee. If so, how much? \$_____.

_____ Contingency. If so, what percent? _____%.

(If contingency, explain what was to happen before the fee was to be paid).

e. Was there a written agreement or understanding regarding the fee?

_____ Yes (If yes, please attach a copy and bring the original to the hearing).

____No

f. (1) To be answered by the CLIENT:

How many hours do you estimate was spent on your case by the Lawyer?

____Hours

____I don't know.

(2) To be answered by the LAWYER:

How many hours do you estimate you spent on this case?

____Hours

____I don't know

g. HOW MUCH OF A FEE DO YOU BELIEVE IS FAIR?

\$ _____

____I don't know

11. Do the answers to the preceding questions (#10 a-g) fairly reflect your position with regard to the fee dispute in controversy?

____Yes

____No (If your answer is no, explain further).

Signature of Petitioner

(If Petitioner is to be represented by
Counsel, please indicate below)

Date

Name of Counsel

Street Address

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone Number

Telephone Number

NOTE: Please submit a copy of any and all correspondence, papers, or other exhibits which will help the Arbitrators determine this matter.

