

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

PETITION FOR ARBITRATION OF FEE DISPUTE

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 in the
Petition.
4. The undersigned agrees to be bound by the Award of the arbitrators and the
Rules of the Hampden County Bar Association Legal Fee Arbitration Board
(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. The Petitioner acknowledges his/her right to be represented, at his/her own
expense, by an attorney-at-law at each and every stage of these arbitration
proceedings.
7. The Petitioner acknowledges that an Award of the Board shall be final and
binding upon each signatory, and that a Judgment may be entered by a Court of
competent jurisdiction upon said Award. The Board may agree, in its discretion,
to support its determination in any subsequent proceedings by providing counsel

an/or expert testimony in the prosecution or defense of any subsequent civil action in which the subject matter is the fee dispute.

8. If the Respondent chooses not to be bound by the decision of the Board, or if there is a default in the proceedings by either party, the Board may hear the case and make its decision.
9. 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 the Board of Arbitrators.
10. THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE LEGAL FEES CHARGED WAS \$_____.
11. 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 #a 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

NOTE: Please bring to the hearing with you any and all correspondence, papers, or other exhibits which will help the Arbitrators determine this matter.

12. Do the answers to the preceding questions (#11 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