

Notice of Client's Right to Arbitration

(Client's Name)

(Client's Address)

I have filed a lawsuit against you in the _____
(Court)

(Address) (Case No.)

I have filed an arbitration proceeding against you with the _____
(Agency)

(Address) (Case No.)

I intend to file a lawsuit or arbitration against you regarding your failure to pay my fees and/or costs for professional services in the amount of \$_____ charged to you in the matter of _____

As an alternative to the above, you have the right under Sections 6200-6206 of the California Business and Professions Code to request arbitration of this fee dispute by an independent, impartial arbitrator or panel of arbitrators through a bar association program created solely to resolve fee disputes between lawyers and clients.

YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO ARBITRATION UNDER THIS PROGRAM if:

1. YOU DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN APPLICATION FOR ARBITRATION WITH THE BAR ASSOCIATION WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE; **or**
2. YOU RECEIVE THIS NOTICE AND THEN EITHER: 1) ANSWER A COMPLAINT I HAVE FILED IN COURT; or 2) FILE A RESPONSE TO ANY ARBITRATION PROCEEDING THAT I HAVE INITIATED FOR COLLECTION OF FEES and/or COSTS, WITHOUT FIRST HAVING SERVED AND FILED A REQUEST FOR ARBITRATION UNDER THIS PROGRAM; **or**
3. YOU FILE AN ACTION OR PLEADING IN ANY LAWSUIT WHICH SEEKS A COURT DECISION ON THIS DISPUTE OR WHICH SEEKS DAMAGES FOR ANY ALLEGED MALPRACTICE OR PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT.

If I have already filed a lawsuit or arbitration, you may have the lawsuit or arbitration postponed after you have filed an application for arbitration under this program.

You can obtain a form to request arbitration from the local bar association named below:

BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY
P.O. Box 2381; Vista, CA 92085 • (760) 758-5833

The State Bar of California will conduct fee arbitration where there is no approved local program or if you believe you cannot receive a fair hearing before the local bar named above. If you need assistance, please contact the *State Bar of California Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program; 180 Howard Street; San Francisco, CA 94105-1639; (415) 538-2020.*

Date

Attorney