

**MILWAUKEE BAR ASSOCIATION**

**PROFESSIONALISM COMMITTEE**

**STANDARD FORM LETTER # 6**

CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES

I hereby retain and employ LAW FIRM S.C. ("The Firm") as my attorneys to represent me in the case \_\_\_\_\_. I agree to pay my attorneys, as fees, their normal hourly rate which ranges from \$\_\_\_\_\_ to \$\_\_\_\_\_, depending upon the attorney performing the work. I also understand that Law Firm adjusts their rates each January 1st. I understand that my attorneys' minimum charge for a telephone conversation or a letter is two-tenths of an hour and that my attorneys may use paralegals or law clerks to perform services on my behalf provided they are billed to me at their normal hourly rates which range from \$\_\_\_\_\_ to \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Responsibility to provide legal services will be accepted and work will begin when The Firm receives a \$\_\_\_\_\_ retainer.

I agree that in addition to the above attorney fees, all court costs, subpoena costs, photos, photocopies, depositions, court reporter costs, reports, witness statements, expert witness costs and travel expenses, and all other out-of-pocket expenses directly incurred in investigating or litigating this claim shall be paid by me. Copies shall be billed at \_\_\_ cents per page, incoming faxes at \$\_\_\_\_\_ per page and outgoing faxes at \$\_\_\_\_\_ per page.

I agree to be billed monthly by The Firm for such fees, expenses and costs as they are incurred, and to pay such billings within fifteen (15) days of receipt. If any bill is not paid when due, I agree to pay compound interest at the rate of 1% per month. If The Firm is forced to take action to collect such fees, I agree to bear the cost of collection, including reasonable attorney fees.

I understand that I have the right to discharge The Firm for any reason at any time. I understand that The Firm may withdraw from representing me if I fail to make timely payment or do not provide other forms of security satisfactory to The Firm for payment of their fees; if I misrepresent or fail to disclose material facts; or if I fail to follow the The Firm's advice. I agree that if the Firm decides to withdraw, I will execute the necessary documents to permit them to do so. I agree that if I discharge The Firm, or if The Firm withdraws from representing me for any reason, including the non-payment of fees and costs as they are due under this contract, I will remain liable for all fees, costs and expenses actually incurred under this contract and will make payment in full.

I grant my attorneys an attorney's lien in accordance with Wisconsin law for payment of their fees

and expenses from any recovery realized on this claim. I hereby authorize The Firm to perform all services it deems necessary to this representation and I acknowledge that The Firm has made no promises or guarantees to me. This contract shall be governed by the internal laws of the State of Wisconsin.

I understand that this contract represents the entire fee arrangement between me and The Firm

In the event that there is any dispute concerning the fees, costs, expenses, disbursements or representation given me, the parties agree that such dispute will be brought to conclusion by mandatory binding arbitration before and pursuant to the rules of the Milwaukee Bar Association's Fee Arbitration Committee, or if not available, through binding arbitration administered by the State Bar of Wisconsin pursuant to its Rules of Resolution of Fee Disputes. Either party may enter judgment on such an arbitration award for enforcement by any court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to Chapter 788, Wis. Stat. Either party may serve notice of its intent to arbitrate on the other by regular mail. The arbitrator's fees and costs shall be borne equally by the parties and the arbitrator shall have the right to assess costs to the prevailing party.

I have received a copy of this contract.

Dated: April \_\_\_, 1999.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLES A. CLIENT

The above employment is hereby accepted on the terms stated. We agree to make no settlement without the consent of our client.

LAW FIRM S.C.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

\_\_\_\_ Copy given to client.

January 29, 2000  
Page 3

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