



Please read the Rules and the Frequently Asked Questions carefully. They will answer most of your questions about this service of the State Bar. The entire Fee Arbitration process takes an average of eleven months to complete. Please understand that the State Bar of Georgia cannot represent you, give you any legal advice, or change the outcome of a court decision. Please note that the Fee Arbitration Program does not arbitrate fee disputes in which the amount in dispute is \$1,000.00 or less.

If you wish for your fee dispute to be considered, complete and return the original Petition and any attachments. Please **ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY, BEING AS BRIEF AS POSSIBLE**. Failure to complete the Petition and to follow the instructions below may result in your file being delayed or closed.

To speed the processing of your case:

- 1. Do not alter the form.**
- 2. Your submission is limited to 50 pages including exhibits.**
- 3. Please TYPE or WRITE LEGIBLY in dark blue or black ink only.**
- 4. Please DO NOT USE STAPLES, BINDERS, OR TABS on any pages of the Petition and attachments.**
- 5. Please DO NOT write on the back of any pages of your submission other than the Petition form itself.**
- 6. Use ONLY standard 8 ½" by 11" paper.**

In the meantime, you have the right to, and we urge you to, exert your best efforts to resolve the dispute directly with the other party.

HEADQUARTERS

104 Marietta St. NW, Suite 100
Atlanta, GA 30303-2743
404-527-8700 • 800-334-6865
Fax 404-527-8717
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COASTAL GEORGIA OFFICE

7402 Hodgson Memorial Drive, Suite 105
Savannah, GA 31406
912-239-9910 • 877-239-9910
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SOUTH GEORGIA OFFICE

244 E. 2nd St. (31794)
P.O. Box 1390
Tifton, GA 31793-1390
229-387-0446 • 800-330-0446
Fax 229-382-7435



Do not alter this form. Answer all questions.

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
JOINT PETITION FOR FEE ARBITRATION
FOR ATTORNEYS OR LAW FIRMS**

TO: COMMITTEE ON THE ARBITRATION OF ATTORNEY FEE DISPUTES
State Bar of Georgia, 104 Marietta Street, Suite 100, Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404)527-8750 (404)527-8700 (800)334-6865 ext. 8750

Date: _____ [Rule 6-201 (E)]

First Party: _____

[Rule 6-201 (B)]

Office Address: _____

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Office Telephone Number: () _____

Second Party: _____

[Rule 6-201 (B)]

Office Address: _____

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Office Telephone Number: () _____

Third Party: _____

[Rule 6-201 (B)]

Office Address: _____

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Office Telephone Number: () _____

Fourth Party: _____

[Rule 6-201 (B)]

Office Address: _____

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Office Telephone Number: () _____

1. Please check one:

___ This attorney fee dispute arose in connection with the withdrawal of a lawyer from a law firm.

___ This attorney fee dispute arose in connection with the dissolution and separation of a law firm.

___ This dispute arose in connection with the entitlement of lawyers to portions of attorney fees earned from joint services.

2. Should any client be a party to this arbitration? (If yes, explain since this petition is not designed for such cases):

3. Please provide joint answers to the following questions. If you cannot agree on a joint answer, separate answers are permissible. However, they should be limited to the areas of disagreement.

a. Amount in controversy? _____

b. Relief desired by each party:

First Party: _____

Second Party: _____

Third Party: _____

Fourth Party: _____

c. Date on which dispute first arose *[Rule 6-204 (F)]*: _____

d. Areas of law involved in the case or legal services from which this fee dispute arose?

e. Good faith efforts of the parties to resolve the dispute prior to the submission of this Petition?

[Rule 6-201 (C)]

f. Issues?

4. Attach a separate concise (one page, if possible) summary of the position each party intends to present at the arbitration hearing. This is intended to be an informative pleading and not a full brief or written argument.

5. Required attachments of documents that relate to the fee dispute:

- a. Fee contracts
- b. Correspondence
- c. Itemized statements
- d. Pleadings if litigation has been instituted regarding the attorney in fees in dispute
- e. Relevant agreements

All parties hereby agree as follows:

- a. To be bound by the result of the arbitration.
- b. To have the matter heard by three lawyer-arbitrators to be selected solely by the Committee on the Arbitration of Attorney Fee Disputes.
- c. The three arbitrators shall be compensated at the rate of \$150.00 per hour per arbitrator with a four (4) hour minimum which shall be shared equally between the parties. The four (4) hour minimum fees are due ten (10) days in advance of the scheduled hearing date, with the balance due upon entry of the arbitration award. (Please estimate the time you would anticipate each arbitrator will need to set aside to hear your case: _____ hours.)

By filing this Petition we certify that the above information is true and correct. We certify that we have read the Rules which govern this public service of the State Bar of Georgia. We understand that our decision to be bound by the result of the arbitration may be irrevocable under *Rule 6-206*. We agree to pay in accordance with the award and to do so promptly. We certify that no promises have been made to us regarding the results of the arbitration and that this Petition is filed by us in a voluntary effort to finally resolve the fee dispute recognizing that the results may be favorable or unfavorable to our position.

Date: _____

First Party: _____

Date: _____

Second Party: _____

Date: _____

Third Party: _____

Date: _____

Fourth Party: _____

The numbers in brackets [] refer to the specific Fee Arbitration Rule that relates to the question you are answering on the Petition. Please read the listed Rule so that you will better understand the purpose of the question.

Please answer ALL QUESTIONS completely providing factual information. If more space is needed, attach other pages. YOU MUST ATTACH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS SUCH AS COPIES OF CONTRACTS, CORRESPONDENCE OR STATEMENTS. If you have any questions regarding this Petition or the Fee Arbitration process, please call the State Bar of Georgia at (404) 527-8750 or (404) 527-8700.