

# ARBITRATION

of

## Attorney-Client Fee Disputes

### Contact Information

The Nebraska State Bar Association  
Legal Fee Arbitration Program is a  
service of the Nebraska State  
Bar Association.

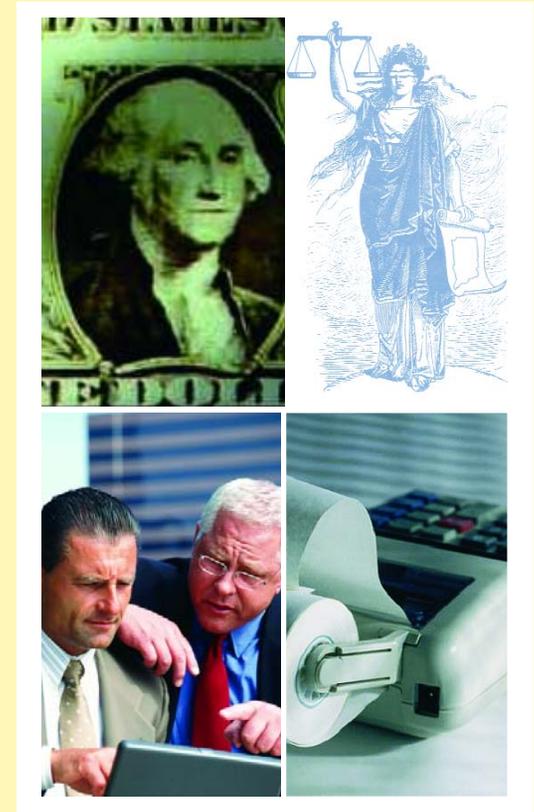
The Fee Dispute Coordinator  
may be reached at:  
**(402) 475-7091.**

Petitions and additional information  
can also be found on the  
Nebraska State Bar Association's  
website: [www.nebar.com](http://www.nebar.com)



**NEBRASKA**  
*State Bar Association*

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635 S. 14th Street #200  
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[www.nebar.com](http://www.nebar.com)



**NEBRASKA**  
*State Bar Association*

## Arbitration of Attorney-Client Fee Disputes



The purpose of the Nebraska State Bar Association Legal Fee Arbitration Program is to provide for the

expeditious resolution through voluntary arbitration of disputes involving fees charged by attorneys.

In addition, it provides for voluntary arbitration of fee disputes between attorneys in their professional capacity and physicians, stenographers, consultants and expert witnesses.

### *Who & What Does the Program Cover?*

The Arbitration Program is voluntary for all parties. It has jurisdiction in all matters set forth previously within the State of Nebraska involving any attorney who is licensed to practice law in the State. However, the program **does not** have jurisdiction over (a) disputes in which a lawsuit has been filed over which the court possesses jurisdiction to set an attorney fee, and (b) disputes in which the client has alleged a violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility.

### *How Are Proceedings Initiated?*

Arbitration proceedings may be initiated by filing a written Petition on a designated form. Petition forms and copies of the Rules for the Program may be obtained by calling the NSBA Fee Dispute Coordinator at **(402) 475-7091** or from the NSBA website at **[www.nebar.com](http://www.nebar.com)**.

The Petition must be filed with the NSBA Fee Dispute Coordinator with a **\$10** filing fee, payable to the NSBA. The filing fee will be refunded if the Respondent does not consent to arbitration.

### *How is the Claim Processed?*

Upon receipt of the Petition, if the Program has jurisdiction, the Petition is forwarded to a District Administrator in one of six Supreme Court Judicial Districts throughout

the State. The appropriate District Administrator is determined by the District in which the services were rendered. If the District Administrator determines from the face of the petition that there is not reasonable grounds, he/she may dismiss the Petition (without prejudice to the Petitioner's other legal remedies). If the Administrator determines that the Petition is viable and bona fide, he/she may endeavor to resolve the dispute informally. If the dispute is resolved informally, the Petition is deemed withdrawn. Failing informal resolution, the matter proceeds to conclusion through a formal arbitration procedure if the Respondent agrees to do so.

### *The Award*

Any award rendered may be enforced by any court of competent jurisdiction and there is no appeal except as provided in the Uniform Arbitration Act.

### *Confidentiality*

All records, documents, files, proceedings and hearings pertaining to the arbitration of any fee dispute under the Rules of the Program are confidential and are not open to the public or any person not involved in the dispute.