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CBA RESOLUTION OF LEGAL FEE DISPUTES PROGRAM **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. What does participation in the Program cost?

A: Nothing. The program is free to all parties and is sponsored by the CBA as a public service to the community.

2. Do I have to notify my attorney or my client that I am filing a Petition for Resolution of Legal Fee Dispute?

A: No. You should make a good faith effort, in writing, to resolve the dispute before filing the petition.

3. Can I file both a Petition for Resolution of Legal Fee Dispute and a grievance against the attorney?

A: Yes. This is generally permitted. Typically, the petition and grievance proceedings may proceed simultaneously. In some cases, if the grievance complaint and the fee dispute are closely related, the grievance committee may exercise exclusive jurisdiction. If it opts to do so, only the grievance proceedings will go forward, and the CBA proceedings will be discontinued.

4. Should I pay my attorney, or refund to my client, the legal fees before filing a petition?

A: It's your call. The decision as to whether or not to pay or refund the legal fees prior to the fee dispute hearing is up to each individual.

5. Can I hire an attorney to represent me at the arbitration or mediation hearing?

A: Yes, you can be represented by an attorney at your own expense. However, the program is designed to be an informal process so that parties can represent themselves.

6. Is there someone at the CBA that can advise me on what I should do?

A: The Program Administrator may assist you in locating appropriate forms or Program reference materials. However, the CBA Program staff does not provide legal advice.