

Consent to Attorney's Request for Arbitration of a Fee Dispute

_____ has requested an arbitration of the fee dispute between you.
Attorney

A copy of the attorney's *Request for Arbitration* is attached.

If you agree to arbitrate this dispute, it will be submitted to an arbitrator or panel of arbitrators who will hear this arbitration and make findings and an award respecting this arbitration.

You are not required to consent to the arbitration. Unless you consent in writing to a fee arbitration, you cannot be compelled by an attorney to participate. However, if you choose not to consent to participate, the attorney will have the right to file an action in court to collect any unpaid attorney's fees after giving you notice of his intention to do so as provided by law.

If you want to arbitrate this fee dispute, please fill out this form and return it within 30 days to:

**Long Beach Bar Association
Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program
3515 Linden Avenue, Suite 22
Long Beach, CA 90807**

Before you decide whether to arbitrate, you may wish to read the Long Beach Bar Association rules for fee arbitrations. These rules can be read on the Long Beach Bar Association website at: www.longbeachbar.org/arbitration.

Number of Arbitrators:

If the fee dispute is for less than \$15,000, it is heard by one arbitrator. If it is for \$15,000 or more, it is heard by three arbitrators. If you agree, you can have the dispute heard by one arbitrator even if the dispute is for \$15,000 or more.

Do you agree to one arbitrator? Yes No

Effect of Arbitration:

Unless both parties agree in writing to binding arbitration, this arbitration is NON-BINDING. This means that if you or the attorney are not satisfied with the award, either of you has the right to ask for a new trial in a civil court within 30 days from the date the award is mailed to you. If neither of you ask for a new trial within 30 days, the award automatically becomes final and binding on both of you.

Do you agree to a binding arbitration? Yes No

I, _____, agree do not agree
to submit this fee dispute to the Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program of the Long Beach Bar Association.

Client's signature

Date