



SONOMA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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April 14, 2009

Ms. Jill Sperber
Director, Office of Mandatory Fee Arbitration
The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street, 6th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Sonoma County Bar Association's Fee Arbitration Program Changes

Dear Jill:

We are in the process of reviewing our Fee Arbitration Program's fees. We have done research of other local bar associations, and what we are proposing is that we bring our fees to closely match our neighbor, Marin County. This proposed fee schedule is on the enclosed attachment.

We have also researched some other counties' fees, and these fees are on the attached chart.

We have not made a change to our fees for quite some time, and we feel our program warrants these changes. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Best regards,

Win Rogers
Legal Programs Manager
Sonoma County Bar Association

Sonoma County Fee Arbitration Program
April 14, 2009

Rule 8.4 Fees. The filing fee schedule is as follows:

Amount in Controversy Fee

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$1 | through | \$5,000 | \$250 plus 5% |
| \$1 | through | \$500 | \$100 |
| \$5,001 | through | \$9,999 | \$500 plus 5% |
| \$501 | through | \$2,500 | \$150 |
| \$2,501 | through | \$5,000 | \$200 |
| \$5,001 | through | \$9,999 | \$250 |
| \$10,000 + and above | | | \$500 plus 7% |
| \$10,000+ | and above | | \$300 + 3% above \$10,000 |

\$7,500

Maximum amount to be charged: ~~\$5,000~~

| FEE ARBITRATION | | SCBA Comparison of Other Counties | Base Fee | Percentage | Minimum Fee | Maximum Fee | Higher (H) or Lower (L) than Sonoma Co | Comments |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|--|---|-------------|--------------|--|---|
| County | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Alameda County | under \$10,000 over \$10,001 | - | 5% 7% | \$50 | \$7,000 | H | Percentages are higher than ours |
| 2 | Contra Costa County | less than \$2,999 \$3,000-\$4,999 \$5,000-\$9,999 over \$10,001 | \$100 \$200 \$300 \$400 | - | - | - | - | Percentage is lower than ours |
| 3 | Marin County | under \$5,000 5001 - 9,999 over 10,000 | \$250 \$500 \$750 | plus 1% plus 5% plus 6% plus 7% | - | \$7,000 | L | Base Fee and Percentages are higher |
| 4 | Orange County | under \$1,500 over \$1,501 | \$75 | 5% | - | \$5,000 | H | Percentage is higher than ours |
| 5 | Riverside Co. | under \$500 over \$500 | \$50 \$25 | 7.5% | - | \$1,000 | L | Cap is lower than ours |
| 6 | Sacramento County | under \$10,000 over \$10,000 | - | 5% | - | - | H | Percentage is higher than ours |
| 7 | San Francisco County | under \$10,000 \$10,001-\$1,000,000 over \$1,000,001 | - \$5,000 | 5% 7% | \$50 | \$5,000 | - | Base Fee + surcharge \$250 for each million dollars |
| 8 | San Mateo County | under \$1,000 \$1,000.01-\$5,000 \$5,000.01-\$15,000 over \$15,001 | \$100 \$150 \$350 \$350 | - | - | - | H | Base Fee is higher than ours |
| 9 | Santa Clara County | \$0-\$500 \$500-\$1,000 \$1,001-\$2,000 \$2,001-\$3,000 \$3,001-\$4,000 \$4,001-\$5,000 \$5,001-\$6,000 \$6,000-\$7,000 \$7,001-\$8,000 \$8,001-\$9,000 \$9,001-\$10,000 over \$10,001 | \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 \$125 \$150 \$175 \$200 \$225 \$250 \$275 | - | - | - | - | Cap is higher than ours |
| 10 | Sonoma County | \$1-\$500 \$501-\$2,500 \$2,501-\$5,000 \$5,001-\$9,999 \$10,001+ | \$100 \$150 \$200 \$250 \$500 | 3% \$250 + 5% \$500 + 5% 3% + 7% | - | \$7,500 | H | Cap is higher than ours |
| 11 | Ventura County | under \$5,000 \$5,001-\$10,000 \$10,001-\$20,000 \$20,001-\$50,000 over \$50,001 | \$200 \$400 \$600 \$1,200 \$1,600 | - | - | 5000 \$7,500 | L | No addnl percentage fees |

ATTACHMENT
MAY 54-122