



MODEL RETAINER AGREEMENT

_____ and _____
(Client Name) (Attorney Name)

agree that I will provide legal representation through the State Bar of Michigan Modest Means Program for the following legal issue(s): _____

My fees for this matter are at the reduced rate of

Fixed Fee of \$_____ (\$500 max)

--OR--

Hourly Fee of \$_____ /hour (\$75.00 max)

--OR--

Monthly Service Fee of \$_____ /month

Listed below are our arrangements.

A maximum retainer of \$_____ (No more than \$750.00) is required to be paid prior to my filing any documents with the courts and becoming the attorney of record for this issue.

The retainer is an amount that will be held in escrow (like a deposit) and applied against actual fees at the hourly/monthly fee rate above. After the case is finished, any unused portion of the retainer will be refunded to you. The retainer applies to attorney fees only and does not include filing fees, court costs, mediation, or other litigation expenses. You are responsible for the payment of these costs in a prompt manner.

You may apply for a waiver of court fees, which are granted at the court's discretion. We will discuss whether a request for a fee waiver should be made.

Some cases allow for the recovery of attorney's fees as part of the damages in a lawsuit. If I obtain an award of attorney's fees in this matter, I can keep that award; however, you will get a refund for attorney fees or retainer you already paid for this matter.

If it becomes clear that my fee will exceed the amount of the retainer, I will notify you promptly so that we can discuss in good faith how to proceed. No additional fee will be charged unless we have reached an agreement on the fee and the manner of payment. At the conclusion of this case or my services, any amounts due must be paid by a stated date or according to a payment plan.

If you disagree with my bill and we cannot agree on a resolution, you have the opportunity to submit a request to the State Bar of Michigan Lawyer Referral Service (LRS). The LRS will assist in resolving the fee dispute.

Date: _____ Client Signature: _____

Date: _____ Attorney Signature: _____