

SAMPLE

NOTICE TO ATTORNEYS: ETHICAL REQUIREMENT THAT ALL FEES BE REASONABLE

Michigan attorneys should be aware that Michigan Rule of Professional Conduct 1.5 requires that all fees charged a client be reasonable. A lawyer will be expected to refund all or a portion of a non-refundable or flat fee, if, under the factors set forth in MRPC 1.5, retaining the entire fee would result in an unreasonable fee. Attorneys should take care in setting and charging their fees to ensure compliance with MRPC 1.5. The following State Bar of Michigan Ethics Opinions may provide guidance regarding specific fee questions:

Reasonableness of Fees	RI-150, RI-162, RI-168, RI-193
Fixed Fees	RI-50, RI-69
Mixed hourly/percentage	RI-006, RI-114
Hourly/percentage –greater/lesser of –	RI –006

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

ICLE, *Attorney Fee Agreements in Michigan, Second Addition*, Edited, Emma R. Stephens (2002)