

FEE AGREEMENT

Pre-Decree

_____ Client (hereinafter referred to as "Client") and MICHAEL A. MESCHINO, Attorney at Law (hereinafter referred to as "Attorney"), agree as follows:

1. Client retains Attorney to settle or litigate Client's difficulties with Client's spouse -----, and Client agrees to pay the fees and costs hereinafter stated.

2. Client shall pay the Attorney the sum of \$3,500.00 as a retainer fee, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

3. Attorney shall keep a complete record of time. Client's fees for services shall be based upon the amount of time expended, charges at an hourly rate of \$200.00 for non-court time and \$300.00 for time spent in Court and depositions, the complexity of the case, the degree of responsibility, and the expertise of the attorney involved. Client understands that other attorneys associated with Michael A. Meschino, and/or legal assistants (i.e. paralegals and law clerks) may provide services to the client in regard to this litigation when necessary as determined by Attorney.

4. Attorney's fees, interest, costs and witness fees which are incurred shall be paid directly by the client. At all times, Client shall have the right to discuss the estimated cost of litigation and approximate time thought to be needed to conclude the litigation.

5. Telephone calls are billed on a .2 hour minimum. Receipt and sending e-mails and voicemails are billed at .1 minimum. Letters are billed at .3 hour minimum.

6. That Client agrees that the term "Court Time" includes depositions, and one-half hour of travel time to the courthouse or the place of any deposition other than Michael A. Meschino's office. There is no travel time to the Rolling Meadows courthouse.

7. Client agrees that when the retainer funds are depleted, Client shall re-establish a retainer account based upon agreement with Attorney as to the amount.

8. Client agrees to pay interest to the Law Offices of Michael A. Meschino on any unpaid balance due and owing to the same at the rate of NINE (9%) PERCENT per annum until the principal balance and accrued interest are paid in full.

9. Client shall be billed at the conclusion of the matter for all cash expenses, fees and interest incurred on behalf of Client.

10. Client agrees to pay all fees, costs and interest in full prior to entry of a final decree and is personally responsible for fees, costs and interest whether or not Client's spouse is required to reimburse Client for such charges by Court Order. Client understands that costs include but are not limited to, court costs, deposition fees, excessive copying costs (in excess of 50 pages), witness fees, subpoena fees, transcript fees, expert witness expenses and the like.

11. Attorney shall charge Client a separate and additional fee for any hearings, litigation, appeal or controversy which take place after the entry of the final decree.

12. It is necessary, for the undersigned to faithfully execute his duties as an attorney, to attend to every single court date scheduled in this matter. That any request by the Client to the Attorney to not attend a court hearing for any reason will not be followed by the Attorney. Any instructions to not call the other Attorney, the Judge's coordinator or anyone else necessary, in Attorney's discretion, to faithfully execute the duties as an attorney representing Client in this case will also not be followed.

13. Effective June 1, 1997, the Illinois Legislature requires that every Engagement Agreement letter must have appended to it a Statement of Client's Rights and Responsibilities. The purpose of this is to afford a greater understanding between us regarding the overall parameters of our working relationship so that misunderstandings will not develop. That a copy of the Statement of Client's Rights and Responsibilities is attached to this Agreement.

14. Client acknowledges that he has been supplied with a copy of this Agreement and agrees to the contents thereof.

By: _____
THE CLIENT

By: _____
MICHAEL A. MESCHINO