

# General FAQ

## **What is a retainer?**

A retainer is a sum of money that you would be required to pay before most legal work would be started. The amount varies as to the size and complexity of your case. As work is performed for you, the billing amount will be deducted from that retainer. If the retainer amount were to fall below a certain level, you will be required to replenish it so that we may continue to work for your case. In every case, if all requested work is completed and you still have an amount of unused retainer, you will receive the difference back.

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## **Can I pay my retainer or fees with a credit card, check or cash?**

Yes we accept checks, cash, and MasterCard and Visa credit cards for payment.

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## **What is a retainer agreement?**

It is a contract between my office and you. Some terms may differ slightly with each agreement, but it explains in detail what you have asked me to do and what charges for which you will be responsible. I require this document to be signed before any work will be done on your behalf.

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## **Will I be charged for calling my attorney or paralegal to ask questions?**

Yes, all activity that is done for your benefit or on your behalf is chargeable time. There may also be out-of-pocket expenses such as constable fees, appraisal fees, transcript fees, postage, photocopying, etc. for which you may be responsible.

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## **What are your rates?**

Rates vary as to the attorney and matter involved. We will discuss that with you after speaking with you in order to ascertain what may be involved.

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## **Will I be charged for the initial consultation?**

Most often, you will not be charged. However, each case is different and there may be circumstances in which I will need to charge for the first visit.

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## **How long will it take to resolve my case?**

Unfortunately, every case is different and it is impossible to tell how long a case

will continue. What may appear to be a simple matter may not be and vice versa.