

If in a particular case the award of attorney's fees is authorized, the attorney shall not request nor shall the Court award fees in excess of reasonable attorney's fees. "Factors to be considered as guides in determining the reasonableness of a fee include the following: (1) The time and labor required, the novelty and difficulty of the questions involved, and the skill requisite to perform the legal service properly. (2) The likelihood, if apparent to the client, that the acceptance of the particular employment will preclude other employment by the lawyer. (3) The fee customarily charged in the locality for similar legal services. (4) The amount involved and the result obtained. (5) The time limitations imposed by the client or by the circumstances. (6) The nature and length of professional relationship with the client. (7) The experience, reputation, and ability of the lawyer or lawyers performing the services. (8) Whether the fee is fixed or contingent." ABA Disciplinary Rule 2-106.

Where the fee is contingent, the award of attorney's fees shall not exceed the following limits:

- (a) 30% on the first \$5,000.00 awarded in general damages;
- (b) 20% on the next \$20,000.00 awarded in general damages;
- (c) 15% on the next \$75,000.00 awarded in general damages;
- (d) 7.5% on the next \$400,000.00 awarded in general damages;
- (e) 5% on the next \$500,000.00 awarded in general damages; and
- (f) 2.5% on any amount awarded in general damages over \$1,000,000.00.

The Clerk of the Courts is ordered to reject from filing any requests for attorney's fees not complying with this order.

High Court General Order 1996-1 and any prior orders contrary to the above are vacated.

Dated: May 30, 2005

/S/
Carl B. Ingram
Chief Justice, High Court