

STATEMENT OF CLIENT'S RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

An attorney is providing you with this document to inform you of what you, as a client, are entitled to by law or by custom. To help prevent any misunderstanding between you and the attorney please read this document carefully.

If you ever have any questions about these rights, or about the way your case is being handled once you retain the attorney, you are responsible to ask your attorney. Your attorney should be readily available to represent your best interests and keep you informed about your case.

You may not be refused representation on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, national origin or disability.

You are entitled to an attorney who will be capable of handling your case; show you courtesy and consideration at all times; represent you zealously; and preserve your confidences and secrets that you reveal in the course of the relationship to the extent permitted by law. You are responsible to communicate honestly, civilly and respectfully with your attorney.

Even though you are being represented by an attorney without fee, you may be responsible at the beginning of the case or before or after the trial to contribute to or pay the other party's attorney's fees and other costs if the Court has ordered you to do so.

Even though you are being represented by an attorney without fee, the other party may be responsible to contribute to or to pay your attorney's or expert fees in your case, if the Court orders the other party to do so.

You may be required to pay for court filing fees, process servers, as well as fees for expert reports, testimony, depositions and/or trial testimony and you may seek reimbursements from the other party. The attorney will discuss this with you.

If you engage in conduct which is found to be frivolous or meant to intentionally delay the case you could be fined or sanctioned and/or responsible for additional fees.

You are responsible to be honest and truthful in all discussions with your attorney, and to provide all relevant information and documentation to enable her or him to competently prepare your case. Attorneys and clients must make reasonable efforts to maintain open communication during business hours throughout the representation. An attorney may seek to be relieved as your attorney if you are not honest and truthful with her or him.

You are entitled to be kept informed of the status of your case, and to be provided with copies of correspondence and documents prepared on your behalf or received from the court or your adversary.

Your attorney is required to discuss the following with you: a) the automatic orders that are in effect once either party files a summons with notice: b) the law that provides for the financial support of the children, the Child Support Standards Act, if you and the other party have children under the age of twenty-one: and c) the law that provides for the financial support of the parties, the Maintenance Guidelines Statute.

You are responsible to be present and on time in court at the time that conferences, oral arguments, hearings and trials are conducted unless excused by the Judge or the part rules of the assigned Judge.

You are entitled to make the ultimate decision on the objectives to be pursued in your case, and to make the final decision regarding the settlement of your case. Your attorney has the right to send you written communication if your attorney disagrees with how you want your case handled.

You are entitled to have your attorney's best efforts exerted on your behalf, but no particular results can be guaranteed.

If you entrust money with an attorney for an escrow deposit in your case, the attorney must safeguard the escrow in a special bank account. You are entitled to a written escrow agreement, a written receipt, and a complete record concerning the escrow. When the terms of the escrow agreement have been performed, the attorney must promptly make payment of the escrow to all persons who are entitled to it.

If you are expecting your attorney to prepare and file documents related to the transfer of a house, co-op, or lease you may have to make arrangements with another attorney to do so; and if the attorney charges you a fee, you must sign a retainer agreement with the other attorney. The signing of an agreement or Court order that transfer the title does not transfer a co-op apartment or a house. A separate document must be prepared and filed.

Receipt acknowledged:

Client _____

_____ Date

Attorney _____

_____ Date