

05/13/2013

Eric Valley
P.O. Box 2059
Shelton, WA 98584
evalley@hctc.com

SENT VIA US CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Re: Invoice sent 05/10/13, termination of legal services, and request of legal file.

Eric,

I have received the invoice you emailed to Rana Brown on 5/10/13, the day after I terminated you as my legal council in the boating accident appeal. I have also received several text messages from you regarding the fees you purport I owe. I disagree that I have a remaining balance, and contend that in fact you owe me the balance of monies I have paid in advanced for work you have not done since August 2012. In your communications on 5/10/13 you claim several different amounts that you claim I owe you, and I believe that you are confused regarding fees.

On August 3rd, 2012 we met and I paid you \$500.00 towards work you were to do regarding the appeal, you stated that you were going to be submitting a motion to the court regarding the \$30,000 that you had claimed the judge had set aside from the original restitution amount. Between August and December I attempted to contact you several times regarding the status of the case but you ignored all but one of my emails, stating on Dec. 3rd, 2012 that you "needed to finalize the district court thing". Then we received notification from the court on Dec. 20th that they were dismissing the case due to "inactivity". We contacted you several times regarding this, and you finally contacted me on January 7th, 2013 and gave me an excuse about how busy you had been, and that you would go to court to make sure the case didn't get dismissed.

We met on January 17th, 2013 and gave you another \$200.00 toward the case. At this time, we agreed that we were "square" financially to date, however we requested an invoice for work done from March 2012 to date. You refused this request, but did say you would provide an invoice from August 2012 until then, which you never did supply. You also told us at this meeting that you would be scheduling a hearing regarding the \$30,000 that the judge had purportedly dismissed from the restitution total. As far as I see no work was done from August to January, and this is evidenced by the court motioning to dismiss the case in Dec. 2012.

Since our meeting on January 17th, 2013, I have sent you many requests via email and text, most have been ignored. You have shown that you have sent 2 emails regarding the case. You claim you have spent a total of .4 hours doing so. Therefore, you have earned \$100.00 out of the \$700.00 I have paid you since August 3rd, 2012. I request that you send a refund of these fees in the amount of \$600.00 along with a copy of my file.

I hired you on March 1st, 2012 to represent me in the appeal of the restitution that was imposed on 2/29/2012. I requested you do two things..1) work on and timely file an appeal of the amount of awarded restitution, and 2) request a lowered monthly restitution amount. Since that time, you have

done neither. You continue to indicate you have saved me \$30,000 but as I continue to tell you, there is nothing in the court record nor in my account balance to reflect this (you have been saying this for nearly a year). Also, you have not addressed the monthly amount with the court. I have given you the benefit of the doubt that you were working in good faith on my case, but you continue to string me along, and I feel like I have been paying for the same service over and over since you request more money at each meeting, yet cannot provide proof that any work has been done that warrants the fees. You consistently ignore my requests for updates, and explanation of fees. I have paid you approximately \$2000.00 to date, and do not have anything to reflect any progress towards the goals I hired you for.

Based upon these facts, I disagree with your invoice, and do not intend to pay the erroneous and factitious charges you present in your May 10th, 2013 correspondence. I request you send the copy of the file that you state in your email that is ready for me to pick up, as you do not keep regular business hours that would allow me to do so. If you are unwilling to mail a copy in the US Mail, please provide a scanned electronic copy to Rbrown@squaxin.us. You can send the remaining balance on my account and the file copy to the address provided below. Also, as I previously requested on 5/9/13, please submit to the court a withdrawal of council by 5/20/13 so that I can retain new council in this matter.

Bear Lewis

Date

Bear Lewis
P.O. Box 62
McCleary, WA 98557