FAC #14-494

FRED WHEELER,
Petitioner,
v.

LOUIS SHIRO, ESQ.,
Respondent.

The undersigned constitutes a duly-authorized Fee Arbitration Panel of the Fee Arbitration Commission of the Board of Overseers of the Bar. This Panel was designated to hear the controversy existing between the above-named parties as set forth in the Petitioner's petition. A hearing was held on April 16, 2015, at Augusta, Maine. The Petitioner, Fred Wheeler with counsel, Doug Jennings, Esq., the Respondent, Louis J. Shiro, Esq., , and Respondent's secretary, Rita Chaykowski, appeared and testified. Based upon the evidence introduced and testimony, the Panel finds as follows:

1. In the matter of Fred Wheeler v. Osterman Propone d/b/a Downeast Energy, the Respondent submitted charges totaling $11,347.23. The Petitioner has paid $8,526.84. The Petitioner challenges the remaining $2,820.39. The Panel concludes that all of Respondent's charges are reasonable; therefore, Petitioner owes Respondent $2,820.39.

2. In the matter of Fred Wheeler v. Kevin Blazer, et al, Respondent submitted total charges in the amount of $3,797.82. The Petitioner has paid $3,174.82 and challenges the balance of $623.00. The Panel finds that the full amount of charges submitted is reasonable, and Petitioner therefore owes Respondent $623.00.

In order to preserve the confidentiality of the written materials and the testimony submitted at the hearing, the findings of fact and conclusions are not set forth in the Award and Determination. This Award and Determination is accompanied, however, by a separate supplemental document which sets forth the findings of fact and conclusions of the Panel. By ruling of the Chair, the attached supplemental document shall not be considered part of the award, which is a public document. In accordance with
Maine Bar Rule 9(j), the supplemental document shall be confidential and shall not be open to the public or disclosed to any person except as otherwise set forth in Maine Bar Rule 9(j).

The Award and Determination is in full settlement of all claims submitted to the Arbitration Panel.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has subscribed to this Award on April 29, 2015.

Christopher Mann, Esq., Chair
Sandra S. Hodges, Panel Member
Peter T. Marchesi, Esq., Panel Member