

**YUBA-SUTTER RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR FEE ARBITRATION**  
 (Amended March 2009, Approved by State Bar of California)

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**ARTICLE I  
DEFINITIONS**

**RULE 1.0. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- 1.1 **ACTION:** A civil judicial proceeding brought to enforce, redress or protect a right.
- 1.2 **ADMINISTRATOR:** The staff person responsible for administering the Yuba-Sutter Bar Association's Fee Arbitration Program.
- 1.3 **AWARD:** The decision of the arbitrator or arbitrators in the fee arbitration proceeding.
- 1.4 **CLIENT:** A person who directly or through an authorized representative consults, retains or secures legal services or advice from an attorney in the attorney's professional capacity.
- 1.5 **PRESIDENT:** The President of the Yuba-Sutter Bar Association or the President's designee who is the person responsible for supervising the program's fee arbitrators and for ruling on matters as set forth in these rules.
- 1.6 **DECLARATION:** A declaration is a document in compliance with the requirements of Code of Civil Procedure section 2015.5, or an affidavit.
- 1.7 **FILE:** Fee arbitration records and papers in a specific fee arbitration case.
- 1.8 **HEARING PANEL:** One or three arbitrators assigned to hear the fee dispute and to issue the award.
- 1.9 **PANEL CHAIR:** Refers to either the sole arbitrator or Panel Chair of a three-member panel assigned to hear a matter. The Panel Chair is responsible for ruling on matters pertaining to the individual case assigned as set forth in these rules.
- 1.10 **PARTY:** A person who initiates or is named in an arbitration proceeding under these rules, including an attorney, a client or other person who is not the client but may be liable for payment of, or entitled to a refund of attorney's fees.
- 1.11 **PROGRAM:** Unless indicated otherwise, reference to the program means the Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program of the Yuba-Sutter Bar Association (YSBA).
- 1.12 **STATE BAR:** The State Bar of California. Unless indicated otherwise, reference to the State Bar means the State Bar's Office of Mandatory Fee Arbitration.

**ARTICLE II  
ARBITRATION GENERALLY**

**RULE 2.0 Arbitration Mandatory For Attorneys**

Arbitration under Business and Professions Code sections 6200-6206 is voluntary for a client, unless the parties agreed in writing to submit their fee disputes to arbitration, and mandatory for an attorney if commenced by a client.