Proposed Withdrawal of Trust Money

It is intended to withdraw the above amount from money held in our trust ledger at the expiration of 7 business days from the date this bill was given unless an objection is made.

Interest

Interest will be charged on unpaid legal costs in accordance with the terms of our costs agreement. Should the costs agreement not deal with the charging of interest, we will charge interest on legal costs which remain unpaid 30 days after giving you this bill, in accordance with the Legal Profession Uniform Law (NSW).¹ The rate of interest is the Cash Rate Target stipulated by the Reserve Bank of Australia as at the date of this bill plus 2%.

Responsible principal of law practice - or if not signed by a responsible principal, the responsible principal is …………………………….

Notification of client’s rights

You may request an itemised bill from us after receiving a bill that is not itemised or is partially itemised within 30 days after the date that the costs in that bill become payable.

In the event of a dispute in relation to legal costs you may:

- seek the assistance of the NSW Commissioner;
- have the costs assessed⁶.

A complaint to the NSW Commissioner, in relation to this bill, must be made within the required period of 60 days after the legal costs become payable or if an itemised bill was requested, 30 days after that request was complied with. The NSW Commissioner may waive the time requirement if satisfied that the complaint is made within 4 months after the required period and it is just and fair to deal with the complaint, having regard to the delay and reasons for the delay.

An application for costs assessment must be made within 12 months after:

(a) the bill was given to you, or the request for payment was made to you, the third party payer or other law practice; or
(b) the legal costs were paid if neither a bill nor a request was made.

We may give you an interim bill covering part only of the legal services we were retained to provide. Legal costs that are the subject of an interim bill may be assessed either at the time of the interim bill or at the time of the final bill, whether or not the interim bill has previously been assessed or paid.

If this is a lump sum bill and you request an itemised bill, which exceeds the amount specified in this lump sum bill, the additional costs may be recovered from you only if the costs are determined to be payable after a costs assessment or after a binding determination by the NSW Commissioner.

Fraud warning: Please be aware that there is a significant risk posed by cyber fraud, specifically relating to email accounts and bank account details. If our bank account details change, you will be notified by letter and not by email. However, please check any change to bank account details with us in person prior to making any payment.

¹No interest is chargeable if this bill is given to you more than 6 months after the completion of your matter unless you request an itemised bill in respect of a lump sum bill outside the 6 month period or a bill has not been issued at your request.

⁶If you make a complaint about the costs to the NSW Commissioner you cannot have the costs assessed unless the costs dispute is unable to be resolved by the NSW Commissioner and they have notified the parties of their entitlement to apply for a costs assessment or the NSW Commissioner arranges for a costs assessment.