

Recent developments in

Attorney's fees

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Ethics warmup

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Under what circumstances may a law firm bill a client more for the work of a contract attorney than it actually pays to the contract attorney?

- a- never. This is fraud.
- b- always. This is what clients expect.
- c- sometimes. It always depends.

Ethics warmup

Is the contract lawyer “in” the firm?

receives firm communications

included in firm events

has access to firm resources, work location

held out as part of the firm

Tex. Disp. R. Prof'l Conduct 7.01(a); Tex. Ethics Op. 577

Ethics warmup

Non-firm lawyers – a markup constitutes fee sharing

joint responsibility requires proportionality of fees to services performed or

written client consent

total fee cannot be unconscionable

Tex. Disp. R. Prof'l Conduct 1.04(f); Tex. Ethics Op. 577

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Overview

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[Attorney Fees Update; Spoliation and Sanctions Update](#)

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