

## A Rhode Island Bar Association CLE Seminar

## Speaker

## **Niki Kuckes, Esq.** Professor, Roger Williams University School of Law

## Ethical Considerations in Client Billing

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Rhode Island Law Center, Providence

> Live Webcast Tuesday, May 7, 2013 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Subject to Supreme Court Rule IV 3 this course has been approved by the MCLE Commission for 2.0 ethics credits



While hourly billing still dominates, alternative billing arrangements are on the rise. Faced with increasing client desire for more flexible arrangements, lawyers and law firms are experimenting with billing. Alternatives may include not only flat fees and contingency fees but "blended" fee structures, use of "success" fees, so-called "value billing," and most recently, the "unbundling" of legal services. Under unbundling, clients engage a lawyer for limited and specific legal tasks, rather than for a full representation.

In this seminar, we will review the existing principles on ethics in billing, and apply them to some of the latest developments in law firm billing arrangements. Topics will include:

- The legal ethics rules applicable to billing arrangements
- The variety of new billing methods, and types of matters for which they work best (and worst)
- The meaning of a "reasonable" fee under alternative billing arrangements
- The lawyer's duties with respect to advance fee payments, non-refundable fees, and earned and unearned fees
- The very recent changes to the ABA Model Rules to encourage and promote "unbundling" of legal services
- The latest ABA ethics opinion on changing billing arrangements during a representation

## **Registration Form**

Please complete a separate form for each registrant. Please print. (Please do not staple checks)

# CLE Registration Details

#### Billing 5/7/13

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DATE ADMITTED TO PRACTICE		

EMAIL

(You will receive an email confirmation of your registration

For the Live Webcast, you must register at www.ribar.com.

#### TUITION

Admitted to the Bar BEFORE January 1, 2008: \$135.00

Admitted to the Bar AFTER January 1, 2008: \$120.00

Associate Members of RIBA: \$120.00

Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ payable to the Rhode Island Bar Association/CLE

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Unable to attend in person?

This CLE program will be offered both in person and as a ive simulcast. To attend the live simulcast please register online at **www.ribar.com.** 



**REMINDER** The CLE reporting year ends June 30, 2013

#### LIVE WEBCAST

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm You must register on line at www.ribar.com. Written materials will be available electronically only.

#### DATE/TIME/PLACE

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Rhode Island Law Center 115 Cedar Street, Providence

#### TUITION

\$135.00 \$120.00 For new attorneys admitted after January 1, 2008

You may register by fax (401- 421-2703) or online (www.ribar. com) with a credit card or by mail with check or credit card. Payment must accompany registration. You will receive an email confirmation of your registration.

#### WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Pre-registration is strongly recommended. We cannot guarantee seats if the program sells out. Materials for walk-in registration will be available in limited supply. If you have not pre-registered, please call before the seminar to confirm that there have been no schedule changes and that seats are still available. Call 401-421-5740.

### CANCELLATION POLICY

A full refund less a \$10.00 administrative fee will be given to registrants whose cancellations are received by 12:00 noon the day before the seminar. There will be no refunds for "no shows"; however, the program materials will be shipped after the program or a substitute may attend for someone unable to do so.

# SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION/MORE INFORMATION

Please indicate on the registration form any special accommodation you may require or call the CLE office at 401-421-5740. Fro more information you may contact the CLE Office at the Rhode Island Bar Association 401-421-5740, fax 401-421-2703 or online at www.ribar.com



Signature

\_\_\_Date\_\_