

ADMONITION NO. 21-01

CLASSIFICATION:

No Written Fee Arrangement [Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.5(b)(1)]

SUMMARY:

In June 2020, the respondent was retained by a client to represent him in connection with potential claims against his employer. During their initial phone conversation, the respondent took the client's credit card information and subsequently processed a \$1,500 credit card payment from the client to the respondent. The respondent failed, however, to communicate in writing the scope of the representation and the basis or rate of the fee and expenses for which the client was responsible before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation. The client terminated the representation in September 2020, after which the respondent refunded the \$1,500 payment.

By failing to communicate to his client in writing the scope of the representation and basis or rate of the fee and expenses for which the client was responsible before or within a reasonable time after commencing the representation, the respondent violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.5(b).

The respondent was admitted to practice in Massachusetts in 2006 and has received no prior discipline. He received an admonition for his misconduct.