

## **ADMONITION NO. 20-20**

### **CLASSIFICATION:**

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

### **SUMMARY:**

In May 2018, the client retained the respondent to represent him in connection with the sale of his home and some ongoing matters. The respondent failed 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 respondent performed the work for which she had been engaged. The parties later agreed orally that the client would pay the respondent a flat fee of \$7,500 but never reduced the agreement to writing. After about one year, the respondent and the client had a falling out and the representation was terminated.

By failing 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 and failing to provide a writing regarding the change to the flat fee, the respondent violated Mass. R. Prof. C. 1.5(b)(1).

The respondent was admitted to the bar in 2016. She has no previous discipline. The respondent received an admonition for this misconduct.