

VIRGINIA:

**IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND
Civil Division**

STANDING ORDER

Re: Attorneys' fees

Mullins v. Richland National Bank, 241 Va. 447 (1991) holds, among other things, that an evidentiary hearing must be conducted to determine reasonableness in the amount of attorneys' fees when the issue of attorneys' fees is contested and when the contract or other instrument upon which attorneys' fees are claimed does not provide for an exact calculation (i.e., a percentage of the amount sued for). The Court finds that, in *uncontested* cases, where the instrument provides only that a prevailing party may recover "reasonable" attorneys fees, twenty-five percent (25%) is presumed to be a reasonable fee in collection cases in the Richmond area.

In any case, should either party ask to prove or have proved the reasonableness of a requested attorney's fee, the Court will set a hearing to consider evidence on the issue, and may award a fee higher or lower than the twenty-five percent (25%) stated above.

ENTER: September 1, 2016


TRACY THORNE-BEGLAND,
Chief Judge