

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

ORDER NO. 1241

Amending Civil Rule 82
concerning award of attorney's
fees.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Paragraph (b) of Civil Rule 82 is amended to read as follows:

(b) **Amount of Award.**

. . . .

(2) In cases in which the prevailing party recovers no money judgment, the court shall award the prevailing party in a case which goes to trial 30 percent of the prevailing party's reasonable actual ~~reasonable~~ attorney's fees which were necessarily incurred, and shall award the prevailing party in a case resolved without trial 20 percent of its actual attorney's fees which were necessarily incurred. The actual fees shall include fees for legal work customarily performed by an attorney but which was delegated to and performed by an investigator, paralegal or law clerk.

. . . .

(4) Upon entry of judgment by default, the plaintiff may recover an award calculated under subparagraph (b)(1) or its reasonable actual fees which were necessarily incurred, whichever is less. Actual fees include fees for legal work performed by an investigator,

paralegal, or law clerk, as provided in subparagraph (b)(2).

2. Paragraph (c) of Civil Rule 82 is amended to read as follows:

(c) **Motions for Attorney's Fees.** A motion is required for an award of attorney's fees under this rule or pursuant to contract, statute, regulation, or law. The motion must be filed within 10 days after the date shown in the clerk's certificate of distribution on the judgment as defined by Civil Rule 58.1. Failure to move for attorney's fees within 10 days, or such additional time as the court may allow, shall be construed as a waiver of the party's right to recover attorney's fees. A motion for attorney's fees in a default case must specify actual fees.

3. Paragraph (e) of Civil Rule 82 is amended to read as follows:

(e) **Equitable Apportionment Under AS 09.17.080.** In a case in which damages are apportioned among the parties under AS 09.17.080, the fees awarded to the plaintiff under (b)(1) of this rule must also be apportioned among the parties according to their respective percentages of fault. If the plaintiff did not assert a direct claim against a third-party defendant brought into the action under Civil Rule 14(c), then

(1) the plaintiff is not entitled to recover the portion of the fee award apportioned to that party; and

(2) the court shall award attorney's fees between the third-party plaintiff and the third-party defendant as follows:

(A) if no fault was apportioned to the third-party defendant, the third-party defendant is entitled to recover attorney's fees calculated under (b)(2) of this rule;

(B) if fault was apportioned to the third-party defendant, the third-party plaintiff is entitled to recover under (b)(2) of this rule 30 or 20 percent of that party's actual attorney's fees incurred in asserting the claim against the third-party defendant.

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Effective Date: July 15, 1996
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DATED: May 2, 1996

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 15, 1996

/s/
Chief Justice Compton

/s/
Justice Rabinowitz

/s/
Justice Matthews

/s/
Justice Eastaugh

/s/
Justice Fabe