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| NORTH CAROLINA |   | GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE |
| \_\_\_ COUNTY |   | DISTRICT COURT DIVISION |
|   |   | \_\_\_ CVD \_\_\_ |
|   |   |   |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | ) |   |
|   | ) |   |
|                                       PLAINTIFF, | ) |   |
|   | ) |   |
|                                      v. | ) | **ORDER ON****ATTORNEY FEES** |
|   | ) |   |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | ) |   |
|   | ) |   |
|                                       DEFENDANT. | ) |   |

The parties having come before this Court on or about the \_\_\_ day of \_\_, 20\_\_, for post-separation support, child support, and attorney fees. After presentation of the evidence and a later affidavit of attorney fees, the court makes the following:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1.                   That \_\_\_\_\_\_ has been an attorney at law licensed to practice in the State of North Carolina and has been so licensed since 20\_\_.

2.                   That this firm and I have represented Plaintiff in this action since\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_. From the beginning of such representation, members of the firm have consulted with Plaintiff, counseled and advised Plaintiff, prepared pleadings and other documents, and otherwise prepared for the hearings of this matter. From the beginning of this litigation, its difficulty and its substance required these conferences and necessitated substantial preparation for litigation.

3.                   That this firm limits its practice to matters of family law, and I have attended various continuing legal education programs and have attempted to maintain a high level of competence in handling such matters.

4.                   The detailed statements of the time spent by Plaintiff's counsel in preparing for and litigating the matters for trial on child support and post-separation support is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

5.         That the normal and reasonable value of the legal services rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by an attorney of the experience and expertise of the undersigned in such cases is at least $\_\_\_\_\_ per hour

6.         Therefore, the undersigned having spent the time and expenses detailed on the attached statement to assist Plaintiff in the litigation of her postseparation support and child support a reasonable fee would be at least $\_\_\_\_.  Plaintiff has now paid fees for her representation on these matters in excess of this amount.

BASED ON the Findings of Fact, the Court enters the following:

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1.                                           Plaintiff is without sufficient means as to defray the costs of bringing an action for child support.

2.                                           Plaintiff is a litigant bringing her action for child support in good faith.

3.                                           Plaintiff is entitled to attorney fees for bringing an action for child support.

4.                                           Plaintiff is not entitled to attorney fees for her action for postseparation support.

THEREFORE, IT IS ADJUDGED, ORDERED, and DECREED:

1.         Plaintiff is awarded $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as attorney fees for services rendered in bringing a claim for support of the minor child.

2.         These fees shall be paid on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2004, in the following manner:

            3.         The Court retains jurisdiction to enforce the terms of this Order.

                                                                        \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                                                                        Honorable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                                                                        District Court Judge Presiding.