

Public Notice of Court Costs and Fees

Texas Government Code, §51.607, requires the comptroller to publish a list of all court costs and fees imposed or changed during the most recent regular session of the Legislature. This section also provides that, notwithstanding the effective date of the law imposing or changing the amount of a court cost or fee, the change does not take effect until the January following the effective date of the law, unless the bill makes a specific exception. If the bill takes effect before August 1 or after January 1, then the court cost or fee takes effect upon the effective date of the bill.

The listing of court costs and fees to be identified and published as required by Government Code, §51.607 are as follows:

House Bill 144

Filing Fee for Civil Cases in Bexar County

Effective June 19, 2009. House Bill 144, relates to an additional temporary filing fee for civil cases held in Bexar County.

The bill amends Government Code, §51.706, by adding an additional temporary filing fee not to exceed \$15 in certain civil cases to fund the improvement of court facilities, if authorized by the county commissioners court. Applies only to district courts, statutory probate courts, and county courts at law in Bexar County.

The bill amends Government Code, §101.06111, by adding an additional filing fee not to exceed \$15 in certain civil cases to fund the improvement of court facilities, if authorized by the county commissioners court.

The bill amends Government Code, §101.08111, by adding an additional filing fee not to exceed \$15 in certain civil cases to fund the improvement of court facilities, if authorized by the county commissioners court.

The bill amends Government Code, §101.10111, by adding an additional filing fee not to exceed \$15 in certain civil cases to fund the improvement of court facilities, if authorized by the county commissioners court.

House Bill 666

Drug Court Programs

Effective January 1, 2010. House Bill 666, relates to drug court program fund. The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 102.0178(a), to raise the costs a person has to pay to \$60 from \$50, in addition to other costs on conviction.

The bill amends Government Code, §102.021, adding costs attendant to convictions under Penal Code, Chapter 49 (intoxication and Alco-

holic Beverage Offense), and Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481 (Texas Controlled Substance Act), to help fund drug court programs established under Health and Safety Code, Chapter 469.

House Bill 1960

Peace Officers Employed by County Payment for Appearance

Effective June 19, 2009. House Bill 1960 amends Local Government Code, Chapter 157 by adding §157.906, that a county must pay a peace officer employed by the county for an appearance as a witness in a criminal suite, a civil suit, or an administrative proceeding in which the county or other political subdivision or government agency is a party in interest if the appearance: (1) is required; (2) is made on time off; and (3) is made by the peace officer in the capacity of a peace officer. Payment is at the peace officer's regular rate of pay. Payment may be taxed as court costs in civil suits.

House Bill 3389

Civil Justice Fee

Effective January 1, 2010. House Bill 3389, relates to a defendant convicted of a moving violation. The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 102, by adding Article 102.022, establishing a new \$.10 fee for convictions of moving violations in a justice court, county court, county court at law, or municipal court to be remitted to the comptroller and deposited in the Civil Justice Repository fund. The funds are to be used only by the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.061(7), establishing an additional \$0.10 as a civil justice fee on conviction of a defendant in statutory county court.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.081(7), establishing an additional \$0.10 as a civil justice fee on conviction of a defendant in county court.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.101(9), establishing an additional \$0.10 as a civil justice fee on conviction of a defendant in justice court.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.121(7), establishing an additional \$0.10 as a civil justice fee on a conviction of a defendant in municipal court.

House Bill 3637

County and District Technology Fee

Effective January 1, 2010. House Bill 3637 relates to filing fees in civil actions.

The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 102, adding Article 102.0169, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in county court, statutory county court, or district court. The fee will apply in all county court, statutory county court or district court convictions. The fee must be deposited into the county treasury in a fund to be known as the county and district court technology fund and administered by or under the direction of the commissioners court of the county.

The bill amends Local Government Code, §133.153(a), to increase the Filing fee for statutory and constitutional courts from \$5.00 to \$10 and the Filing fee for justice of the peace courts from \$2.00 to \$6.00.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 51, adding §51.708, to create an additional Filing fee not to exceed \$10 in each civil case filed in the court to be used for court record preservation in the county and retained locally in a court record preservation account in the

county treasury. The funds in the account may be used only to digitize court records and preserve the records from natural disasters.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, adding §101.06117, to create an additional Filing fee not to exceed \$10 in certain civil cases filed in district court to fund the preservation of court records.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, adding §101.08115, to establishing an additional Filing fee not to exceed \$10 in certain civil cases Filed in statutory county courts cases to fund the preservation of court records.

The bill amends Local Government Code, §101.0814, adding conforming language to increase the filing fee for filing any civil action or proceeding from \$5.00 to \$10 to fund civil legal services for the indigent; and increases the additional Filing fee from \$37 to \$42 to be used for court-related purposes for the support of the judiciary.

The bill amends Local Government Code, §101.1013, to increase the Filing fee for any civil action Filed in a statutory probate court from \$5.00 to \$10 to fund civil legal services for indigent.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, adding §101.12124, establishing an additional Filing fee in county courts not to exceed \$10 in certain civil cases to fund the preservation of court records.

The bill amends Government Code, §101.1214(10) and §101.1214(11), to increase the Filing fee for county courts from \$5.00 to \$10 to fund civil legal services for indigent; and increases the additional Filing fee from \$37 to \$42 to be used for court-related purposes for the support of the judiciary.

The bill amends Government Code, §101.141(b), to increase the Filing fee for justice courts from \$2.00 to \$6.00 court to fund civil legal services for indigent.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, §102.041, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in district court; and increases the juvenile delinquency prevention and graffiti eradication fee from \$5.00 to \$50.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, §102.061, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in statutory county court; and increases the juvenile delinquency prevention and graffiti eradication fee from \$5.00 to \$50.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, §102.081, to create a new \$4.00 county and district court technology fee as a court cost for a defendant convicted in county court; and increases the juvenile delinquency prevention and graffiti eradication fee from \$5.00 to \$50.

House Bill 4529 Official Court Reporter Serving the Texas-Mexico Border

Effective June 19, 2009. The bills amends Government Code, §51.601, by adding subsection (a-1) that requires the clerk of each court that has an official court reporter and that serves a county located on the Texas-Mexico border that contains a municipality with a population of 500,000 or more, to collect a court reporter service fee of \$30 as a court cost in each civil case Filed with the court.

The bill amends Government Code, §103.0211, adding conforming language to require a court reporter service fee of \$30 in specified counties.

House Bill 4718 Ector County Courts at Law

Effective January 1, 2010. House Bill 4718 amends Government Code, §25.0702, by adding subsection (c) to provide that the fees assessed in

a case in which a county court a law has concurrent civil jurisdiction with the district court are the same as the fees that would be assessed in the district court for that case.

House Bill 4833 Veterans Court Program

Effective January 1, 2010. House Bill 4833 amends Health and Safety Code, adding Chapter 617, to create a Veterans Court Program. The bill allows a participant in the program to pay a reasonable program fee not to exceed \$1,000; and a testing, counseling, and treatment fee in an amount necessary to cover the costs of any testing, counseling, or treatment performed or provided under the program. Fees collected may be paid on a periodic basis or on a deferred payment schedule at the discretion of the judge, magistrate, or program director and based on the participant's ability to pay; and used only for purposes specific to the program.

Senate Bill 61 Securing a Child Passenger in a Motor Vehicle Fee

Effective June 1, 2010. Senate Bill 61 amends Transportation Code, §545.412, by amending subsections (a) and (b) and adding subsection (b-1) that adds an additional \$0.15 as a court cost on conviction for failing to secure a child passenger in a motor vehicle. The fee is to be remitted to the comptroller for deposit in a separate account in the general revenue fund that may be appropriated only to the Texas Department of Transportation and used to purchase child passenger safety seat systems and distribute them to low-income families. §The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.104, which is conforming language to create an additional \$0.15 on court costs on convictions in justice courts. §The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 102, adding §102.122, which is conforming language to create an additional \$0.15 on court costs on convictions in municipal court.

Senate Bill 82 Family Violence Center Fee

Effective January 1, 2010. Senate Bill 82 amends Government Code, §103.021, adding conforming language to: require a defendant to pay a fee for requesting a driving record from the Department of Public Safety in an amount equal to the sum of the fee established by Transportation Code, §521.048 (Certified Information), and the TexasOnline fee, rather than current \$10 fee; require a defendant to pay a fee for a teen court program (Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 45.052) of \$20, if the court ordering the fee is located in the Texas-Louisiana border region, otherwise the fee is not to exceed \$10; require a defendant to pay an additional \$20 fee to cover costs of required duties of teen courts (Code of Criminal Procedures, Art. 45.052) if the court ordering the fee is located in the Texas-Louisiana border region, otherwise the fee is \$10 if court is not located in the Texas-Louisiana border region; require a defendant to pay fees for a pretrial intervention program including a supervision fee (Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 102.012(a)) of \$60 a month plus expenses, rather than not to exceed \$60 and a district attorney, criminal district attorney or county attorney administrative fee (Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 102.0121) not to exceed \$500.

Senate Bill 409 Fees Charged by Justice of the Peace for Certain Criminal Case Documents

Effective May 27, 2009. Senate Bill 409 amends Local Government Code, §118.124, by adding subsection (5) to provide that a justice is not entitled to a fee for the first copy of a document in a criminal case issued to a criminal defendant, an attorney representing the defendant, or a prosecuting attorney.

Senate Bill 658

Sixth Court of Appeals District Appellate Judicial System Support Fee

Effective January 1, 2010. Senate Bill 658 amends Government Code, Chapter 22, by adding §22.2071, to create an appellate judicial system for the Sixth Court of Appeals District. To fund the system, the county commissioners court in each county in the Sixth District is required to set a court fee of \$5.00 for each civil suit Filed in county court, county court at law, probate court or district court in the county. The court costs fee does not apply to a suit Filed by the county or to a suit for delinquent taxes.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.06113, to require the clerk of a district court in the Sixth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2071.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.08112, to require the clerk of a statutory county court in the Sixth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2071.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.10112, to require the clerk of a statutory probate court in the Sixth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2071.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.12121, to require the clerk of a county court in the Sixth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2071.

Senate Bill 659

Twelfth Court of Appeals District Appellate Judicial System Support Fee

Effective January 1, 2010. Senate Bill 659 amends Government Code, Chapter 22, by adding §22.2131, to create an appellate judicial system for the Twelfth Court of Appeals District. To fund the system, the county commissioners court in each county in the Twelfth District is required to set a court fee of \$5.00 for each civil suit Filed in county court, county court at law, probate court or district court in the county. The court costs fee does not apply to a suit Filed by the county or to a suit for delinquent taxes.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.06114, to require the clerk of a district court in the Twelfth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2131.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.08113, to require the clerk of a statutory county court in Twelfth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2131.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.10113, to require the clerk of a probate court in the Twelfth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2131.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.12122, to require the clerk of a county court in the Twelfth Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2131.

Senate Bill 727

DNA Database System

Effective January 1, 2010. The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 102.020, by adding subsections (a)(3), and (j) to require a person to pay \$34 on placement of the person on community supervision, including deferred adjudication community supervision, if the person is required to submit a DNA sample under Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 42.12, §11(j), and the court may waive a court cost under this article if the court determines that the defendant is indigent and unable to pay the cost.

The bill amends Family Code, Chapter 54, adding §54.0462, to require a juvenile court in certain cases to order the child, parent or other persons responsible for the child's support to pay to the court as a cost of court a \$50 fee if the disposition of the case includes a commitment to a facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Youth Commission, and a \$34 fee if the disposition of the case does not include a commitment and the child is required to submit a DNA sample. The fee may be waived if the court determines that the child, parent or other persons responsible for the child's support is unable to pay the fee.

The bill amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 102, Article 102.021, by adding conforming language to require a person to pay court costs of \$34 for DNA testing for certain felonies under Code of Criminal Procedure, Art. 102.020(a)(3), and \$50 for convictions under Penal Code, Chapter 49 and Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481 to fund drug court programs under Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481.

The bill amends Family Code, §103.0212, adding conforming language to require a person to pay additional fees and costs in criminal or civil cases of \$20 for a teen court program if the court ordering the fee is located in the Texas-Louisiana border region; a \$20 fee to cover costs of required duties of teen court if the court ordering the fee is located in the Texas-Louisiana border region; a \$50 fee for DNA testing on commitment to certain facilities; a \$34 fee for DNA testing after placement on probation or as otherwise required by law (Family Code, §54.0462); and adds costs attendant to convictions under Penal Code, Chapter 49 (intoxication and Alcoholic Beverage Offense), and under Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481 (Texas Controlled Substance Act), to help fund drug court programs established under Health and Safety Code, Chapter 469 (Drug Court Programs), Code of Criminal Procedure, Art.102.0178 (Costs Attendant to Certain Intoxication and Drug Convictions).

Senate Bill 1208

Seventh Court of Appeals District Appellate Judicial System Support Fee

Effective January 1, 2010. Senate Bill 1208 amends Government Code, Chapter 22, by adding §22.2081, to create an appellate judicial system for the Seventh Court of Appeals District. To fund the system, the county commissioners court in each county in the Seventh District is required to set a court fee of \$5.00 for each civil suit Filed in county court, county court at law, probate court or district court in the county. The court costs fee does not apply to a suit Filed by the county or to a suit for delinquent taxes.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.06115, and adding conforming language to require the clerk of a district court in Seventh Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2081.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.08114, and adding conforming language to require the clerk of a statutory county court in Seventh Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2081.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.10114, and adding conforming language to require the clerk of a probate court in Seventh Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2081.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.12123, and adding conforming language to require the clerk of a county court in Seventh Court of Appeals District to collect an appellate judicial system fee of to set a court fee of \$5.00 under Government Code, §22.2131.

Senate Bill 1224

Waiver of Fee for Certain Expunctions

Effective January 1, 2010. Senate Bill 1224, amends Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 102.006, by adding subsection (b), to require that the fees under subsection (a) (relating to requiring a petitioner seeking expunction of a criminal record to pay certain fees) be waived if the petitioner seeks expunction of a criminal record that relates to and arrest for an offense of which the person was acquitted, other than an acquittal for an offense described by Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 55.01(c) (relating to prohibiting expunction of records for certain persons) and the petition for expunction is Filed not later than the 30th day after the date of acquittal.

Senate Bill 1685

District Court Records Archive Fund

Effective June 19, 2009. Senate Bill 1658 amends Government Code, Chapter 51, by adding §51.305, to authorize the commissioners court of a county to adopt a district court records archive fee of not more than \$5.00 for the Filing of a suit, including an appeal from an inferior court, or a cross-action, counterclaim, intervention, contempt action, motion for new trial, or third-party petition in a district court in the county as part of the county's annual budget. Requires that the fee be set and itemized in the county's budget as part of the budget preparation process and be approved in a public meeting. The fee is for preservation and restoration services performed in connection with maintaining a district court records archive.

The bill amends Government Code, §51.317, by adding subsection (b)(5) which adds conforming language to require the clerk of a district court to collect a district court records archive fee of not more than \$5.00 as adopted by the county commissioners court for district court archives preservation and maintenance.

The bill amends Government Code, Chapter 101, by adding §101.06116, and adding conforming language to require the clerk of a district court to collect a district court records archive fee of not more than \$5.00 under Government Code, §51.317(b)(5), if adopted by the county commissioners court.

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Martin Cherry

General Counsel

Comptroller of Public Accounts

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