

CHAPTER 357

FEES

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357.021 COURT ADMINISTRATOR OF DISTRICT COURT; FEES.

Subd. 1a. **Transmittal of fees to commissioner of finance.** (a) Every person, including the state of Minnesota and all bodies politic and corporate, who shall transact any business in the district court, shall pay to the court administrator of said court the sundry fees prescribed in subdivision 2. Except as provided in paragraph (d), the court administrator shall transmit the fees monthly to the commissioner of finance for deposit in the state treasury and credit to the general fund. \$30 of each fee collected in a dissolution action under subdivision 2, clause (1), must be deposited by the commissioner of finance in the special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner of employment and economic development for the displaced homemaker program under section 116L.96.

(b) In a county which has a screener-collector position, fees paid by a county pursuant to this subdivision shall be transmitted monthly to the county treasurer, who shall apply the fees first to reimburse the county for the amount of the salary paid for the screener-collector position. The balance of the fees collected shall then be forwarded to the commissioner of finance for deposit in the state treasury and credited to the general fund. In a county in a judicial district under section 480.181, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), which has a screener-collector position, the fees paid by a county shall be transmitted monthly to the commissioner of finance for deposit in the state treasury and credited to the general fund. A screener-collector position for purposes of this paragraph is an employee whose function is to increase the collection of fines and to review the incomes of potential clients of the public defender, in order to verify eligibility for that service.

(c) No fee is required under this section from the public authority or the party the public authority represents in an action for:

(1) child support enforcement or modification, medical assistance enforcement, or establishment of parentage in the district court, or in a proceeding under section 484.702;

(2) civil commitment under chapter 253B;

(3) the appointment of a public conservator or public guardian or any other action under chapters 252A and 525;

(4) wrongfully obtaining public assistance under section 256.98 or 256D.07, or recovery of overpayments of public assistance;

(5) court relief under chapter 260;

(6) forfeiture of property under sections 169A.63 and 609.531 to 609.5317;

(7) recovery of amounts issued by political subdivisions or public institutions under sections 246.52, 252.27, 256.045, 256.25, 256.87, 256B.042, 256B.14, 256B.15, 256B.37, 260B.331, and 260C.331, or other sections referring to other forms of public assistance;

(8) restitution under section 611A.04; or

(9) actions seeking monetary relief in favor of the state pursuant to section 16D.14, subdivision 5.

(d) \$20 from each fee collected for child support modifications under subdivision 2, clause (13), must be transmitted to the county treasurer for deposit in the county general fund and \$35 from each fee shall be credited to the state general fund. The fees must be used by the county to pay for child support enforcement efforts by county attorneys.

Subd. 2. **Fee amounts.** The fees to be charged and collected by the court administrator shall be as follows:

(1) In every civil action or proceeding in said court, including any case arising under the tax laws of the state that could be transferred or appealed to the Tax Court, the plaintiff, petitioner, or other moving party shall pay, when the first paper is filed for that party in said action, a fee of \$240, except in marriage dissolution actions the fee is \$270.

The defendant or other adverse or intervening party, or any one or more of several defendants or other adverse or intervening parties appearing separately from the others, shall pay, when the first paper is filed for that party in said action, a fee of \$240, except in marriage dissolution actions the fee is \$270.

The party requesting a trial by jury shall pay \$75.

The fees above stated shall be the full trial fee chargeable to said parties irrespective of whether trial be to the court alone, to the court and jury, or disposed of without trial, and shall include the entry of judgment in the action, but does not include copies or certified copies of any papers so filed or proceedings under chapter 103E, except the provisions therein as to appeals.

(2) Certified copy of any instrument from a civil or criminal proceeding, \$10, and \$5 for an uncertified copy.

(3) Issuing a subpoena, \$12 for each name.

(4) Filing a motion or response to a motion in civil, family, excluding child support, and guardianship cases, \$55.

(5) Issuing an execution and filing the return thereof; issuing a writ of attachment, injunction, habeas corpus, mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, or other writs not specifically mentioned, \$40.

(6) Issuing a transcript of judgment, or for filing and docketing a transcript of judgment from another court, \$30.

(7) Filing and entering a satisfaction of judgment, partial satisfaction, or assignment of judgment, \$5.

(8) Certificate as to existence or nonexistence of judgments docketed, \$5 for each name certified to.

(9) Filing and indexing trade name; or recording basic science certificate; or recording certificate of physicians, osteopaths, chiropractors, veterinarians, or optometrists, \$5.

(10) For the filing of each partial, final, or annual account in all trusteeships, \$40.

(11) For the deposit of a will, \$20.

(12) For recording notary commission, \$100, of which, notwithstanding subdivision 1a, paragraph (b), \$80 must be forwarded to the commissioner of finance to be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

(13) Filing a motion or response to a motion for modification of child support, a fee of \$55.

(14) All other services required by law for which no fee is provided, such fee as compares favorably with those herein provided, or such as may be fixed by rule or order of the court.

(15) In addition to any other filing fees under this chapter, a surcharge in the amount of \$75 must be assessed in accordance with section 259.52, subdivision 14, for each adoption petition filed in district court to fund the fathers' adoption registry under section 259.52.

The fees in clauses (3) and (5) need not be paid by a public authority or the party the public authority represents.

[For text of subs 3 to 5, see M.S.2004]

Subd. 6. **Surcharges on criminal and traffic offenders.** (a) Except as provided in this paragraph, the court shall impose and the court administrator shall collect a \$72

surcharge on every person convicted of any felony, gross misdemeanor, misdemeanor, or petty misdemeanor offense, other than a violation of a law or ordinance relating to vehicle parking, for which there shall be a \$4 surcharge. In the Second Judicial District, the court shall impose, and the court administrator shall collect, an additional \$1 surcharge on every person convicted of any felony, gross misdemeanor, misdemeanor, or petty misdemeanor offense, including a violation of a law or ordinance relating to vehicle parking, if the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the \$1 surcharge. The surcharge shall be imposed whether or not the person is sentenced to imprisonment or the sentence is stayed. The surcharge shall not be imposed when a person is convicted of a petty misdemeanor for which no fine is imposed.

(b) If the court fails to impose a surcharge as required by this subdivision, the court administrator shall show the imposition of the surcharge, collect the surcharge and correct the record.

(c) The court may not waive payment of the surcharge required under this subdivision. Upon a showing of indigency or undue hardship upon the convicted person or the convicted person's immediate family, the sentencing court may authorize payment of the surcharge in installments.

(d) The court administrator or other entity collecting a surcharge shall forward it to the commissioner of finance.

(e) If the convicted person is sentenced to imprisonment and has not paid the surcharge before the term of imprisonment begins, the chief executive officer of the correctional facility in which the convicted person is incarcerated shall collect the surcharge from any earnings the inmate accrues from work performed in the facility or while on conditional release. The chief executive officer shall forward the amount collected to the commissioner of finance.

Subd. 7. Disbursement of surcharges by commissioner of finance. (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), the commissioner of finance shall disburse surcharges received under subdivision 6 and section 97A.065, subdivision 2, as follows:

(1) one percent shall be credited to the game and fish fund to provide peace officer training for employees of the Department of Natural Resources who are licensed under sections 626.84 to 626.863, and who possess peace officer authority for the purpose of enforcing game and fish laws;

(2) 39 percent shall be credited to the peace officers training account in the special revenue fund; and

(3) 60 percent shall be credited to the general fund.

(b) The commissioner of finance shall credit \$3 of each surcharge received under subdivision 6 and section 97A.065, subdivision 2, to the general fund.

(c) In addition to any amounts credited under paragraph (a), the commissioner of finance shall credit \$44 of each surcharge received under subdivision 6 and section 97A.065, subdivision 2, and the \$4 parking surcharge, to the general fund.

(d) If the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes imposition of the additional \$1 surcharge provided for in subdivision 6, paragraph (a), the court administrator in the Second Judicial District shall transmit the surcharge to the commissioner of finance. The \$1 special surcharge is deposited in a Ramsey County surcharge account in the special revenue fund and amounts in the account are appropriated to the trial courts for the administration of the petty misdemeanor diversion program operated by the Second Judicial District Ramsey County Violations Bureau.

History: 2005 c 136 art 14 s 3-5; 2005 c 164 s 1,2; 1Sp2005 c 1 art 4 s 99,100

357.12 [Repealed, 2005 c 10 art 2 s 5]

357.18 COUNTY RECORDER.

Subdivision 1: County recorder fees. The fees to be charged by the county recorder shall be and not exceed the following:

(1) for indexing and recording any deed or other instrument a fee of \$46; \$10.50 shall be paid to the state treasury and credited to the general fund; \$10 shall be deposited in the technology fund pursuant to subdivision 3; and \$25.50 shall be deposited in the county general fund;

(2) for documents containing multiple assignments, partial releases or satisfactions a fee of \$46; if the document cites more than four recorded instruments, an additional fee of \$10 for each additional instrument cited over the first four citations;

(3) for certified copies of any records or papers, \$10;

(4) for a noncertified copy of any instrument or writing on file or recorded in the office of the county recorder, or any specified page or part of it, an amount as determined by the county board for each page or fraction of a page specified. If computer or microfilm printers are used to reproduce the instrument or writing, a like amount per image;

(5) for an abstract of title, the fees shall be determined by resolution of the county board duly adopted upon the recommendation of the county recorder, and the fees shall not exceed \$10 for every entry, \$100 for abstract certificate, \$1 per page for each exhibit included within an abstract as a part of an abstract entry, and \$5 per name for each required name search certification;

(6) for a copy of an official plat filed pursuant to section 505.08, the fee shall be \$10 and an additional \$5 shall be charged for the certification of each plat;

(7) for filing an amended floor plan in accordance with chapter 515, an amended condominium plat in accordance with chapter 515A, or a common interest community plat or amendment complying with section 515B.2-110, subsection (c), the fee shall be 50 cents per apartment or unit with a minimum fee of \$56;

(8) for a copy of a floor plan filed pursuant to chapter 515, a copy of a condominium plat filed in accordance with chapter 515A, or a copy of a common interest community plat complying with section 515B.2-110, subsection (c), the fee shall be \$1 for each page of the floor plan, condominium plat or common interest community plat with a minimum fee of \$10;

(9) for recording any plat, a fee of \$56, of which \$10.50 must be paid to the state treasury and credited to the general fund, \$10 must be deposited in the technology fund pursuant to subdivision 3, and \$35.50 must be deposited in the county general fund; and

(10) for a noncertified copy of any document submitted for recording, if the original document is accompanied by a copy or duplicate original, \$2. Upon receipt of the copy or duplicate original and payment of the fee, a county recorder shall return it marked "copy" or "duplicate," showing the recording date and, if available, the document number assigned to the original.

Subd. 1a. Abstracting service fees. Fees fixed by or established pursuant to subdivision 1 shall be the maximum fee charged in all counties where the county recorder performs abstracting services and shall be charged by persons authorized to perform abstracting services in county buildings pursuant to section 386.18.

Subd. 2. Fees for recording instruments in county recorder office. Notwithstanding the provisions of any special law to the contrary, the established fees pursuant to subdivision 1 shall be the fee charged in all counties for the specified service, other than Uniform Commercial Code documents, and documents filed or recorded pursuant to sections 270C.63, subdivision 6, 272.481 to 272.488, 277.20, and 386.77.

Subd. 3. [Repealed by amendment, 2005 c 136 art 14 s 6]

Subd. 4. Technology fund. The \$10 fee collected under subdivision 1, clause (1), shall be deposited in a technology fund for obtaining, maintaining, and updating current technology and equipment to provide services from the record system. The fund shall be disbursed at the county recorder's discretion to provide modern information services from the records system. The fund is a supplemental fund and shall not be construed to diminish the duty of the county governing body to furnish funding for expenses and personnel necessary in the performance of the duties of the office

pursuant to section 386.015, subdivision 6, paragraph (a), clause (2), and to comply with the requirements of section 357.182.

Subd. 5. **Variance from standards.** A document should conform to the standards in section 507.093, paragraph (a), but should not be rejected unless the document is not legible or cannot be archived. This subdivision applies only to documents dated after July 31, 1997, and does not apply to Minnesota uniform conveyancing blanks on file in the office of the commissioner of commerce provided for under section 507.09, certified copies, or any other form provided for under Minnesota Statutes.

Subd. 6. **Registrar of titles' fees.** The fees to be charged by the registrar of titles are in sections 508.82 and 508A.82.

History: 2005 c 136 art 14 s 6; 2005 c 151 art 2 s 17; 1Sp2005 c 7 s 12

357.182 COUNTY FEES AND RECORDING STANDARDS FOR RECORDING OF REAL ESTATE DOCUMENTS.

Subdivision 1. **Application.** Unless otherwise specified in this section and notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, effective August 1, 2005, this section applies to each county in Minnesota. Documents presented for recording within 60 days after July 1, 2005, and that are acknowledged, sworn to before a notary, or certified before July 1, 2005, must not be rejected for failure to include the new filing fee.

Subd. 2. **Fee restrictions.** Notwithstanding any local law or ordinance to the contrary, no county may charge or collect any fee, special or otherwise, or however described, other than a fee denominated or prescribed by state law, for any service, task, or step performed by any county officer or employee in connection with the receipt, recording, and return of any recordable instrument by the county recorder or registrar of titles, whether received by mail; in person, or by electronic delivery, including, but not limited to, opening mail; handling, transferring, or transporting the instrument; certifying no-delinquent property taxes; payment of state deed tax, mortgage registry tax, or conservation fee; recording of approved plats, subdivision splits, or combinations; or any other prerequisites to recording, and returning the instrument by regular mail or in person to the person identified in the instrument for that purpose.

Subd. 3. **Recording requirements.** Each county recorder and registrar of titles shall, within 15 business days after any instrument in recordable form accompanied by payment of applicable fees by customary means is delivered to the county for recording or is otherwise received by the county recorder or registrar of titles for that purpose, record and index the instrument in the manner provided by law and return it by regular mail or in person to the person identified in the instrument for that purpose, if the instrument does not require certification of no-delinquent taxes, payment of state deed tax, mortgage registry tax, or conservation fee. Each county must establish a policy for the timely handling of instruments that require certification of no-delinquent taxes, payment of state deed tax, mortgage registry tax, or conservation fee and that policy may allow up to an additional five business days at the request of the office or offices responsible to complete the payment and certification process.

For calendar years 2009 and 2010, the maximum time allowed for completion of the recording process for documents presented in recordable form will be 15 business days.

For calendar year 2011 and thereafter, the maximum time allowed for completion of the recording process for documents presented in recordable form will be ten business days.

Instruments recorded electronically must be returned no later than five business days after receipt by the county in a recordable format.

Subd. 4. **Compliance with recording requirements.** For calendar year 2007, a county is in compliance with the recording requirements prescribed by subdivision 3 if at least 60 percent of all recordable instruments described in subdivision 3 and received by the county in that year are recorded and returned within the time limits prescribed in subdivision 3. In calendar year 2008, at least 70 percent of all recordable instruments must be recorded and returned in compliance with the recording requirements; for

calendar year 2009, at least 80 percent of all recordable instruments must be recorded and returned in compliance with the recording requirements; and for calendar year 2010 and later years, at least 90 percent of all recordable instruments must be recorded and returned in compliance with the recording requirements.

Subd. 5. Temporary suspension of compliance with recording requirements. Compliance with the requirements of subdivision 4 may be suspended for up to six months when a county undertakes material enhancements to its systems for receipt, handling, paying of deed and mortgage tax and conservation fees, recording, indexing, certification, and return of instruments. The six-month suspension may be extended for up to an additional six months if a county board finds by resolution that the additional time is necessary because of the difficulties of implementing the enhancement.

Subd. 6. Certification of compliance with recording requirements. Effective beginning in 2007 for the 2008 county budget and in each year thereafter, the county recorder and registrar of titles for each county shall file with the county commissioners, as part of their budget request, a report that establishes the status for the previous year of their compliance with the requirements established in subdivision 3. If the office has not achieved compliance with the recording requirements, the report must include an explanation of the failure to comply, recommendations by the recorder or registrar to cure the noncompliance and to prevent a recurrence, and a proposal identifying actions, deadlines, and funding necessary to bring the county into compliance.

Subd. 7. Restriction on use of recording fees. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, for county budgets adopted after January 1, 2006, each county shall segregate the additional unallocated fee authorized by sections 357.18, 508.82, and 508A.82 from the application of the provisions of chapters 386, 507, 508, and 508A, in an appropriate account. This money is available as authorized by the Board of County Commissioners for supporting enhancements to the recording process, including electronic recording, to fund compliance efforts specified in subdivision 5 and for use in undertaking data integration and aggregation projects. Money remains in the account until expended for any of the authorized purposes set forth in this subdivision. This money must not be used to supplant the normal operating expenses for the office of county recorder or registrar of titles.

History: 2005 c 136 art 14 s 7