

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

327



FROM: Bob Doyle, Sheriff-Coroner-PA

SUBMITTAL DATE:
03/24/05

SUBJECT: Amended Ordinance No. 608 Relating to Removal
and Storage Fees Charged by the Coroner

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Supervisors introduce and set for public hearing on or about June 14, 2005, and thereafter adopt Ordinance No. 608.3 (An Amendment to an Ordinance of the County of Riverside authorizing the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to charge a fee of \$200 for body removal and storage).

BACKGROUND: (Continued on Page 2)
BR 05-066

Departmental Concurrence

FORM APPROVED
COUNTY COUNSEL

APR 27 2005

BY [Signature]

[Signature]

Bob Doyle, Sheriff-Coroner-PA

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$0	In Current Year Budget:	No
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$0	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$0	For Fiscal Year:	FY 2004-05

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Reimbursement for Coroner's Services	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: **APPROVE**

County Executive Office Signature [Signature]

FISCAL PROCEDURES APPROVED
ROBERT E. BYRD, Auditor-Controller
BY [Signature] 3/2/05
Deputy

Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy

Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: | District: All | Agenda Number:

ATTACHMENTS FILED
WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD

3.19

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 27472, the Coroner is authorized to charge a fee to recoup actual costs incurred when removing a body from the place of death and storing it. However, this fee cannot exceed \$100.

Costs for this Coroner's service have increased substantially in Riverside County, since County Ordinance 608, providing local fee authorization, was last amended in 1991. The Sheriff's staff has calculated the current cost to provide Coroner's transportation in Riverside County at \$200 per custody event. This calculation includes direct costs for County salaries and benefits, professional services and indirect costs.

Recently, local counties have raised their Coroner's transportation fee, citing Government Code Section 54985 (a), which authorizes a County Board of Supervisors to increase or decrease a fee or charge in the amount reasonably necessary to recover the cost of providing any product or service or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee or charge is levied. San Bernardino County is currently charging \$185 and Orange County is charging \$236 for this Coroner service.

The Coroner's staff provided 1,989 transports in FY 2003-04. The fee was waived 400 times for certain hardship cases as defined in Government Code Section 27472. Therefore, based on this number of transports, the County will collect an additional \$158,900 in annual revenue from this increased fee.

The Sheriff's Department recommends that the Board adopt the third amendment to Ordinance 608 authorizing the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to charge a fee of \$200 for decedents' removal and storage costs.

2 ORDINANCE NO. 608.3

3 AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4 AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 608 RELATING TO REMOVAL
5 AND STORAGE FEES CHARGED BY THE CORONER

6 The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside ordains as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 1 of Ordinance No. 608 is amended to read:

8 “Section 1. Pursuant to Government Code section 27472, whenever the
9 Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator takes custody of a dead body pursuant to law, he or
10 she may charge and collect from the person entitled to control the disposition of the
11 remains, as specified in section 7100 of the Health and Safety Code, the actual expense
12 incurred by the Coroner in removing the body from the place of death and keeping the
13 body until its release to the person responsible for its internment. The charge under
14 Government Code section 27472 shall not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00);

15 “Government Code section 54985(a) provides that notwithstanding any other
16 provision of the law that prescribes an amount or otherwise limits the amount of a fee or
17 charge that may be levied by a county, a county Board of Supervisors shall have the
18 authority to increase or decrease a fee or charge, that is otherwise authorized to be levied
19 by another provision of law, in the amount reasonably necessary to recover the cost of
20 providing any product or service or the cost of enforcing any regulation for which the fee
21 or charge is levied. The fee or charge may reflect the average cost of providing any
22 product or service or enforcing any regulation. Indirect costs that may be reflected shall
23 be limited to those items included in the federal Office of Management and Budget
24 Circular A-87 on January 1, 1984;

25 “The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator has calculated the amount of \$200 as
26 the average cost incurred when removing a body from the place of death and keeping the
27 body until its release to the person responsible for its internment. This fee shall include
28 the following: salaries and benefits of County employees, indirect expenses and

1 expenses for materials and services;

2 "The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator is authorized to charge and collect
3 from the person entitled to control the disposition of remains, as specified in Health and
4 Safety Code section 7100, the fee of \$200 when removing a body from the place of death
5 and keeping the body until its release to the person responsible for its internment."

6 Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after the date of adoption.

7 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY
8 OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

9 By: _____
Chairman

10 ATTEST:

11 CLERK OF THE BOARD:

12
13 By: _____
Deputy

14
15 (SEAL)

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27 RMP:ay
04/11/05

28 G:\Progate\Ayoung\Reso and Ord\Ord 608.3

02 APR 11 AM 10:02
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
RIVERSIDE COUNTY