

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

811



**FROM:** Bob Doyle, Sheriff-Coroner-PA

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
09/14/06

**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 October 31, 2006, and thereafter adopt Ordinance No. 608.5 (An Amendment to an Ordinance of the County of Riverside authorizing the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to charge a fee of \$241 for body removal and storage).

**BACKGROUND:** (Continued on Page 2)  
BR 07-033

FORM APPROVED  
COUNTY COUNSEL

SEP 19 2006

BY

*Janis K Conklin for*  
Bob Doyle, Sheriff-Coroner-PA

**FINANCIAL  
DATA**

Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$43,100	In Current Year Budget:	No
Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$0	Budget Adjustment:	No
Annual Net County Cost:	\$0	For Fiscal Year:	FY 2006-07

**SOURCE OF FUNDS:** Reimbursement for Coroner's Services

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**APPROVE**

*Lisa Brandt*

**County Executive Office Signature**

- Dep't Recomm.:  Consent  Policy
- Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent  Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 06/06/06 9.5a

District: All

Agenda Number:

3.37

FISCAL PROCEDURES APPROVED  
 ROBERT E. BYRD, Auditor-Controller  
 BY *mtl* 9/25/06  
 Deputy  
 Departmental Concurrence

County Ordinance 608, pursuant to California Government Code Section 27472, provides local fee authorization to the Coroner to recoup actual costs incurred when removing a body from the place of death and storing it. On July 6, 2006, the rate was increased from \$200 to \$204 per custody event (06/06/06 9.5a). Based on an updated Worker's Compensation rate and increased charges from a new contractor (7/25/06 3.38), the Sheriff's staff has calculated the current cost to provide Coroner's transportation in Riverside County at \$241 per custody event. This calculation includes direct costs for County salaries and benefits, professional services and indirect costs.

Although Government Code Section 27472 limits the fee to \$100, Government Code Section 54985 (a) 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 has projected 2,200 transports will be made in FY 2006-07. The fee is waived approximately 200 times per fiscal year for certain hardship cases as defined in Government Code Section 27472. Therefore, based on this number of transports, the County will collect an additional \$74,000 in annual revenue from this increased fee. Based on a December implementation of the fee, increased revenue for FY 2006-07 is estimated to total \$43,100.

The Sheriff's Department recommends that the Board adopt the Fifth Amendment to Ordinance 608 authorizing the Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator to charge a fee of \$241 for decedents' removal and storage costs.

2 **ORDINANCE NO. 608.5**

3 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE**  
4 **AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 608 RELATING TO REMOVAL AND**  
5 **STORAGE FEES CHARGED BY THE CORONER**

6 The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, ordains as  
7 follows:

8 Section 1. Section 1 of Ordinance No. 608 is amended to read as follows:

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

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

“The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator has calculated the amount of \$241.00, as

1 the average cost incurred when removing a body from the place of death and keeping the  
2 body until its release to the person responsible for its internment. This fee shall include  
3 the following: salaries and benefits of County employees, indirect expenses and expenses  
4 for materials and services; and

5 "The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator is authorized to charge and collect from  
6 the person entitled to control the disposition of remains, as specified in the Health and  
7 Safety Code Section 7100, the fee of \$241.00 when removing a body from the place of  
8 death and keeping the body until its release to the person responsible for its internment."

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

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11  
12 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY  
13 OF RIVERISDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

14  
15 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
16 Chairperson, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

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19 ATTEST:  
20 CLERK OF THE BOARD

21  
22 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
23 Deputy

24 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**ADOPTED:12-20-83 (Eff.: 1-19-84)**  
**AMENDED:608.1 (Eff.: 4-18-85)**  
608.2 (Eff.: 5-30-91)  
608.3 (Eff.: 7-14-05)  
608.4 (Eff.: 7-6-06)