

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



FROM: Supervisor Jeff Stone

SUBMITTAL DATE: June 2, 2011

SUBJECT: REQUIRE EVERY CONVICT OCCUPANT REIMBURSE COUNTY EXPENSES (RECORCE)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt an order initiating an ordinance requiring those committing crimes in Riverside County that are successfully sentenced to our detention centers to reimburse the County for all of the expenses, including but not limited to: costs related to their booking, attorney fees, court costs, probation costs, comprehensive incarceration costs, etc. where legal and where feasible.
2. Direct the County Counsel to work with the District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff and Probation Department in preparing and processing the ordinance.
3. Direct the Executive Office and Auditor-Controller to analyze current procedures for collecting reimbursable expenses and report to the Board within 120 days of this date as to whether these procedures are adequate or should be improved to enhance our collection success.
4. Direct the Executive Office and Auditor-Controller give an annual report to the Board identifying all detention related costs, the amount of money reimbursed and value in liens or judgments imposed in favor of the County of Riverside.
5. Direct the Executive Office to work with the Sheriff to form or expand "Inmate Crews" in which non-violent, healthy, sentenced inmates will be hired out to perform manual labor tasks e.g. brush clearing for our fire department or other public work projects, to offset their costs of incarceration.

BACKGROUND:

A significant expenditure from the general fund is utilized to house sentenced inmates in our County detention centers. In these challenging economic times, we must strive to recover all costs where legally permissible and possible. We presently spend in excess of \$142.42 per day to house sentenced convicts in our County Detention Centers. In addition, the County, as well as our Cities, spends in excess of \$400.00 for a booking fee (which is presently subsidized by the vehicle license fee backfill which is expected to expire June 30th -2011) which may soon increase significantly. (cont'd)



Jeff Stone
Supervisor Third District

The proposed ordinance would require those committing crimes in Riverside County that are successfully sentenced to our Riverside county Detention Centers to reimburse the County of Riverside where legal and where feasible for:

1. **Booking fees** (any booking fees paid by a City will be repaid to the respective City minus administrative costs).
2. **Detention costs** of \$142.42 per day.
3. **Medical Fee's**, not limited to but including physician care, hospital care, medications, while in custody etc. personnel costs associated with transporting convicts to offsite medical centers or hospitals.
4. **Probation costs** (if applicable)
5. **Visitor fees-** imposed on those coming into detention center to see sentenced prisoners to cover staff time coordinating such visits e.g. \$5.00 per visit.
6. **Public Defender fee's-** reimbursement of documented attorney fees, discovery, investigative and support staff costs.
7. **District Attorney Fee's-** reimbursement of filing fees, discovery costs, documented attorney fees, investigative and support staff costs.
8. **Court Costs.**
9. **Trust fund deposit fee's-** Sentenced prisoners have money on deposit to buy elective purchases while in County Detention centers. This fee covers the administrative costs to manage these funds.
10. **Telephone access charge-** fee for sentenced convicts to use phones to communicate outside the detention centers.

The County shall investigate and impose all mechanisms such as placing liens on any real or personal property owned by sentenced criminals or placing a judgment against a detainee for the balance owed to the taxpayers plus interest (interest rate to be the published prime interest rate on July 1st of each respective year).

FISCAL:

The estimated cost of this program is \$25,000. This cost will be fully recovered through the enhanced collection process that this program will create. Estimated revenues are anticipated to be in the millions of dollars.