

1 [Medical Examiner’s Fees for Copies of Documents and Certain Services.]

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3 **Ordinance amending Section 8.14 of the S.F. Administrative Code to increase the**
4 **Medical Examiner’s Fees for Copies of Documents and Certain Services and adding**
5 **fees for new services.**

6 NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
7 deletions are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman*~~.
8 Board amendment additions are double-underlined;
9 Board amendment deletions are ~~strike-through normal~~.

9 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

10 Section 1. Environmental Findings. The Planning Department has determined that the actions
11 contemplated in this Ordinance are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (California
12 Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board
13 of Supervisors in File No. _____ and is incorporated herein by reference.

14 Section 2. The San Francisco Administrative Code is hereby amended by amending
15 Section 8.14, to read as follows:

16 **Sec. 8.14. Medical Examiner’s Fees for Copies of Documents and Certain**
17 **Services.**

18 (a) The Medical Examiner is hereby authorized to charge fees to defray the cost
19 of the

20 issuance of the following mentioned documents and the providing of the following
21 services. Any persons requesting or requiring such documents or services shall pay the
22 following fees:

23	Proof of death for insurance purposes <i>letter</i>	\$ 5.00	<u>7.00</u>
24	Statement to attending physician at death.....	5.00	<u>7.00</u>
25	Certified copy of verdict of inquest	5.00	

1	Non-contagious letter.....	5.00	<u>7.00</u>
2	Certified copy of Medical Examiner's report.....	30.00	<u>34.00</u>
3	Copy (not certified) of Medical Examiner's report 0.10/page		<u>15.00</u>
4	Disaster bags for decomposed, accident or		
5	infectious cases.....	41.00	<u>49.00</u>
6	Forensic autopsy performed on non-Medical		
7	Examiner's cases or outside County.....	3,000.00	<u>3,274.00</u>
8	X-rays.....	100.00 each	<u>113.00</u>
9	Copies of X-rays.....	20.00 each	<u>24.00</u>
10	Re-cut microscopic slides.....	20.00 each	<u>24.00</u>
11	Outside use of facilities for		
12	identification of remains.....	30.00	<u>34.00</u>
13	Storage of remains for funeral directors for other		
14	than Medical Examiner's cases, per day.....	51.00	<u>56.00</u>
15	Removal of remains at Medical Examiner's Office prior		
16	to completion of investigation (Gov. Code § 27472),		
17	Medical Examiner's cases.(The charge, if not paid,		
18	may be considered a part of the funeral expense and		
19	paid as a preferred charge against the estate of the		
20	decedent.).....	444.00	<u>461.00</u>
21	Storage of remains following completion of		
22	investigation and notification of family		
23	or funeral director of completed investigation,		
24	Medical Examiner's cases, per day.....	51.00	<u>56.00</u>
25	Removal and storage of remains from rest homes or		

1	other agencies that have no facilities for cold storage.....	100.00	<u>113.00</u>
2	Direct cremation of remains.....	841.00	<u>873.00</u>
3	<i>Autopsy reports to hospitals</i>		
4	<i>and attending physicians.....</i>	5.00	
5	<i>Certified copy of letter confirming death pending</i>		
6	<i>completion of autopsy.....</i>	5.00	
7	Forensic alcohol report.....	10.00	<u>12.00</u>
8	Supporting documentation for results of		
9	forensic alcohol report.....	6.00/page	<u>7.50</u>
10	<i>Blood quantitation for drugs.....</i>	250.00 per drug	
11	<i>Urine testing for drugs.....</i>	250.00 per drug	
12	<i>Gastric screen.....</i>	150.00	
13	<i>Tissue screen.....</i>	175.00	
14	<i>Preparation of Toxicology</i>		
15	<i>specimen for shipment for</i>		
16	<i>retesting by a private lab.....</i>	50.00	
17	Specimen storage.....	25.00 per month	<u>28.00 per month</u>
18	<i>Pre-trial conference at Medical Examiner's Office</i>		
19	<i>for non-criminal or out-of-County cases.....</i>	100.00/hour	
20	<i>Pre-trial conference at County of request.....</i>	250.00/hour**	
21	<i>Deposition at Medical Examiner's Office.....</i>	150.00/hour	
22	<i>Deposition outside of Medical Examiner's</i>		
23	<i>Office</i>		
24	<u><i>Court and deposition testimony; consultation/staff.....</i></u>	200.00/hour**	<u>225.00/hour**</u>
25	<u><i>Court and deposition testimony;</i></u>		

1	<u>consultation/toxicologist.....</u>	<u>250.00/hour**</u>	<u>282.00/hour**</u>
2			
3	<u>Court and deposition testimony;</u>		
4	<u>consultation/toxicologist (Ph.D.).....</u>		<u>400.00</u>
5	Court testimony; <u>Court and deposition testimony;</u>		
6	<u>consultation/forensic pathologist.....</u>	<u>500.00/hour**</u>	<u>584.00/hour**</u>
7	Court testimony, medical technologist or <u>Court and deposition testimony;</u>		
8	<u>consultation/investigator.....</u>	<u>250.00/hour**</u>	<u>282.00/hour**</u>
9	* Court travel, and expert fees will be added.		
10	** Travel and accommodation charges will be the responsibility of requesting agency.		
11	<u>Drug screening in blood or urine by ELISA (4</u>		
12	<u>common drug categories).....</u>		<u>400.00</u>
13	<u>Drug screening in blood or urine by ELISA (8</u>		
14	<u>common drug categories).....</u>		<u>600.00</u>
15	<u>Drug screening in blood or urine by ELISA (12</u>		
16	<u>common drug categories).....</u>		<u>800.00</u>
17	<u>Drug screen in blood or urine by GC/MS.....</u>		<u>1,200.00</u>
18	<u>Drug confirmation in urine, per drug.....</u>		<u>300.00</u>
19	<u>Drug confirmation and quantitation in blood, per drug.....</u>		<u>300.00</u>
20	<u>Drug screening in gastric contents or tissue by GC/MS.....</u>		<u>1,500.00</u>
21	<u>Drug confirmation in gastric contents or tissue, per drug.....</u>		<u>400.00</u>
22	<u>Date rape drug screening in urine.....</u>		<u>1,200.00</u>
23	<u>Date rape drug confirmation in urine, per drug.....</u>		<u>300.00</u>
24	<u>Drug screening and confirmation in hair, per hair specimen.....</u>		<u>4,000.00</u>
25	<u>Decedent's property mailing fee.....</u>		<u>40.00</u>

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Histology service for outside agencies, including
overnight processing, embedding, cutting, routine H & E
staining and coverslipping, per 4 cassettes..... 120.00
Forensic alcohol analysis for outside agencies, per case..... 160.00
Drug screening and confirmation in nails, per nail specimen..... 1,143.00

All cases brought into the Medical Examiner’s Office facility shall be billed for transportation, personnel handling, and storage costs, except for the following categories of cases:

- (1) Decedents under 14 years of age;
- (2) Homicides;
- (3) In custody or police-involved cases;
- (4) Indigents (County disposition);
- (5) Cases in which private charitable funds available to pay funeral costs would thereby be reduced so as to preclude payment;
- (6) Cases specifically exempted by the Medical Examiner or his designee.

(b) Beginning with fiscal year 2003-2004, fees set in this Section may be adjusted each year, without further action by the Board of Supervisors, to reflect changes in the relevant Consumer Price Index, as determined by the Controller.

No later than April 15th of each year, the Medical Examiner’s Office shall submit its current fee schedule to the Controller, who shall apply the price index adjustment to produce a new fee schedule for the following year.

No later than May 15th of each year, the Controller shall file a report with the Board of

1 Supervisors reporting the new fee schedule and certifying that: (a) the fees produce
2 sufficient revenue to support the costs of providing the services for which each fee is
3 assessed, and (b)

4 the fees do not produce revenue which is significantly more than the costs of providing
5 the

6 services for which each fee is assessed. The Controller shall, if necessary, adjust the fees
7 upward or downward for the upcoming fiscal year as appropriate to ensure that the Medical
8 Examiner's Office recovers the costs of operation without producing revenue that is significantly more
9 than such costs. The adjusted rates shall become operative on July 1.

10 (c) All fees received for documents and services mentioned in this Section shall be
11 deposited with the Treasurer and shall be used to defray the costs incurred by the Medical
12 Examiner in issuing such documents or providing such services.

13
14 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
15 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

16
17 By: _____
18 ALEETA M. VAN RUNKLE
19 Deputy City Attorney