

1 [Increasing fees for certain services provided by the Medical Examiner.]

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3 **Ordinance amending San Francisco Administrative Code Section 8.14, by raising the**
4 **fees for removal of remains, cremation services, and making environmental findings.**

5 Note: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
6 deletions are *strikethrough italics Times New Roman*.
7 Board amendment additions are double underlined.
8 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

8

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

10 Section 1. Findings.

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

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

17 SEC. 8.14. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S FEES FOR COPIES OF DOCUMENTS AND
18 CERTAIN SERVICES.

19 (a) The Medical Examiner is hereby authorized to charge fees to defray the cost of
20 the 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 ...\$ 5.00
- 24 Statement to attending physician at death ...5.00
- 25 Certified copy of verdict of inquest5.00

1	Non-contagious letter	5.00
2	Certified copy of Medical Examiner's	
3	Report.....	30.00
4	Copy (not certified) of Medical Examiner's	
5	Report	0.10/page
6	Disaster bags for decomposed, accident	
7	or infectious cases.....	41.00
8	Forensic autopsy performed on non-	
9	Medical Examiner's cases or	
10	outside county	3,000.00
11	X-rays	100.00 each
12	Copies of X-rays	20.00 each
13	Re-cut microscopic slides	20.00 each
14	Outside use of facilities for identification	
15	of remains	30.00
16	Storage of remains for funeral directors	
17	for other than Medical Examiner's	
18	cases, per day	51.00
19	Removal of remains at Medical	
20	Examiner's Office prior to completion of	
21	investigation (Govt. Code Sec. 27472), Medical	
22	Examiner's cases. (The charge, if not paid,	
23	may be considered a part of the funeral	
24	expense and paid as a preferred charge	
25	against the estate of the decedent.)	350.00 — <u>444.00</u>

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1	Storage of remains following completion of		
2	investigation and notification of family or		
3	funeral director of completed investigation,		
4	Medical Examiner's cases, per day	51.00	
5	Removal and storage of remains from		
6	rest homes or other agencies that		
7	have no facilities for cold storage	100.00	
8	Direct cremation of remains.....	700.00	<u>841.00</u>
9	Autopsy reports to hospitals and attending		
10	physicians	5.00	
11	Certified copy of letter confirming death		
12	pending completion of autopsy.....	5.00	
13	Forensic alcohol report	10.00*	
14	Supporting documentation for results of		
15	forensic alcohol report.....	6.00/page	
16	Blood quantitation for drugs.....	250.00 per drug	
17	Urine testing for drugs.....	250.00 per drug	
18	Gastric screen.....	150.00	
19	Tissue screen.....	175.00	
20	Preparation of Toxicology specimen		
21	for shipment for retesting by a private lab.....	50.00	
22	Specimen storage.....	25.00 per month	
23	Pre-trial conference at Medical		
24	Examiner's Office for non-criminal		
25	or out-of-county cases.....	100.00/hour	

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1	Pre-trial conference at county	
2	of request.....	250.00/hour**
3	Deposition at Medical Examiner's	
4	Office.....	150.00/hour
5	Deposition outside of Medical	
6	Examiner's Office.....	200.00/hour**
7	Court testimony, toxicologist.....	250.00/hour**
8	Court testimony, forensic pathologist.....	500.00/hour**
9	Court testimony, medical technologist	
10	or investigator.....	250.00/hour**

11 *Court travel, and expert fees will be added.

12 **Travel and accommodation charges will be the responsibility of requesting agency.

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

- 16 (1) Decedents under 14 years of age;
 - 17 (2) Homicides;
 - 18 (3) In custody or police-involved cases;
 - 19 (4) Indigents (County disposition);
 - 20 (5) Cases in which private charitable funds available to pay funeral costs
21 would thereby be reduced so as to preclude payment;
 - 22 (6) Cases specifically exempted by the Medical Examiner or his designee.
- 23 (b) Beginning with fiscal year 2003-2004, fees set in this Section may be
24 adjusted each year, without further action by the Board of Supervisors, to reflect changes in
25 the relevant Consumer Price Index, as determined by the Controller.

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

4 No later than May 15th of each year, the Controller shall file a report with the
5 Board of Supervisors reporting the new fee schedule and certifying that: (a) the fees produce
6 sufficient revenue to support the costs of providing the services for which each fee is
7 assessed, and (b) the fees do not produce revenue which is significantly more than the costs
8 of providing the services for which each fee is assessed.

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

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

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