

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

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3 **Ordinance making environmental findings, and amending San Francisco**
4 **Administrative Code Section 8.14, to increase the fees for forensic non-medical**
5 **examiner or outside county autopsy, disaster bags, removal of remains, and storage of**
6 **remains.**

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

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

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

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

20 **SEC. 8.14. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S FEES FOR COPIES OF DOCUMENTS AND CERTAIN**
21 **SERVICES.**

22 (a) The Medical Examiner is hereby authorized to charge fees to defray the cost of the
23 issuance of the following mentioned documents and the providing of the following services.

24 Any persons requesting or requiring such documents or services shall pay the following fees:

25 Proof of death for insurance purposes \$ 5.00

1	Statement to attending physician at death	5.00
2	Certified copy of verdict of inquest	5.00
3	Non-contagious letter	5.00
4	Certified copy of Medical Examiner's	
5	Report.....	30.00
6	Copy (not certified) of Medical Examiner's	
7	Report	0.10/page
8	Disaster bags for decomposed, accident	
9	or infectious cases.....	20.00 <u>41.00</u>
10	Forensic autopsy performed on non-	
11	Medical Examiner's cases or	
12	outside county	2,000.00 <u>3,000.00</u>
13	X-rays	100.00 each
14	Copies of X-rays	20.00 each
15	Re-cut microscopic slides	20.00 each
16	Outside use of facilities for identification	
17	of remains	30.00
18	Storage of remains for funeral directors	
19	for other than Medical Examiner's	
20	cases, per day	50.00 <u>51.00</u>
21	Removal of remains at Medical	
22	Examiner's Office prior to completion of	
23	investigation (Govt. Code Sec. 27472), Medical	
24	Examiner's cases. (The charge, if not paid,	
25	may be considered a part of the funeral	

1	expense and paid as a preferred charge	
2	against the estate of the decedent.)	300.00 <u>350.00</u>
3	Storage of remains following completion of	
4	investigation and notification of family or	
5	funeral director of completed investigation,	
6	Medical Examiner's cases, per day	50.00 <u>51.00</u>
7	Removal and storage of remains from	
8	rest homes or other agencies that	
9	have no facilities for cold storage	100.00
10	Direct cremation of remains.....	700.00
11	Autopsy reports to hospitals and attending	
12	physicians	5.00
13	Certified copy of letter confirming death	
14	pending completion of autopsy.....	5.00
15	Forensic alcohol report	10.00*
16	Supporting documentation for results of	
17	forensic alcohol report.....	6.00/page
18	Blood quantitation for drugs.....	250.00 <u>per drug</u>
19	Urine testing for drugs.....	250.00 <u>per drug</u>
20	Gastric screen.....	150.00
21	Tissue screen.....	175.00
22	Preparation of Toxicology specimen	
23	for shipment for retesting by a private lab.....	50.00
24	Specimen storage.....	25.00 <u>per month</u>
25	Pre-trial conference at Medical	

1	Examiner's Office for non-criminal	
2	or out-of-county cases.....	100.00/hour
3	Pre-trial conference at county	
4	of request.....	250.00/hour**
5	Deposition at Medical Examiner's	
6	Office.....	150.00/hour
7	Deposition outside of Medical	
8	Examiner's Office.....	200.00/hour**
9	Court testimony, toxicologist.....	250.00/hour**
10	Court testimony, forensic pathologist.....	500.00/hour**
11	Court testimony, medical technologist	
12	or investigator.....	250.00/hour**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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16 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
17 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

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19 By: ALEETA M. VAN RUNKLE
20 Deputy City Attorney