

**ORDINANCE NO. 608
(AS AMENDED THROUGH 608.7)
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 608 RELATING TO REMOVAL AND
STORAGE FEES CHARGED BY THE CORONER**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, do ordain as follows:

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

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

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator has calculated the amount of \$255.00, as the average cost incurred when removing a body from the place of death and keeping the body until its release to the person responsible for its internment. This fee shall include the following: salaries and benefits of County employees, indirect expenses and expenses for materials and services; and

The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator is authorized to charge and collect from the person entitled to control the disposition of remains, as specified in the Health and Safety Code Section 7100, the fee of \$255.00 when removing a body from the place of death and keeping the body until its release to the person responsible for its internment.

Section 2. The Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator shall not impose this fee upon a person who claims and proves to be indigent, or in cases in which the body is that of a child not more than 14 years of age or in cases in which the Coroner ascribes the death to the criminal act of another unless the Coroner has reasonable grounds to believe that the deceased was involved in any criminal activity which contributed to his own death. The charge shall not include expenses of keeping the body during the time necessary for the Coroner to perform his or her duties in connection with it.

Section 3. In this ordinance a person shall be determined indigent if the person is entitled to control the disposition of the remains of a dead body and the

person's family income is equal to or less than 150 percent of the Federal declared Poverty Scale in effect on the date the Coroner takes charge of the dead body.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after the date of adoption.

Adopted:

608 Item 3.23 of 12/20/1983 (Eff: 01/19/1984)

Amended:

608.1 Item 3.5 of 03/19/1985 (Eff: 04/18/1985)

608.2 Item 3.8 of 04/30/1991 (Eff: 05/30/1991)

608.3 Item 9.2 of 06/14/2005 (Eff: 07/14/2005)

608.4 Item 9.5a of 06/06/2006 (Eff: 07/06/2006)

608.5 Item 9.11 of 10/31/2006 (Eff: 12/1/2006)

608.6 Item 9.6a of 07/17/2007 (Eff: 08/16/2007)

608.7 Item 9.9 of 11/18/2008 (Eff: 12/18/2008)