

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Thomas M. Miller, County Executive Officer
DATE: September 22, 2009
SUBJECT: Resolution - County Fee Waivers for the Placer County 49 Fire Victims

ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Board of Supervisors approve a Resolution waiving specified county-related fees to aid victims of the Placer County 49 Fire that occurred on August 30, 2009.

BACKGROUND

On the afternoon of Sunday, August 30 fire broke out near Highway 49 and Rock Creek Road in North Auburn. The fire destroyed more than 60 single-family homes, three businesses and damaged several other homes and businesses. It is estimated that more than 150 residents were displaced by the blaze. Many residents and business owners lost vital records that were destroyed in the fire. These vital records include birth certificates, death certificates, marriage records and land records.

On August 30, due to the severity of the fire, the County Executive Officer proclaimed a local emergency as provided for under the California Emergency Services Act, Section 8630. On September 2, 2009, your Board approved Resolution #2009-0227 ratifying the August 30 Proclamation of Local Emergency and subsequently reaffirmed the action at the next regularly scheduled meeting on September 8, 2009.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-16-09, on August 31, 2009, to waive various state fees, primarily related to personal and business records, to assist victims of the wildfires throughout the state (including victims of the Placer County 49 Fire) to aid in the replacement of important records and documents.

On September 1, the County opened a Local Assistance Center at DeWitt for residents and business owners who were impacted by the fire. Various state and local agencies were available to provide information and assistance to these fire victims in meeting their near and long-term needs. County agencies included Health and Human Services, Building, Planning, Environmental Health, Clerk-Recorder, and Assessor.

Due to the nature of this catastrophic event, the request today may not be all inclusive and, accordingly, requests for waivers of other county fees may come before your Board in the future.

RECOMMENDATION

The County Executive recommends, in conjunction with appropriate department heads, waiving the following county-related fees to further assist victims of the 49 Fire to mitigate their losses as a consequence of the fire. It is further recommended that the fee waiver be retroactive to August 30, 2009 and terminate on December 31, 2009.

<i>California Government Code Section 81008</i>	
FPPC Campaign Disclosure Forms	10 cents/each page; first copy
FPPC Conflict of Interest Forms	10 cents/each page; first copy
<i>California Health and Safety Code Section 103625</i>	
Certified Copy - Birth Certificate	\$17.00; first copy
Certified Copy - Death Certificate	\$12.00; first copy
Certified Copy - Marriage Certificate	\$13.00; first copy
Certified Copy - Marriage Certificate, Confidential	\$18.00; first copy
<i>Placer County Code, Section 2.116.140</i>	
Certified Copy - Certificate of Voter Registration	\$1.75; first copy
<i>Placer County Code, Section 2.116.150</i>	
Certified Copy - Deed or Other Property Record	\$4.00/first page; \$1/each additional page; first copy
Certified Copy - Fictitious Business Name Filing	\$2.00; first copy
Certified Copy - Military Discharge (DD-214)	\$0; no charge for up to three copies
Replacement (Lost) Passport	
- County Processing Fee	\$25.00
(U.S. State Department fees and any expedited service charges cannot be waived by the County)	
<i>Placer County Code, Section 15.04.050 E & F</i>	
Demolition Records Fee	\$ 20.00
Residential Service Change Permit	\$122.64
(To re-establish existing utility connection only)	
<i>Placer County Code, Section 2.116.100</i>	
Consumer Protection Fees for Special Events With Food Vendors	\$554/event; four events
<i>Placer County Code, Section 2.116.130</i>	
Animal Services Boarding Fee – Domestic Animal	\$20.00/day (Max – 10 days)
Animal Services Boarding Fee – Livestock	\$26.00/day (Max – 10 days)
Animal Disposal Fee	\$18.00/per animal

FISCAL IMPACT

The allowance for the waiver of specified county fees is temporary and for the duration of August 30 through the remainder of the calendar year. Therefore, it is anticipated that there will be a nominal impact to the General Fund of approximately \$ 9,446 less fees charged as noted, County Clerk - \$790, Health and Human Services - \$5,048 and CDRA-Building Department - \$3,608. Additionally, a minor decrease of \$423 is anticipated for County Clerk-Recorder Trust Funds.

TM/MH/AR

Attachment: Resolution

Cc: Jim McCauley, County Clerk – Recorder – Registrar of Voters
 Dr. Richard Burton, Director, Health & Human Services
 Michael Johnson, Director, Community Development Resource Agency
 Bob Martino, Chief Building Official
 Mark Rathe, County Counsel

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:

Resol. No: _____

A Resolution to waive specific County service fees for residents affected by the 49 Fire of August 30, 2009

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held on September 22, 2009, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS due to the destruction caused by numerous wildfires in August 2009, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in the Counties of Placer, Los Angeles, Mariposa, Monterey, Santa Cruz and Yuba; and

WHEREAS these fires caused harm to people and property, burned over 100,000 acres, damaged or destroyed numerous homes and other structures, caused evacuations, and caused damage to resources and watershed; and

WHEREAS in Placer County, the "49 Fire" that occurred on August 30, 2009 caused harm to people and property, burned about 340 acres, destroyed over 60 residential and commercial properties, damaged several properties, caused evacuations; and

WHEREAS these fires caused the loss of valuable personal and business records; and

WHEREAS the people who lost or sustained damage to their homes, property, businesses or places of employment, may need to obtain or replace important government records such as certificates of birth, death, fetal death, or marriage, as well as marriage dissolution records, driver's licenses, identification cards, vehicle registration certificates, and certificates of title, to obtain assistance from federal, state and local governmental agencies, make claims for and collect insurance, opt to rebuild destroyed structures, find new employment, and for other purposes related to losses suffered in the fire; and

WHEREAS those who need to obtain or replace important government records to mitigate their losses and rebuild their lives as a consequence of the fires require immediate assistance from state and local governmental agencies to replace those records; and

WHEREAS existing law requires the Office of Vital Records of the State Department of Public Health, along with local registrars, county recorders and county clerks, to impose fees upon persons requesting copies of certificates of birth, death, fetal death, and marriage, and marriage dissolution records; and

WHEREAS the suspension of statutory and regulatory requirements for imposition of fees would assist fire victims; and

WHEREAS the Governor, on August 31, 2009, issued Executive Order S-16-09, to mitigate the effects (waive fees and help recovery efforts) of the emergency due to the wildfires in the Counties of Placer, Los Angeles, Mariposa, Monterey, Santa Cruz and Yuba; and

WHEREAS the County has adopted various fees to cover the cost of providing public services; and

WHEREAS County ordinance allows for the broad discretion of the Board of Supervisors to waive and grant relief from the ordinances it has adopted (2.116.050).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors wishes to support homeowners and residents affected by the 49 Fire of August 30, 2009 by adhering to the Governor's Executive Order S-16-09 issued August 31, 2009 and by issuing subsequent directives.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following County service fees shall be waived for residents affected by the 49 Fire for the period retroactive to August 30, 2009 and continuing through December 31, 2009:

California Government Code Section 81008

FPPC Campaign Disclosure Forms	10 cents/each page; first copy
FPPC Conflict of Interest Forms	10 cents/each page; first copy

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