

17-2389
ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Sponsored by

THE HONORABLE LARRY SUFFREDIN, COUNTY COMMISSIONER

AN AMENDMENT TO THE VITAL RECORDS FEES FOR COUNTY CLERK

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 2 Administration, Article IV Officers and Employees, Division 2 County Clerk, Subdivision II Fees, Section 2-174 of the Cook County Code is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 2-174. - Vital records fees for County Clerk.

(a) *Birth records.* The Cook County Clerk shall continue to charge and collect a fee for the first copy, and a fee for each additional copy of a birth record as set out in Section 32-1. The following individuals may receive a copy of their birth record at no cost:

- (1) Individuals, or not for profit organizations representing such individuals, who meet the definition of homeless as defined by Section 103 the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, (42 U.S.C. 11302, et. seq.), or any individual residing in any of the living situations defined in 42 U.S.C. 11434a(2), as such statutes existed at the time of the enactment of this ordinance; or
- (2) Individuals in the custody of, or who have been released within the previous 90 days by, the Cook County Department of Corrections or the Illinois Department of Corrections; or
- (3) Individuals residing in a shelter for victims of domestic violence.

The Cook County Clerk may promulgate regulations to determine how individuals can apply for a no cost birth record.

(b) *Marriage records.* The Cook County Clerk shall charge and collect a fee for the issuance of a marriage license, sealing, filing and recording the same and the certificate thereunto as set out in Section 32-1. The Cook County Clerk shall continue to charge and collect a fee for the first copy, and a fee for each additional copy of a marriage record as set out in Section 32-1.

(c) *Death records.* The Cook County Clerk shall charge and collect a fee for the first copy, and a fee for each additional copy of a death record as set out in Section 32-1.

(d) *Genealogical records.* The County Clerk shall charge and collect a fee as set out in Section 32-1 for the first copy and a fee as set out in Section 32-1 for subsequent copies of any genealogical birth, death or marriage certificate.

(e) *Emergency fee.* The County Clerk shall charge and collect an emergency fee as set out in Section 32-1 for providing a copy of a vital record on an overnight basis. The emergency fee authorized in this subsection shall be in addition to any other fees authorized to be collected by the County Clerk for providing the requested document.

(f) *Waiver and refund of death record fee.* The County Clerk shall waive the County portion of the vital records fee for death records requested (first copy only) as set forth in Section 32-1 by those persons legally authorized to request and obtain a death certificate and seeking a copy of a death certificate for a decedent buried at Burr Oak Cemetery. Said waiver shall apply only to death records indicating a date of death prior to July 6, 2009, and burial at Burr Oak Cemetery; the waiver extends only to the County's portion of the fee for the first copy only and shall not extend to requests for additional copies. The County Clerk is required to continue to collect a \$2.00 fee for the first copy of the death record as required by State Statute unless waived by the State. The waiver shall run through September 15, 2009, unless otherwise authorized by the Cook County Board of Commissioners. In accordance with the County Clerk's records, the County Clerk is hereby authorized to refund Cook County's portion of the death records fee for death records requested (first copy only) to those individuals who legally requested and obtained a death record/certificate since July 6, 2009, for a decedent buried at Burr Oak Cemetery.

(g) *Civil Union records.* The Cook County Clerk shall charge and collect a fee for the issuance of a civil union license, sealing, filing and recording the same and the certificate thereunto as set out in Section 32-1. The Cook County Clerk shall charge and collect a fee for the first copy, and a fee for each additional copy of a civil union record as set out in Section 32-1.

(h) *Commemorative Certificates.* The Cook County Clerk shall charge and collect a fee for the issuance of a Commemorative Certificate of Marriage or for the issuance of a Commemorative Certificate of Civil Union as set out in Section 32-1. With each Commemorative Certificate issued, the Clerk shall also issue a certified copy of the underlying record. The fee charged and collected as set forth in Section 32-1 shall cover the cost of both the commemorative certificate and the certified copy.

Effective date: This Ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

Approved and adopted this 12th of April 2017.

TONI PRECKWINKLE, President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Attest: DAVID ORR, County Clerk