

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Attorney General

CORRESPONDENCE  
State of California  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2008 JUL 18 P 2: 53

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July 15, 2008

Thomas Mayfield, County Supervisor  
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors  
1010 10th Street, Suite 6500  
Modesto, CA 95354

Re: State Crime Laboratory Fees

Dear County Supervisor Mayfield:

The Department of Justice (DOJ) operates 11 regional crime laboratories through its Bureau of Forensic Services. These laboratories provide forensic services (such as latent fingerprint comparisons and toxicology analysis) to 47 of the state's 58 counties and to other law enforcement agencies. In the past, the operational funds to pay for these forensic services were paid for by the state's general fund. In other words, the services were provided to counties and law enforcement agencies at no direct cost.

The 2008-09 state budget proposes to change this fiscal arrangement. If the Governor signs the budget in its current form, the DOJ will be required to begin charging laboratory users a fee for forensic services. Although Attorney General Jerry Brown has opposed and will continue to oppose shifting these costs, we need to prepare for the implementation of a fee-for-service program in case it becomes law.

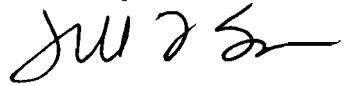
Thus, each state laboratory user will be contacted in the coming days to develop funding agreements regarding the implementation of a fee-for-service program. Without these funding agreements, the DOJ could be compelled to reduce its forensic services and consolidate the operations of its regional laboratories.

In order to help you plan for these new costs, I am enclosing a proposed fee schedule. Based on the number and type of requests submitted by criminal justice agencies in Stanislaus County last fiscal year, the estimated yearly costs will be \$1,272,493. Given the short time frame that we were provided to pioneer this fee proposal, we will begin the program by charging a flat hourly rate. But as more workload data becomes available, we anticipate developing designated fees for specific services.

State Crime Laboratory Fees  
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If you have any questions regarding the proposed fee-for-service program, please call Bureau Chief Jill Spriggs, Bureau of Forensic Services, at (916) 319-9368.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Spriggs".

JILL SPRIGGS  
Chief  
Bureau of Forensic Services

For EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Attorney General

Enclosures

Department of Justice  
 Bureau of Forensic Services  
 Fee Schedule  
 (P.C. 11050)

July 15, 2008

Forensic Service	Proposed Rate Per Hour		Average Time Per Request	Average Cost Per Request
	FY 08/09 (July 2008 - July 2009)			
Non-DUI Alcohol	\$170		30 minutes	\$85
Controlled Substances	\$170		1 hour	\$170
Splits (alcohol, drug, toxicology)	\$170		1 hour 30 minutes	\$255
Latent Prints - Processing	\$170		11 hours 30 minutes	\$1,955
Latent Prints - Comparison	\$170		11 hours 30 minutes	\$1,955
Questioned Documents	\$170		24 hours	\$4,080
Toxicology - Screen	\$170		15 minutes	\$43
Toxicology - Confirmation	\$170		3 hours 15 minutes	\$553
<b>Criminalistics:</b>				
automated firearms	\$170		6 hours	\$1,020
firearms/tool marks/impressions	\$170		14 hours 45 minutes	\$2,508
trace evidence	\$170		26 hours	\$4,420
biological evidence	\$170		9 hours 45 minutes	\$1,658
DNA Analysis*	\$170		31 hours 15 minutes	\$5,313
general criminalistics	\$170		11 hours 15 minutes	\$1,913
reconstruction	\$170		24 hours	\$4,080
volatiles	\$170		5 hours 30 minutes	\$935
Scene Response	\$170		16 hours	\$2,720
Court	\$170		4 hours	\$680
Clandestine Laboratories	\$170		6 hours 45 minutes	\$1,148
Blood Alcohol (P.C. 1463.14)	\$35 per request (not hourly)		N/A	
*Excluding DNA Databank submissions (P.C. 295-300.3; G.C. 76104.6)				

Annual Cost Estimate by County

7/15/08

County	Estimated Annual Billable Hours	Estimated Annual Cost @ \$170 Rate
Alameda	298.00	\$50,660
Alpine	25.50	\$4,335
Amador	698.00	\$118,660
Butte	4062.00	\$690,540
Calaveras	817.75	\$139,018
Colusa	221.00	\$37,570
Contra Costa	117.25	\$19,933
Del Norte	971.50	\$165,155
El Dorado	1408.00	\$239,360
Fresno	10357.50	\$1,760,775
Glenn	1044.75	\$177,608
Humboldt	2754.50	\$468,265
Imperial	2433.00	\$413,610
Inyo	250.75	\$42,628
Kern	176.75	\$30,048
Kings	2268.00	\$385,560
Lake	1538.75	\$261,588
Lassen	319.00	\$54,230
Los Angeles	12077.00	\$2,053,090
Madera	1931.00	\$328,270
Marin	2371.75	\$403,198
Mariposa	235.00	\$39,950
Mendocino	2131.50	\$362,355
Merced	5408.00	\$919,360
Modoc	172.50	\$29,325
Mono	306.00	\$52,020
Monterey	4712.00	\$801,040
Napa	1089.25	\$185,173
Nevada	1752.50	\$297,925
Orange	108.00	\$18,360
Placer	1653.00	\$281,010
Plumas	402.25	\$68,383
Riverside	26411.50	\$4,489,955
Sacramento	2154.25	\$366,223
San Benito	911.25	\$154,913
San Bernardino	1186.75	\$201,748
San Diego	56.75	\$9,648
San Francisco	273.00	\$46,410
San Joaquin	10999.75	\$1,869,958
San Luis Obispo	1116.25	\$189,763
San Mateo	75.50	\$12,835
Santa Barbara	8678.00	\$1,475,260
Santa Clara	185.25	\$31,493
Santa Cruz	4339.75	\$737,758
Shasta	4696.75	\$798,448
Sierra	170.00	\$28,900
Siskiyou	947.50	\$161,075
Solano	3042.25	\$517,183
Sonoma	5381.25	\$914,813

Annual Cost Estimate by County

7/15/08

<b>County</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Billable Hours</b>	<b>Estimated Annual Cost @ \$170 Rate</b>
Stanislaus	7485.25	\$1,272,493
Sutter	851.50	\$144,755
Tehama	1011.00	\$171,870
Trinity	273.50	\$46,495
Tulare	5277.00	\$897,090
Tuolumne	1247.00	\$211,990
Ventura	34.50	\$5,865
Yolo	2489.50	\$423,215
Yuba	1176.50	\$200,005
Federal (BLM,DEA,FBI,NPS,Military,ATF)	2024.75	\$344,208
DOJ Division of Law Enforcement	1939.25	\$329,673
State (DMV,CHP,Corrections,CYA,Univ, DPR,CDF,DFG,ABC,DCA,etc.)	14818.00	\$2,519,060