

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE
5 BILL NO. 1516

By: Daniels of the Senate

and

Kane of the House

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9 An Act relating to medicolegal investigations;
10 amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 948.1, which relates
11 to fee schedule; increasing certain fee range;
12 clarifying applicability of certain fee; and
13 providing an effective date.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 948.1, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 948.1. A. The Board of Medicolegal Investigations may
18 establish a fee schedule for forensic services, permits and reports
19 rendered to members of the public and other agencies.

20 1. No fee schedule may be established or amended by the Board
21 except during a regular legislative session. The Board shall comply
22 with the Administrative Procedures Act for adoption of rules and
23 establishing or amending any such fee schedule.

1 2. Except as otherwise specified in this section, the Board
2 shall charge fees only within the following ranges:

3 a. permit for cremations that occur within the state:

4 ~~One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)~~ Two Hundred Dollars
5 (\$200.00) to ~~Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00)~~ Two Hundred
6 Seventy-five Dollars (\$275.00),

7 b. forensic science service: One Hundred Dollars
8 (\$100.00) to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00),

9 c. report copies: Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for report of
10 investigation, including toxicology, and Twenty
11 Dollars (\$20.00) for an autopsy report, including
12 toxicology,

13 d. x-rays: Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) each,

14 e. microscopic slides, Hematoxylin, and Eosin (H&E): Ten
15 Dollars (\$10.00) each,

16 f. special stains: Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) each, and

17 g. photographs: Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) per compact
18 disc (CD) or other suitable digital storage media.

19 3. Medical examiner permit certificates shall be required in
20 cases investigated solely for the purpose of issuing a permit for
21 transporting a body out of state.

22 4. The Board of Medicolegal Investigations shall charge a fee
23 for an investigation and issuance of an out-of-state shipment of
24 transport permit for human remains ~~whenever the Office of the Chief~~

1 ~~Medical Examiner has not been required to conduct an investigation~~
2 ~~of the death.~~

3 5. An out-of-state transport permit and cremation permit shall
4 both be required for bodies containing body parts sent out of state
5 or out of country, while remaining body parts remain unused.

6 B. The Board shall base the fee schedule for forensic science
7 services, permits and reports upon reasonable costs of review,
8 investigation and forensic science service delivery; provided,
9 however, the fee schedule shall be within the ranges specified in
10 subsection A of this section. The Board shall continue a system of
11 basic and continuing educational service and training for all
12 personnel who render forensic science services in order to ensure
13 uniform statewide application of the rules of the Board. The Board
14 shall consider the reasonable costs associated with such training
15 and continuing education in setting the forensic science service
16 fees.

17 C. The Board may exempt by rule any agency or class of
18 individuals from the requirements of the fee schedule if the Board
19 determines that the fees would cause an unreasonable economic
20 hardship or would otherwise hinder or conflict with an agency's
21 responsibilities.

22 D. All statutory fees currently in effect for permits or
23 forensic science services administered by the Chief Medical Examiner
24 and the Board of Medicolegal Investigations within the jurisdiction

1 of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner shall remain in effect
2 until such time as the Board acts to implement new schedules
3 pursuant to the provisions of this section and Section 948 of this
4 title.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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7 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
8 04/18/2024 - DO PASS.
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