
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2598 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY PROKOPIAK, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, PIELLI,
SCHLOSSBERG, McANDREW, NEILSON, KHAN, GIRAL, TOMLINSON,
HOGAN, MERSKI, MARCELL, OTTEN, LABS, DELLOSO AND GREEN,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in constables, further providing for
3 restricted account and for fees.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Sections 7149(b) and 7161(f) and (g) of Title 44
7 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:

8 § 7149. Restricted account.

9 * * *

10 (b) Surcharge.--There is assessed as a cost in each case
11 before a magisterial district judge a surcharge of [~~\$5~~] \$10 per
12 docket number in each criminal case and [~~\$5~~] \$10 per named
13 defendant in each civil case in which a constable or deputy
14 constable performs a service provided in Subchapter G (relating
15 to compensation), except that no county shall be required to pay
16 this surcharge on behalf of any indigent or other defendant in a
17 criminal case.

1 * * *

2 § 7161. Fees.

3 * * *

4 (f) Civil and landlord-tenant cases.--Fees in civil and
5 landlord-tenant cases shall be as follows:

6 (1) For serving complaint, summons or notice on suitor
7 or tenant, either personally or by leaving a copy, [~~\$13~~] \$20,
8 plus [~~\$5~~] \$10 for each additional defendant at the same
9 address, [~~\$2.50~~] \$5 for each return of service, plus mileage.

10 (2) For levying goods, including schedule of property
11 levied upon and set aside, notice of levy and return of
12 service, [~~\$75~~] \$125, plus mileage.

13 (3) For advertising personal property for public sale,
14 [~~\$7~~] \$10 per posting, with a maximum [~~\$21~~] \$30 fee, plus
15 mileage, plus the cost of advertising.

16 (4) For selling goods levied, receipts and returns to
17 court, [~~\$85~~] \$125, plus mileage.

18 (5) For making return of not found, [~~\$13~~] \$20, plus
19 mileage. Payment shall be limited to three returns of not
20 found.

21 (6) For executing order of possession, [~~\$13~~] \$20, plus
22 [~~\$5~~] \$10 for each additional defendant at the same address,
23 [~~\$2.50~~] \$5 for each return of service, plus mileage.

24 (7) For ejectment, [~~\$90~~] \$150, [~~\$2.50~~] \$5 for each
25 return of service, plus mileage.

26 (8) For making any return of service other than not
27 found, [~~\$2.50~~] \$5 each.

28 (9) For providing courtroom security as ordered, [~~\$13~~]
29 \$25 per hour, assessed against one or more parties as
30 determined by the court.

1 (10) Actual mileage for travel by motor vehicle shall be
2 reimbursed at the rate equal to the highest rate allowed by
3 the Internal Revenue Service. If travel is by other than
4 motor vehicle, reimbursement shall be for vouchered travel
5 expenses.

6 (g) Criminal cases.--Fees in criminal cases shall be as
7 follows:

8 (1) For executing each warrant of arrest or for
9 effectuating the payment of fines and costs by attempting to
10 execute each warrant of arrest, [~~\$25~~] \$50 for each docket
11 number and [~~\$2.50~~] \$5 for each return of service, plus
12 mileage.

13 (2) For taking custody of a defendant, [~~\$5~~] \$25 per
14 defendant.

15 (3) For conveyance of defendant to or from court, [~~\$5~~]
16 \$25 per defendant.

17 (4) For attendance at arraignment or hearing, [~~\$13~~] \$25.

18 (5) For executing discharge, [~~\$5~~] \$25 per defendant.

19 (6) For executing commitment, [~~\$5~~] \$25 per defendant.

20 (7) For executing release, [~~\$5~~] \$25 per defendant.

21 (8) For making returns to the court, [~~\$2.50~~] \$5.

22 (9) Transporting each nonincarcerated defendant to jail,
23 [~~\$17~~] \$25, plus mileage; transporting an incarcerated
24 prisoner, [~~\$38~~] \$50 per prisoner, plus an hourly rate of
25 [~~\$13~~] \$25 per hour, plus mileage. Computation of hourly rate
26 will apply after the expiration of the first hour per
27 prisoner per hour, not to exceed [~~\$26~~] \$50 per hour per
28 constable.

29 (10) Receipt of the fees for transporting a
30 nonincarcerated defendant under paragraph (9) shall not

1 exclude receipt of the fees under paragraphs (6) and (8) for
2 that transport.

3 (11) Receipt of the fees for transporting an
4 incarcerated prisoner under paragraph (9) shall exclude
5 receipt of the fees under paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (7)
6 for the transport.

7 (12) Actual mileage for travel by motor vehicle shall be
8 reimbursed at the rate equal to the highest rate allowed by
9 the Internal Revenue Service. If travel is by other than
10 motor vehicle, reimbursement shall be for vouchered travel
11 expenses.

12 (13) For conveying defendants for fingerprinting, [~~\$17~~]
13 \$25 per defendant, plus [~~\$13~~] \$25 per hour beyond the first
14 hour per defendant per hour, not to exceed [~~\$26~~] \$50 per hour
15 per constable, plus mileage.

16 (14) For holding one or more defendants at the office of
17 a magisterial district judge, [~~\$13~~] \$25 per hour per
18 defendant beyond the first half hour.

19 (15) For courtroom security as ordered, [~~\$13~~] \$25 per
20 hour, assessed against one or more parties as determined by
21 the court.

22 (16) In all criminal cases wherein the defendant is
23 discharged or indigent or the case is otherwise dismissed,
24 the court shall assess to the county the fee provided in this
25 section, except that, in cases of private criminal complaints
26 where the defendant is discharged prior to the indictment or
27 the filing of any information or the case is otherwise
28 dismissed at the summary offense hearing, the court shall
29 assess the fee to the affiant.

30 * * *

1 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.