

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SUPREME COURT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

O R D E R

Pursuant to Part II, Article 73-a of the New Hampshire Constitution and Supreme Court Rule 51(A)(7), the Supreme Court of New Hampshire adopts the following amendments to court rules.

Court Fees

1. Amend Supreme Court Rule 49, regarding fees in the supreme court, as set forth in Appendix A.
2. Amend Superior Court Rule 169, regarding fees in the superior court, as set forth in Appendix B.
3. Amend District Court Rule 3.3, regarding fees in the district court, as set forth in Appendix C.
4. Amend Probate Court Rule 169, regarding fees in the probate court, as set forth in Appendix D.

Effective Date

These amendments shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

Date: June 29, 2007

ATTEST: _____
Eileen Fox, Clerk of Court
Supreme Court of New Hampshire

APPENDIX A

Amend Supreme Court Rule 49 by deleting said rule and replacing it with the following (additions in **bold and underlined**; deletions in ~~brackets and strike-out mode~~):

RULE 49. Fees In Supreme Court

(I) **Fees**

(A) Entry of Appeal	\$ [125.00] <u>150.00</u>
(B) Petition for Original Jurisdiction	
(1) Original petition for writ of habeas corpus	\$ 0 (No fee)
(2) All other petitions for original jurisdiction	\$ [125.00] <u>150.00</u>
(C) (1) Certification of Record to Federal Courts	\$75.00
(2) Other Certifications and Certified Copies	\$5.00 plus \$.50/page
(D) Bar Examination Fee	\$250.00
(E) Character and Fitness Investigation Fee	
(1) For Admission By Examination	\$ 125.00
(2) For Admission Without Examination	\$ 500.00
(F) Certificate of Admission	\$ 5.00
(G) Entry of Motion for Admission to Bar Without Examination	\$ 250.00

(II) **Surcharge**

Pursuant to RSA ~~[490:24, II]~~ **490:26-a, II**, the sum of \$~~[20.00]~~ **25.00** shall be added to ~~[the fees]~~ **each civil filing fee** set forth in paragraphs (I)(A) and (I)(B)(2) above, **except for the following types of cases which pursuant to RSA 490:26-a, II(b) are exempt from the surcharge:**~~[=]~~

- (A) Actions relating to children under RSA 169-B, RSA 169-C, and RSA 169-D.**
- (B) Domestic violence actions under RSA 173-B.**
- (C) Small claims actions under RSA 503.**
- (D) Landlord/tenant actions under RSA 540, RSA 540-A, RSA 540-B, and RSA 540-C.**
- (E) Stalking actions under RSA 633:3-a.**

APPENDIX B

Amend Superior Court Rule 169 by deleting said rule and replacing it with the following (additions in **bold and underlined**; deletions in ~~[brackets and strike-out mode]~~):

169. Fees.

(I) The appropriate fee must accompany all filings. All fees shall be consolidated into a single payment, when possible.

(II) ~~[32.8]~~ **27.33%** of the entry fee paid in each libel and petition in marital cases (\$41.00) shall be deposited into the special fund established by RSA 458:17-b. Said fund is for the compensation of mediators, appointed pursuant to RSA 458:15-a, and guardians ad litem, appointed pursuant to RSA 458:17-a, when the parents are indigent.

(III) (A) Original Entries:

(i) Original Entry of any Action at Law or Equity except a petition for writ of habeas corpus; Original Entry of all Marital Matters, including Order of Notice and Guardian ad Litem Fee; Transfer; the filing of a foreign judgment pursuant to RSA 524-A; or any Special Writ	\$ [125.00] 150.00
(ii) Original Entry of a petition for writ of habeas corpus	\$ 0 (no fee)
(B) Small Claim Transfer Fee	\$ [90.00] 115.00
(C) Motion to Bring Forward (post judgment)	\$ [50.00] 75.00
(D) Petition to Annul Criminal Record	\$ 50.00
(E) Wage Claim Decision	\$ 25.00
(F) Marriage Waiver	\$ [25.00] 50.00
(G) Motion for Periodic Payments	\$ 15.00
(H) Original Writ (form)	\$ 1.00
(I) (i) Divorce Certificate (VSR) only	\$ 5.00
(ii) Divorce Certificate, Certified Copy of Decree and if applicable, Stipulation, QDRO, USO, and other Decree-related Documents	\$ 15.00
(J) Certificates and Certified Copies	\$ 5.00
(K) All Copied Material	\$.50/page

(IV) On the commencement of any custody or support proceeding for which a fee is required, including libels for divorce with minor children, an additional fee of \$2.00 shall be paid by the petitioner.

(V) Pursuant to RSA [~~490:24, II~~] **490:26-a, II**, the sum of \$~~[20.00]~~ **25.00** shall be added to ~~[the fees]~~ **each civil filing fee** set forth in paragraphs (III)(A)(i), (III)(C), and (III)(F) above, **except for the following types of cases which pursuant to RSA 490:26-a, II(b) are exempt from the surcharge:**~~[=]~~

(A) Actions relating to children under RSA 169-B, RSA 169-C, and RSA 169-D.

(B) Domestic violence actions under RSA 173-B.

(C) Small claims actions under RSA 503.

(D) Landlord/tenant actions under RSA 540, RSA 540-A, RSA 540-B, and RSA 540-C.

(E) Stalking actions under RSA 633:3-a.

[VI] Records Research Fees:

(A) Record information must be requested in writing and include the individual's full name and, if available, the individual's date of birth.

(B) A fee of \$10.00 per request will be assessed for electronic (computer) searches of less than ten names.

(C) A fee of \$25.00 per request will be assessed for electronic (computer) searches of ten or more names.

(D) Extensive electronic (computer) searches requiring more than one hour will be assessed \$25.00 per additional hour or portion thereof.

(E) A fee of \$25.00 per hour or portion thereof will be assessed for manual searches. The fee is based on this hourly rate and not the number of names per request.

(F) Charges for requests requiring a combination of manual and electronic searches on the same party will be assessed according to the fee schedule for both categories.

EXAMPLE: One request for electronic search with seven names = \$10.00. Additional requirement that one or more of those seven names be manually researched as well = \$25.00 per hour or portion thereof. Assuming the manual research is completed in less than one hour, then the total fee = \$35.00.

APPENDIX C

Amend District Court Rule 3.3 by deleting said rule and replacing it with the following (additions in **bold and underlined**; deletions in ~~[brackets and strike-out mode]~~):

Rule 3.3. Court fees

(I) **Fees**

(A) **Original Entries:**

Civil writ of summons	\$ [75.00] <u>100.00</u>
Replevin	\$ [75.00] <u>100.00</u>
Landlord/Tenant entry	\$ [50.00] <u>75.00</u>
Registration of foreign judgment	\$ [100.00] <u>125.00</u>
Small claims entry	\$ [40.00] <u>60.00</u>

(B) **General and Miscellaneous**

Motion for Periodic Payments	\$ 15.00
Petition to annul criminal record	\$ 50.00
Original writ	\$ 1.00 each

(C) **Certificates & Copies**

Certificate of Judgment	\$ 10.00
Exemplification of Judgment	\$ 25.00
Certified copies	\$ 5.00
All copied material (except transcripts)	\$.50/page
Computer screen printout	\$.50/page

(II) **Surcharge**

Pursuant to RSA ~~[490:24, II]~~ **490:26-a, II**, the sum of \$~~[20.00]~~ **25.00** shall be added to ~~[the fees]~~ **each civil filing fee** set forth in paragraph (I)(A) above, **except for the following types of cases which pursuant to RSA 490:26-a, II(b) are exempt from the surcharge:**^[=]

(A) Actions relating to children under RSA 169-B, RSA 169-C, and RSA 169-D.

(B) Domestic violence actions under RSA 173-B.

(C) Small claims actions under RSA 503.

(D) Landlord/tenant actions under RSA 540, RSA 540-A, RSA 540-B, and RSA 540-C.

(E) Stalking actions under RSA 633:3-a.

[III] **Records Research Fees**

(A) Record information must be requested in writing and include the individual's full name and, if available, the individual's date of birth.

(B) A fee of \$10.00 per request will be assessed for electronic (computer) searches of less than ten names.

(C) A fee of \$25.00 per request will be assessed for electronic (computer) searches of ten or more names.

(D) Extensive electronic (computer) searches requiring more than one hour will be assessed \$25.00 per additional hour or portion thereof.

(E) A fee of \$25.00 per hour or portion thereof will be assessed for manual searches. The fee is based on this hourly rate and not the number of names per request.

(F) Charges for requests requiring a combination of manual and electronic searches on the same party will be assessed according to the fee schedule for both categories.

EXAMPLE: One request for electronic search with seven names = \$10.00. Additional requirement that one or more of those seven names be manually researched as well = \$25.00 per hour or portion thereof. Assuming the manual research is completed in less than one hour, then the total fee = \$35.00.

(G) The Clerk may waive the records research fee when a request for record information is made by a member of the media consistent with the public's right to access court records under the New Hampshire Constitution.

APPENDIX D

Amend Probate Court Rule 169 by deleting said rule and replacing it with the following (additions in **bold and underlined**; deletions in ~~[brackets and strike-out mode]~~):

Rule 169. FEES

(I) ENTRY FEES:

- (a) Original Entry of any Equity Action \$~~[130.00]~~ **155.00**

- (b) Petition File and Record Authenticated Copy of Will, Foreign Wills; Petition Estate Administration for estates with a gross value greater than \$25,000; Petition Administration of Person Not Heard From; Petition Guardian, Foreign Guardian or Conservator (RSA 464-A) \$~~[105.00]~~ **130.00**

- (c) Petition Termination of Parental Rights; Petition Involuntary Admission; Petition Guardian Minor Estate and Person and Estate (RSA 463); Petition Guardian of Incompetent Veteran (RSA 465) \$ ~~[80.00]~~ **105.00**

- (d) Petition Adoption, includes one certificate (no entry fee when accompanied by a Petition for termination); Motion to Reopen (estate administration); Motion to Bring Forward \$ ~~[55.00]~~ **80.00**

- (e) Petition Estate Administration for estates having a gross value of \$25,000 or less; Petition Change of Name (includes one certificate); Petition Guardian Minor Person (RSA 463) \$ ~~[30.00]~~ **55.00**

- (f) Marriage Waiver \$ ~~[25.00]~~ **50.00**

- (g) Motion Prove Will in Common and/or Solemn Form (administration required); Motion to Re-examine Will \$ 105.00

- (h) Petition Appoint Trustee \$ ~~[80.00]~~ **105.00**

- (i) Motion Successor Trustee, Administrator, Executor, or Guardian of Estate and Person and Estate (RSA 463) (RSA 464-A); All Executor/Administrator Accounting for estates

with a gross value greater than \$25,000; Trustees Accounting;
Guardian/Conservator Accounting \$ 55.00

(j) Petition Change of Venue (includes authenticated copy fee); Motion Successor Guardian of Person (RSA 463) (RSA 464-A); Motion Sue on Bond; Motion Remove Fiduciary; Motion Fiduciary to Settle Account \$ 30.00

(k) Pursuant to RSA ~~[490:24, II]~~ **490:26-a, II**, the sum of \$~~[20.00]~~ **25.00** shall be added to ~~[the fees]~~ **each civil filing fee** set forth in subsections (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), ~~and~~ (f) **and (h)** above.

(II) ENTRY FEES INCLUDE:

Preparation and issuance of Orders of Notice, Notice, Copies of Decrees, mailing costs, certificate to discharge surety.

(III) ENTRY FEES DO NOT INCLUDE:

Notice by publication. This fee shall be paid by the Party or the Attorney for the Party from whom the notice is required. The cost of publication shall be determined by the Register of each county. The request may require that payment be made directly to the publisher of the notice.

In-hand service. If service by a law enforcement officer is required, the Party or the Attorney for the Party from whom the notice is required shall pay the cost of service to the appropriate county sheriff's department.

Additional copies. If additional copies of any document, or additional certificates are requested beyond those included in normal processing as indicated above, the Party or the Attorney for the Party requesting the additional copies shall pay the costs in advance as indicated under "Certificates & Copies."

(IV) OTHER:

Defaults (RSA 548:5-a)	\$25.00/each occurrence
Citations/show cause (RSA 548:5-a and 550:2)	\$50.00/each occurrence
Duplicate Audio Tape	\$25.00/each tape

(V) CERTIFICATES & COPIES:

Certificates	\$5.00
Certification	\$5.00 plus copy fee
Photocopy of Will	\$1.00/page
All other copied material	\$.50/page
Authenticated Copy of Probate	\$25.00/each

"Certificates & Copies" shall apply to individual requests for the above services, requests for additional certificates beyond those provided with the original entries and requests for additional copies beyond those provided with the original entry fees.