

For Immediate Release:

WISCONSIN VITAL RECORDS CERTIFIED COPY FEE INCREASES

The State Budget Bill recently signed into law by Governor Doyle includes an increase in the cost of the first certified copy of a vital record (birth, death, and marriage certificates). It also increases the fee for expedited service in issuing certified copies of vital records.

EFFECTIVE DATE

October 27, 2007

FEE CHANGES

TYPE OF RECORD	FEE FOR FIRST COPY (Certified or Uncertified)		FEE FOR ADDITIONAL CERTIFIED COPY
	FORMER	NEW	Fee remains at \$3.00 per copy of the same record ordered at the same time.
BIRTH	\$12.00	\$20.00	
DEATH	\$7.00	\$20.00	
MARRIAGE	\$7.00	\$20.00	
EXPEDITE	\$10.00	\$20.00	

The revenue generated from the fee increases will be used to automate the outdated paper registration, archiving, and copy issuance systems at the state and all Registers of Deeds offices. The revenue will also help fund the data entry of birth and death records from 1935, as required by recent federal laws (Real I.D. and Intelligence Reform Acts). The system improvements will enhance customer service and increased document security, including protection from fraudulent use of vital records.

Certified copies of vital records (birth, death, & marriage records) are critical identity documents used on a daily basis by all Wisconsin citizens to secure employment, passports, drivers' licenses; to enroll in school, to receive health insurance coverage and to qualify for government programs. It should be noted, Wisconsin law strictly prohibits copying vital records. Photocopying this important identity document or accepting an unauthorized photocopy is illegal.