

ORDINANCE NO. 2077

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 62 OF THE CODE OF SUSSEX COUNTY BY AMENDING ARTICLE VI, § 62-18, RELATING TO FEES CHARGED BY THE RECORDER OF DEEDS

WHEREAS, the Recorder of Deeds Office contracts with a third party services provider that handles the Recorder of Deeds digitized record keeping system for documents that are submitted to that office for recording and placed into a digital database; and

WHEREAS, with certain upgrades the system will allow users to perform internet-based searches of the indices of documents recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds and will allow document retrieval of those documents through an internet-based search and retrieval system; and

WHEREAS, the Recorder of Deeds has requested that fees related to these services be established so that users of that system will be required to pay for the use of the system and the retrieval of recorded documents available through the online system maintained for the Recorder of Deeds Office; and

WHEREAS, the fees to be established through this ordinance are designed to recover the costs the Recorder of Deeds will be required to pay the third party provider of the online document search and retrieval services and the electronic payment for the services that will be provided hereunder to the users of the system; and

WHEREAS, by the adoption of this ordinance, Sussex County Council desires to establish fees that will apply to internet based searches and the retrieval and printing of documents available through the digitized database maintained for the Recorder of Deeds;

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Fees, Article VI, Recorder of Deeds, § 62-18. Enumeration of fees, is hereby amended by adding a Subsection C. as set forth below:

§ 62-18. Enumeration of fees.

C. The following fees are hereby established for internet search, internet document retrieval and internet printing services and payment for such services, as follows:

(1) Subscriber Charges:

<u>Per index search:</u>	<u>No charge for index search</u>
<u>Per page printed:</u>	<u>.25 cents per page</u>
<u>Monthly subscriber fee:</u>	<u>\$50.00 per month</u>

(2) Non-Subscriber Charges:

<u>Per index search:</u>	<u>No charge for index search</u>
<u>Per page printed:</u>	<u>\$1.00 per page printed</u>

(3) The Recorder of Deeds shall establish a standard subscriber agreement to be signed by persons or entities desiring to execute a subscriber agreement and the payment of the monthly fee specified above, which will entitle them to print copies of documents at the discounted per page rate, set forth above. The subscriber agreement may provide options for payment on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis.

- (4) The Recorder of Deeds shall establish and maintain an online payment system that will permit users of the digitized document search and retrieval system to pay for services provided to them through the use of debit or credit cards or other commercially acceptable electronic payment methods.**

Section 2. This ordinance shall become effective upon the date of its adoption.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF ORDINANCE NO. 2077 ADOPTED BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST 2009.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Re Griffith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**ROBIN A. GRIFFITH
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

