

ORDINANCE NO. 3024

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 62, ARTICLE V, § 62-16 OF THE CODE OF SUSSEX COUNTY TO INCREASE THE FEES FOR RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS FOR OUT-OF-OFFICE MARRIAGE CEREMONIES AND RENEWAL OF MARRIAGE VOWS AND TO INSTITUTE FEES FOR MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

WHEREAS, Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Article V, § 62-16 establishes the fees to be charged by the Clerk of the Peace for performing marriage ceremonies and the renewal of marriage vows; and

WHEREAS, Sussex County desires to amend Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Article V, § 62-16F. and J. to increase the fees for Delaware residents for marriage ceremonies and renewal of marriage vows performed outside of the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, Sussex County desires to amend Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Article V, § 62-16G. and K. to increase the fees for non-Delaware residents for marriage ceremonies and renewal of marriage vows performed outside of the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, by adding a new § 62-16P. to Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Article V, Sussex County further desires to establish fees to be charged by the Clerk of the Peace for issuing and/or preparing miscellaneous correspondences including, but not limited to, single status letter and Maryland out of state marriage application.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX HEREBY ORDAINS: Section 1. Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Article V, § 62-16, "Enumeration of fees", subparagraphs F., G., J., and K., are hereby amended by adding the underlined language and deleting the bracketed language, and a new subparagraph P is created by adding the underlined language as follows:

§ 62-16. Enumeration of fees.

- A. The fee for a marriage license issued by the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County to a Delaware resident shall be \$50 each.**
- B. The fee for providing a marriage license issued by the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County to a non-Delaware resident shall be \$100 each.**
- C. The fee for providing a certified copy of a marriage license issued by the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County shall be \$25 each.**
- D. The fee for conducting a Memorable Marriage Ceremony in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County, or on The Circle or any building fronting The Circle, during normal business hours for a Delaware resident shall be \$50.**

E. The fee for conducting a Memorable Marriage Ceremony in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County, or on The Circle or any building fronting The Circle, during normal business hours for a non-Delaware resident shall be \$100.

F. The fee for conducting a Memorable Marriage Ceremony outside of the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County for a Delaware resident shall be [~~\$100~~]\$125.

G. The fee for conducting a Memorable Marriage Ceremony outside of the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County for a non-Delaware resident shall be [~~\$200~~]\$250.

H. The fee for performing a renewal of marriage vows ceremony in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County, or on The Circle or any building fronting The Circle, during normal business hours for a Delaware resident shall be \$50.

I. The fee for performing a renewal of marriage vows ceremony in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County, or on The Circle or any building fronting The Circle, during normal business hours for a non-Delaware resident shall be \$100.

J. The fee for performing a renewal of marriage vows ceremony outside of the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County for a Delaware resident shall be [~~\$100~~]\$125.

K. The fee for performing a renewal of marriage vows ceremony outside of the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County for a non-resident shall be [~~\$200~~]\$250.

L. Each marriage license recorded in the Marriage Bureau in Sussex County shall be charged a recording fee of \$20.

M. There shall be no fee for any services set forth in this § 62-16 for any active United States military personnel or veterans regardless of residency. For purposes of this section, "veterans" shall be defined as set forth in the Internal Revenue Manual 4.76.26.2.1.

N. The fee for conducting a Memorable Marriage Ceremony or performing a renewal of marriage vows in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County, or on The Circle or any building fronting The Circle, after normal business hours and on weekends for a Delaware resident shall be \$100.

O. The fee for conducting a Memorable Marriage Ceremony or performing a renewal of marriage vows in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County, or on The Circle or any building fronting The Circle, after normal business hours and on weekends for a non-Delaware resident shall be \$200.

P. The fee for preparing a single status letter, Maryland out of state marriage application, affidavit form or other miscellaneous form that requires an affidavit signed by the Clerk of the Peace for Sussex County shall be \$20.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective on July 1, 2024.

Synopsis

This Ordinance amends Sussex County Code, Chapter 62, Article V, § 62-16F., G., J., and K., to increase the fee to perform a marriage ceremony or a renewal of marriage vows ceremony outside of the Office of the Clerk of the Peace for Delaware residents and non-Delaware residents. This Ordinance also creates a new § 62-16P. thereunder which establishes fees the Clerk of the Peace charges for miscellaneous services.

Deleted text is shown in brackets. Additional text is underlined.

I DO HERBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF ORDINANCE NO. 3024 ADOPTED BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE 18TH DAY OF JUNE 2024.



Tracy N. Torbert
Clerk of the Council