

# **Press Release**

## **Court Fines and Fees Expected to Increase**

Senate Bill 1790, commonly known as the “fee bill,” has been approved by the Florida Legislature and is pending before Governor Charlie Crist. The Governor has 14 days to sign or veto the legislation, or the bill automatically becomes law and goes into effect July 1, 2008.

Dwight E. Brock, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Collier County, wants to inform the public that he expects court related filing fees, fines and service costs will be increased in the State of Florida as of July 1.

“The bill raises a large number of filing fees and court costs” said Dwight “and will have long term implications on the entire court system.” Dwight believes that access to the courts will cost citizens more.

As an example, civil filing fees will go from \$250.00 to \$295.00; tenant evictions from \$70.00 to \$295.00. In addition, defendants who file a counterclaim will pay another \$295.00, as will those making third party pleadings.

A summary document\* is attached outlining the proposed increases in filing fees, court costs and service charges.

*\*This summary document was provided to the Clerk’s Office from Tallahassee, and therefore, the Clerk’s Office **cannot** guarantee the complete accuracy of all the data.*

You can read the entire bill on the FL Legislature’s website at:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/data/session/2008/Senate/bills/billtext/pdf/s1790er.pdf>

or access SB 1790 and the summary at CollierClerk.com, by clicking on “Community Partnership,” and scrolling down to “Legislative Updates” and SB 1790.

Note: SB 1790 is a large document (file) and may be slow to download or print.

### **For more information contact:**

Robert D. St. Cyr, Director, Community Outreach  
Clerk of the Circuit Court, Collier County, FL  
(239) 252 – 6879  
[Robert.StCyr@collierclerk.com](mailto:Robert.StCyr@collierclerk.com)

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