

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 23

SUBJECT: NOTICED PUBLIC HEARING: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 448.1 TO ARTICLE XXV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND SECTION 21.1901 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO SHERIFF'S OFFICE FEES (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff's Office) is dedicated to delivering high quality public safety services to all residents of San Diego County. To support this commitment, the Sheriff's Office regularly evaluates its operations to ensure a balanced and effective approach to service delivery. This includes reviewing the services it provides and the associated costs, with periodic adjustments to fees to reflect current expenses.

The Sheriff's Office recently conducted a review of all its fees and rates to ensure compliance with Board Policy B-29 Fees, Grants, and Revenue Contracts - Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery (Board Policy B-29), which requires County of San Diego (County) departments to recover costs to provide services to agencies or individuals. As a result, the Sheriff's Office is proposing a fee package that is the result of an analysis of services provided to the public, processing times, and corresponding costs to provide those services. The proposed amendments to the County Administrative Code pertain to Section 448.1 (Detention Services User Fees), to update existing fees associated with prepaid debit cards issued to an incarcerated person upon final release from custody, and vendor costs put forth by the commissary service website. In addition to the County Administrative Code amendments, the Sheriff's Office reviewed its regulatory and licensing fees, and is proposing increasing 28 fees, deleting three fees, keeping seven fees the same, and adding two new fees for services. The Sheriff's Office is requesting a waiver of Board Policy B-29 for three fees which are less than full cost recovery: Carry Concealed Weapons (CCW) license, For-Hire Vehicle Driver Identification Card, and Taxicab Driver Identification Card.

The Auditor and Controller has reviewed and approved the supporting documentation and methodology for establishing the fees in this proposal for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

Today's actions request the Board of Supervisors (Board) to approve amendments to Section 448.1 of the County Administrative Code and Section 21.1901 of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances related to the Sheriff's Office fees charged for services provided. The ordinance will be introduced on May 19, 2026 (first reading), if the Board takes action as recommended, then on June 9, 2026 (second reading), these changes will be adopted. If the proposed ordinance is altered on May 19, 2026, then on that date, a subsequent meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption. Additionally, today's action requests a waiver of Board Policy B-29 full cost recovery related to the CCW, For-Hire Vehicle Driver Identification Card, and Taxicab Driver Identification Card fee.

RECOMMENDATION(S) SHERIFF

1. Approve the introduction of the Ordinance (first reading):
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 448.1 TO ARTICLE XXV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND SECTION 21.1901 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO SHERIFF'S OFFICE FEES.
2. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants and Revenue Contracts, Department Responsibility for Full Cost Recovery related to Carry Concealed Weapons License, For-Hire Vehicle Driver Identification Card, and Taxicab Driver Identification Card fees, of the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances.

If, on May 19, 2026, the Board takes action as recommended above, then on June 9, 2026:

1. Consider and adopt (second reading):
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 448.1 TO ARTICLE XXV OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND SECTION 21.1901 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE OF REGULATORY ORDINANCES RELATING TO SHERIFF'S OFFICE FEES.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The San Diego County Sheriff's Office strives for equitable and positive outcomes in our communities, ensuring that services to our communities do not entail fees that create inequities. The proposed fee changes aim to provide additional transparency and accountability. The adjustments to fees are meant for service cost recovery and to provide benefit from a service by paying part of its cost, rather than having the entire burden fall on taxpayers. The calculations for the fee increases are not meant to be cost prohibitive for individuals, especially members of our communities who suffer from economic inequality.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's actions align with the County of San Diego's (County) Sustainability Goals by enhancing fiscal stability by obtaining partial cost recovery for services provided, while ensuring equity by requiring recipients of the service to pay a portion of the costs, lessening the reliance on County's General Purpose Revenue to provide the services. Each of the fees has been tailored to balance fiscal stability and equity to avoid disproportionately burdening any segment of the population needing the services.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the County for fees related to pre-paid debit cards found in the County Administrative Code. The fees assessed for this service are paid directly by the customer to the debit card vendor and/or merchant for processing the transactions. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

There is no fiscal impact to the County for fees related to commissary website transactions, also found in the County Administrative Code. To offset vendor service costs, transaction fees are proposed to increase by \$0.65 per transaction. If approved, the cost per transaction will go from \$3.25 to \$3.90 to support website hosting and processing online credit and debit card payments. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

If various regulatory and licensing fees are approved, this request will produce a nominal increase in revenue depending on the number of licenses issued each year. Costs and revenues related to these fees of \$1,048,117, are included in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 CAO Recommended Operational Plan for the Sheriff's Office. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

A waiver of Board Policy B-29, for three fees is being requested because full cost recovery could become cost prohibitive and inhibit access and participation for those that face economic challenges. The three fees are: Carry Concealed Weapons (CCW) License, For-Hire Vehicle Driver Identification Card, and Taxicab Driver Identification Card. The unrecovered cost, estimated at \$5.1 million will be funded with Sheriff's Office General Purpose Revenue. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Aguirre, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors closed the Hearing and took action as recommended, and took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on June 9, 2026.

AYES: Aguirre, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

NOT PRESENT: Anderson

ABSENT: Lawson-Remer

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



Signed
by Andrew Potter

