

STATE OF MINNESOTA
IN SUPREME COURT
ADM09-8010

FILED

August 27, 2015

**OFFICE OF
APPELLATE COURTS**

**ORDER ESTABLISHING FEE POLICY FOR
COPIES OF APPELLATE RECORDS**

The Legislature has imposed, and district court administrators collect, fees associated with cases filed in the district courts, including, among others, fees to obtain copies of documents filed in civil and criminal proceedings. Minn. Stat. § 357.021, subds. 2(2), 2b (2014) (imposing fees for certified and uncertified copies of documents, and a technology fee). Records of the appellate courts may be accessed at terminals located in Minnesota’s county courthouses and the State Law Library. Access to appellate court records on terminals located at county courthouses may require district court staff to impose fees for copies of those documents. Minnesota Statutes § 357.021 (2014), does not directly address the fees for copies of appellate court records obtained from district court staff. However, the statute permits imposition of a fee that “compares favorably” with other fees imposed by this statute, or a fee that is “fixed by rule or order of the court.” Minn. Stat. § 357.021, subd. 2(14).

A fee imposed on the cost of a copy of an appellate court record that is consistent with the fees imposed to obtain a copy of district court records obtained from terminals located in Minnesota’s county courthouses and the State Law Library will enhance public access and provide administrative efficiency for district court staff. The authority

provided by Minn. Stat. § 357.021, subd. 2(14), and the authority of the Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court to exercise general supervisory powers over the courts in the state, including supervision of the administrative operations of the courts, Minn. Stat. § 2.724, subd. 4 (2014), permit a fee to be imposed and collected to obtain a copy of appellate court records from terminals located in Minnesota's county courthouses.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The fee to be charged and collected by district court administrators for copies of appellate court records obtained from terminals located in Minnesota's county courthouses or the State Law Library shall be \$10 for each document. Fees collected pursuant to this paragraph shall be transmitted to the commissioner of management and budget, as directed in Minn. Stat. § 357.021, subd. 1 (2014).

2. To the extent applicable, the procedures of the State Court Administrator's Copy Fee Policy shall apply to requests for copies of appellate court records accessed on terminals located in Minnesota's county courthouses or the State Law Library.

Dated: August 27, 2015

BY THE COURT:



Lorie S. Gildea
Chief Justice