

CHAPTER 8.26

SUPERIOR COURT FEES--COURTHOUSE FACILITATOR
PROGRAM--SURCHARGE ON FILING FEES

SECTIONS:

8.26.010	Purpose
8.26.020	Definitions
8.26.030	Surcharge Imposed
8.26.040	Administration and Collection
8.26.050	Account Created
8.26.060	Severability
8.26.070	Effective Date

8.26.010 PURPOSE. The purpose of this chapter is to provide for revenue to be used to pay for the expenses of a courthouse facilitator program created to provide basic services to pro se litigants in family law cases as authorized by Chapter 26.12 RCW. [Ord. 250 (1993) § 1]

8.26.020 DEFINITIONS. The following definitions shall apply for the purposes of this chapter:

(a) "Courthouse Facilitator Program" means the services of a Court Facilitator, who may be a licensed attorney or non-attorney that is retained to provide limited assistance to pro se family law litigants immediately prior to and at the domestic docket, and/or the services of a Clerk Facilitator position, who is a non-attorney that may provide further assistance in such cases as is authorized by General Rule 27, and any other services authorized by resolution of the Benton County Board of Commissioners to be part of the Courthouse Facilitator Program authorized by RCW 26.12.240.

(b) **Family law cases** means superior court cases filed under Title 26 RCW.

(c) **Pro se litigant** means the person engaged in a legal proceeding who is representing himself/herself in the proceeding.

(d) **Surcharge** means the extra amount charged as authorized by Chapter 26.12 RCW.
[Ord. 250 (1993) § 2; Ord. 408 (2004) § 1; Ord. 408A (2004) § 1; Ord. 460 (2007) § 1]

8.26.030 SURCHARGE IMPOSED. There is hereby imposed a surcharge in the amount of twenty (20) dollars as authorized by RCW 26.12.240 on all superior court cases filed under Title 26 RCW.
[Ord. 250 (1993) § 3; Ord. 423 (2005) § 1]

8.26.040 ADMINISTRATION AND COLLECTION. The administration and collection of the surcharge imposed by this chapter shall be in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 26.12 RCW.
[Ord. 250 (1993) § 4]

8.26.050 ACCOUNT CREATED. There is hereby created a separate account for the deposit of moneys collected as authorized by this chapter. The moneys deposited to such account shall be used to pay for the expenses of the Courthouse Facilitator Program.
[Ord. 250 (1993) § 5]

8.26.060 SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this chapter is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of the chapter and the applicability thereof to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.
[Ord. 250 (1993) § 6]

8.26.070 EFFECTIVE DATE. This chapter shall take effect and be in full force upon its passage and adoption.
[Ord. 250 (1993) § 7; Ord. 408 (2004) § 3; Ord. 408A (2004) § 3]