

## Coordinator's Corner

Since all of you will be starting the budget process for 2000 shortly, I wanted to give you an update on the fees for the foreseeable future so that you can plan accordingly.

The yearly fee, beginning in 2000, will be \$550.00. Please see the fee article elsewhere in this newsletter.

The legislature has begun to act on bills other than the budget bill. A drunk driving bill has passed the Assembly and a refusal hearing bill is in committee.

As reported by the Association, happily, the proposed DOT "suspension

fee" did not make it through in the budget.

## Seminar Attendance

In a few weeks we will be sending out the credit notices for this year. Please remember that this year, you will have through the March 2000 seminar to earn your 1999 credits. The new credit year will begin on May 1, 2000 when new terms begin and May to May will, in the future, be the period within which you will have to earn your "yearly" four judicial education credits.

## Fees

As you will recall, we are changing our seminar year from May to May. Therefore, we will be billing for 2000 AND the first 1/3 of 2001 (to take us to May 2001) when we send out our invoices at the end of 1999. The invoice will total \$733.33 (\$550 for a year plus \$183.33 for 1/3 of a year). Thereafter, municipalities will be billed on a yearly basis from May to May. The invoice after that will be sent in January 2001 to cover May 2001 to May 2002.

The Office of Judicial Education and the Municipal Judge Education Committee have approved the raise in the yearly fee to \$550.00 in order to cover the increased operational costs including meeting room space, hotel audio visual fees, raises in coffee, soda, mineral water and sweet roll prices, DOA fees, rent and printing and postage costs, to name just a few of the most obvious ones.

The \$550 per year fee will be in place at least through May 2002. Unless there are major unforeseeable increases in our costs, it is unlikely that the fee will need to be raised again for at least 5 years.

## Of interest?

There has been some discussion of whether fingerprints of municipal court defendants are to be sent to the CIB.

Section 165.83(2) requires that the Dept. of Justice shall "(a) Obtain and file fingerprints, descriptions, phonographs and any other available identifying data on persons who have been arrested or taken into custody in this state:.... 2. For an offense which is a misdemeanor or a violation of an ordinance involving burglary tools, commercial gambling, dealing in gambling devices, contributing to the delinquency of a child, dealing in stolen property, controlled substances or controlled substance analogs under ch. 961, firearms, dangerous weapons, explosives, pandering prostitution, sex offenses where children are victims, or worthless checks. 3. For an offense charged as disorderly conduct but which relates to an act connected with one or more of the offenses under subd. 2.

## Seminars

Orientation/Institute was held in May. Fifteen new judges attended the seminar at the Heidel House and it was a great success. The new judges were enthusiastic and interested, and they participated in the give and take in both the first day of Orientation and the subsequent two-day Institute.

The next seminar is Special Topic, July 15 & 16 at the Valley Inn in Neenah. There is still some room at the seminar, but the cut off date

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for registrations was June 11.  
If you are planning to come,

please check with the hotel to see if you can  
still get a room at state rate.

If you do not have a branch number,  
leave Field 52 blank.

## From the DOT

Revocations and Suspensions will no longer return court orders for failure to pay forfeitures which have been ordered against a company or corporation. They will still not be processed

The department is in the process of implementing a computer system that will place convictions on a violator's driver record with minimal DMV staff intervention. As a result, we do not scrutinize the handwritten data on the citation, so it is very important that critical data is correct. Critical data includes statute number and violation description information, driver license information, and court and adjudication information.

If a charge has been amended, the amended statute number must be written in Field 55, along with the amended charge description.

Courts do not need to amend convictions of §343.44(1) to reflect second or subsequent offenses.

We've seen charges amended by the court to §346.62(1) for reckless driving. Using §346.62(1), however, is not a proper charge. A reckless driving conviction must have a cite of §346.62(2), (2m), (3) or (4).

A statute number must be a complete number; for example, use 346.62(3) rather than 346.62, 346.34(1)(a)1 rather than 346.34(1) and 346.57(4) rather than 346.57.

Be sure the statute number provided on the citation corresponds to the description of the charge.

**If you have any questions on what your adjudicating court code and court branch numbers are, please call us at 608/267-4591.**

We are not able to process citations with a future adjudication date. If the adjudication date is a future date, please hold the citation until after that date.

Please notify Ronni Jones at the Office of Judicial Education of any changes in your court address and phone number. Do not provide your home address or phone number, as this address is provided to violators when they want to resolve citation issues or pay fines/forfeitures.

A couple of courts contacted us after the last news article which included a reminder that unnecessary acceleration, spinning doughnuts, exhibition of power and squealing tires should be recorded as 4-point violations, whether written on a UTC or a municipal citation. As a result of these contacts, DOT is doing further research on this issue and will provide an update in a future article.

Please do not submit to us juvenile-alcohol related convictions (§§ 125.07, 125.085, and 125.09, Wis. Stats.) **if** the individual was at least 21 years old on the date of violation.

## Municipal Court Directory

The 1999-2000 Municipal Court Directory is enclosed with this Newsletter. The Directory is already on a link from the Municipal Court section of the Supreme Court site, **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

## Personnel News

As many of you know, Tracy Schumann, the Municipal Judge Education Assistant is leaving. Her husband received a great promotion, but it necessitates their moving to Ohio. Tracy's last seminar will be the Special Topic seminar in July.

We hope to have a new assistant in place by the time of the seminar so that that person can join us in Neenah and see how it's all done.

## Historical Documents

As you know, SCR 72.04 requires that you must give at least 60 days' notice of the destruction of any records to the historical society.

The Municipal Judge Manual Committee asked R. Jones to seek a blanket waiver of this requirement as provided for in the Rule. On June 10, Peter Gottlieb, Archivist at the Historical Society called and informed the office that a letter would be forthcoming **granting that waiver for all records created after 1940**. The Society is still interested in any municipal court records created prior to that date and the court must notify them 60 day's prior to proposed destruction.