



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Clerk-Recorder
Assessor
Department No.: 062
For Agenda Of: 04/01/2008
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 5 min/
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: No Vote Required

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Joseph E. Holland, Clerk-Recorder Assessor
Director(s) 568-2558
Contact Info: Melinda Greene, Project Manager 568-2259

SUBJECT: **Request to Set Hearing to Consider establishment of a \$1 Recording Fee to Finance the Recorder's Social Security Truncation Program.**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form:

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: Select_Concurrence

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Set a hearing on April 22, 2008 to consider adoption of a \$1.00 Recording Fee Resolution, as authorized by statute, to finance the State mandated social security truncation program.

Summary Text:

The Clerk-Recorder Assessor requests authorization to implement the provisions of California Government Code 27361(d), which establishes a \$1.00 recording fee to redact social security information from the Recorder's official records retroactive to 1980.

Background:

Identity theft occurs whenever someone uses the personal identifying information of another person for an unlawful purpose. According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), identity theft has consistently topped the list of consumer fraud complaints for at least the last six years. In 2005, the 255,000 identity theft cases filed with the FTC constituted 37% of all complaints. Cases from California accounted for 45,000 of those filed. For the identity thief, the social security number is the single most useful tool.

To help protect social security numbers (SSNs), Government Code Section 27301 requires local government agencies to truncate (redact the first five digits of) SSNs that appear in their records that

may be disclosed to the public unless full disclosure of the SSN is required by state or federal law. Among other things, this legislation requires the recorder of each county to establish a social security number truncation program to create an electronic public record version of each official record. The public version is the same as the official, except that the first five digits of the SSN will be redacted. The new law specifically states that the public version has the same legal force and effect as the official record. It also requires that the Recorder provide the official record only in response to a subpoena or court order.

Authorizing the creation of this program, will address the growing issue of identity theft and help protect the public against such threats.

Performance Measure:

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted:

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

Fiscal impacts will be included at the April 22, 2008 hearing.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

The Clerk-Recorder will absorb the impacts of the redaction program by reassigning existing staffing.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of Board to publish legal notice as required under Government Code 6061.

Send copy of minute order to Rose Rodarte and Melinda Greene in Clerk-Recorder-Assessor.

Attachments:

Authored by: Melinda Greene, Project Manager

cc: