



Ex Parte Fees

The County Clerk serves the public interest by protecting the integrity, transparency and accessibility of the Superior Court, its records and finances. Due to increased ex parte filings since the Covid-19 outbreak, County Clerk offices are seeing significant increases in staffing time and resources dedicated to fulfilling the filings.

County Clerks are seeking legislation to permit a county to raise the ex parte filing fee from \$30 up to \$50 if the county determines a need to do so.



Washington Association
of **COUNTY OFFICIALS**

Sustainable Policies, Sustainable Counties

Counties provide constitutionally and statutorily directed state services to all of Washington's residents. The Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) is working to secure clear and sustainable policies to provide all 39 counties with the foundation to provide sustainable service levels to every Washingtonian. Our elected county officials provide direct services to citizens in support of their health, safety and financial well-being.



A fee increase from \$30 up to \$50 would not affect the general public.

Ex Parte filing requires County Clerks offices to gather signatures that under a normal filing the filing party would be required to procure. The ex parte system is commonly used by legal professionals, who appreciate the service as it saves their clients time and money. A fee increase for this service would not affect the general public since there are other options in most counties to have documents signed.

The filing fee has not increased since 2009.