

# The Harmful, Unlawful, and Costly Practice of Charging Juvenile Fees

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> Policy Insights 2018 Sacramento, CA

BerkeleyLaw



Monetary penalties imposed by the court, usually according to type of alleged offense





Charges imposed to cover costs associated with services



#### Restitution

Amount ordered to compensate victims for any personal or financial

loss



# Counties were authorized to charge families fees for:

- Care, support, and maintenance
  - Detention in juvenile facilities
- Probation Supervision
- Electronic Monitoring/Home Supervision
- Drug Testing
- Representation by Counsel



| · · · ·                                | JUVENILE COURT                      |                                   |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  |                                     | NO                                |
| IN THE MATTER OF                       |                                     |                                   |
| Parent(s)/Guardian(s):                 |                                     |                                   |
| Disposition Date:10-24-12              | 2                                   |                                   |
| ORDER FOR PAYMENT                      | OF SUPPORT (Welfare & Inst          | stitution Code 903.45)            |
| The petition of the Financial O        | fficer having been submitted to the | his court for decision,           |
| IT IS ORDERED THAT                     |                                     |                                   |
| 1) shall pay to the County of A        | Alameda \$150.00 br legal service   | es and <b>\$0.00</b> per calendar |
| month OR daily rate of \$12.64, which  | hever is less for the past support  | of the minor (from 09-28-12       |
| until released from juvenile institut  | ions facility) in the following n   | nanner: X in full by              |
| in installments of \$1118.28           | per month, commencing 15 days       | after receipt of first statement. |
| 2) shall, in addition to the payr      | nent(s) ordered in paragraph 1      | above, pay to the County of       |
| Alameda \$0.00 per calendar month or   | a daily rate of \$0.00, whicheve    | r is less, for the support        |
| of the minor effective, until released |                                     |                                   |
| 3) shall, in addition to the payr      | nents ordered in paragraphs 1 an    | d 2 above pay to the country      |
| the following fees:                    |                                     | JAN 1.5 2013                      |
| Juvenile Investigation Fee             | \$ 125.00                           | CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COU         |
| Juvenile Supervision Fee               | \$ 0.00 per month - TO              | TAL \$ By 0.000 at Depu           |
| Electronic & GPS Monitoring            | \$ 7.50 per day                     |                                   |
| Drug & Substance Abuse Testin          |                                     |                                   |
| Lab Test Confirmation                  | \$ 0.00 per test                    |                                   |
| 4) that on $12-23-12$ the parent(s     |                                     | r service of process fees in      |
| addition to the above mentioned charge |                                     |                                   |
| 5) shall make payments payable         | to the County of Alameda and se     | end payments to                   |

Failure to make payments as ordered may result in levy of execution against your property.



| County         | TOTAL   | Juvenile<br>Hall | Public<br>Defender                 | Electronic<br>Monitoring | Probation<br>Supervision | Drug<br>Testing |
|----------------|---------|------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Average terms  |         | 25 days          | Per case + 2 hours                 | 50 days                  | 17 months                | 8 times         |
| Sacramento     | \$5,640 | \$18.40/day      | \$318.00+                          | \$24.00/day              | \$206.00/mo.             | \$20.00/test    |
| San Diego      | \$2,150 | \$30.00/day      |                                    | \$28.00/day              | 1001                     |                 |
| Kern           | \$1,850 | \$29.00/day      | -                                  | \$25.00 +<br>\$22.00/day | -                        | -               |
| Ventura        | \$1,735 | \$33.00/day      | \$150.00-300.00 +<br>\$158.75/hour | \$75.00 +<br>\$7.50/day  | -                        | -               |
| Orange         | \$1,372 | \$23.90/day      | \$245.00 +<br>\$220.00/hour        | - 1                      | -                        | \$11.30/test    |
| San Mateo      | \$1,150 | \$30.00/day      | \$220.00+                          | \$8.00/day               |                          |                 |
| Fresno         | \$1,148 | \$19.00/day      | \$73.00+                           | \$11.00/day              | \$50.00 once             |                 |
| Riverside      | \$1,039 | \$30.00/day      | \$50 + \$119.51/hour               |                          |                          |                 |
| San Joaquin    | \$972   | \$31.12/day      | \$125.00-175.00                    | 1212                     |                          |                 |
| San Bernardino | \$563   | \$20.53/day      | \$50                               |                          |                          | -               |
| Los Angeles    | \$50    | Suspended        | \$50                               | 10025                    |                          |                 |
| Alameda        | \$0     | Repealed         | Repealed                           | Repealed                 | Repealed                 | Repealed        |
| Santa Clara    | \$0     | Repealed         | Repealed                           | Repealed                 | -                        | -               |
| Contra Costa   | \$0     | Suspended        | e                                  | Suspended                |                          | H               |
| San Francisco  | \$0     | -                | -                                  | <b>1</b> 00              | -                        | -               |

Juvenile Administrative Fees for a Youth Serving Common Probation Conditions in California's 15 Largest Counties by Population

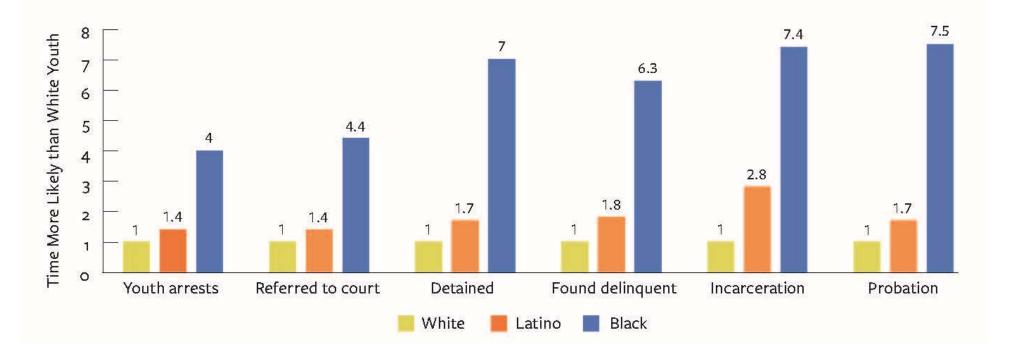
> (March 2016) BerkeleyLaw UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Policy Advocacy Clinic

## Harmful

- Create financial hardship
- Weaken family ties
- Undermine family reunification



#### Racial Disparity in California's Juvenile System, 2014



Average Juvenile Probation Conditions and Fees by Race and Ethnicity in Alameda County, 2013

|                          |                           | Average Probation Conditions |                                      |                                    |                            |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Race<br>and<br>Ethnicity | Total<br>Fee<br>Liability | Juvenile<br>Hall<br>(days)   | Probation<br>Supervision<br>(months) | Electronic<br>Monitoring<br>(days) | Drug<br>Testing<br>(tests) |  |
|                          |                           | \$25.29/day                  | \$90.00/mo.                          | \$15.00/day                        | \$28.68/test               |  |
| Black                    | \$3,438                   | 25                           | 22                                   | 34                                 | 11                         |  |
| Latino                   | \$2,563                   | 24                           | 14                                   | 33                                 | 7                          |  |
| Asian                    | \$2,269                   | 7                            | 12                                   | 56                                 | 6                          |  |
| White                    | \$1,637                   | 11                           | 10                                   | 21                                 | 5                          |  |
| Other                    | \$1,192                   | 4                            | 6                                    | 31                                 | 3                          |  |



"Financial penalties in general and the sheer amount of financial penalties in particular significantly increase the likelihood of recidivism, even after controlling for relevant demographics and case characteristics."

Justice System Imposed Financial Penalties Increase the Likelihood of Recidivism in a Sample of Adolescent Offenders by Alex Piquero & Welsey Jennings (2017)



## Costly

- Collecting little revenue
- Revenue paying for collection activities, not support for youth

| County       | Revenue     | Collection Costs<br>(% of Revenue) | Youth Support<br>(% of Revenue) |
|--------------|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alameda      | \$419,830   | 59.77%                             | 40.23%                          |
| Contra Costa | \$430,926   | 67.38%                             | 32.62%                          |
| Orange       | \$2,071,347 | 82.07%                             | 17.93%                          |
| Sacramento   | \$682,636   | 32.53%                             | 67.47%                          |
| Santa Clara  | \$399,228   | 112.72%                            | -12.72%                         |

Fees for Collection Activity and for Youth, FY 2014-15



# Legal Concerns

- Charging fees not authorized by statute
- Charging fees in violation of state law and constitution
  - Due process
  - Equal protection
- Charging fees in violation of federal law
  - After careful review of the information provided by the parent, the FHO will determine if the parents have the ability to pay. If the parent has the ability to pay, a payment plan is arranged and first payment is due 30 days after the interview date. Central Collections will send a monthly statement.
  - The FHO's keep a log of the parents not having the ability to pay along with reasons justifying why they were not billed.



# Local Efforts

- San Francisco
- Alameda
- Santa Clara
- Contra Costa
- Sacramento
- Sonoma





# Statewide Legislation

- Senate Bill 190 (2017)
  - Ended assessment of all juvenile fees
    - Detention
    - Electronic monitoring
    - Supervision
    - Drug testing
    - Representation by counsel
- Implementation
  - January 1, 2018







## Impact

- No more charges!
- Ending collection on previously assessed fees
- Writing off accounts and declaring civil judgments satisfied
- Refunding families



## **Contact Information**

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