



## County Clerk & Register of Deeds

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**Timothy A. Snow, CMC**, County Clerk & Register of Deeds

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PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

## LAND RECORDING FEES TO CHANGE

September 21, 2016

Timothy A. Snow, CMC, MCCO  
Kalamazoo County Clerk and Register of Deeds  
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Effective October 1, 2016, recording fees for all documents recorded in the Register of Deeds office will be \$30.00 regardless of the number of pages. The only exception will be if the document assigns or discharges more than one instrument, the \$3.00 fee for each instrument after the first reference remains. The Michigan Association of Registers of Deeds and the Michigan Land Title Association in cooperation with the Michigan Bankers Association, Michigan Credit Union League, the State Bar of Michigan – Real Property Law Section, Michigan Association of County Treasurers, Michigan Oil and Gas Association, and State and Federal lien holders worked over a year to bring the flat fee concept to fruition.

The flat fee takes effect in every Michigan County, except Wayne County, on October 1.

“With new consumer protection regulations instituted in late 2015, it was practical to create a flat fee, thereby eliminating one of the most common reasons for rejecting a document,” stated Clerk/Register Timothy Snow. “The flat fee should create a smoother land title closing which only benefits our constituents and our economy,” he continued.

“This was a major collaboration of groups and associations,” stated Snow, “the cooperation and willingness to listen and negotiate was instrumental in attaining the flat fee which will be impactful for our constituents.”

“Michigan, again, uses common sense to see an issue and create a solution and is the only state to have a true flat fee,” he concluded.

It took 9 bills (SB 599, BD 600, SB 601, SB 602, SB 603, SB 604, SB 737; HB 5164 and HB 5165) to create the uniform fee. The language in the main bill, regarding MCL 600.2567, is inclusive of the Remonumentation fee as well as the automation fund fee. In this way, the average person is able to see in one statute what it costs to record a land document. These bills are now Public Acts 224 through 232 of 2016.

Senators Darwin Booher, District 35; Curtis Hertel, District 23; Peter MacGregor, District; and Dale Zorn, District 17; sponsored 7 of the 9 bills needed to create the flat fee legislation, with Representatives Lee Chatfield, District 107 and Jeremy Moss, District 35 sponsoring the two House bills.