

From: [John Kraft](#)
To: ["jcsa04@hotmail.com"](mailto:jcsa04@hotmail.com)
Bcc: [Kirk Allen](#)
Subject: Complaint re: Jasper County Clerk
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 1:31:00 PM

Jasper County State's Attorney,

A couple of days ago I went into the Jasper County Clerk's Office and took a picture (on my smart phone) of a deed. The clerk charged my 25 cents for me taking a copy of a property deed using my own phone. Additionally, there is a sign in the office stating they have the right to ask to see my electronic devices, which brings certain constitutional protections in play.

It has always been my understanding that a clerk can only charge for copies that they produce using county equipment.

FOIA does not allow for such charges.

I can find no authority in the Counties Code for such charges.

(55 ILCS 5/3-2012) (from Ch. 34, par. 3-2012)

Sec. 3-2012. Custody of records; public inspection. The county clerk shall have the care and custody of all the records, books and papers

appertaining to and filed or deposited in their respective offices, and the ~~the inspection of said persons without reward~~ Vital Records Act, shall be open to
(Source: P.A. 86-962; 87-895.)

Section 4-4001 provides fees for "official copies" and for "certified copies" but I fail to find any authorization for a county clerk to charge for each picture someone takes using their own device.

If I am missing something, please explain.

If not, please direct the county clerk to refrain from collecting these unauthorized fees and return the 25 cents I already paid.

Thanks,
John Kraft
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217-XXXXXXXXXX