IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

2007 DEC 31 AM 8: 33

IN THE MATTER OF REQUESTS)	General Order UNITY COL
TO WAIVE OR DEFER COURT)	COUVILLE, OREGO
FEES AND COURT COSTS AND	No. 07-04
ENTERING JUDGMENTS IF FEES)	
AND COURT COSTS ARE DEFERRED)	

This Matter Coming Before the Court on its Own Motion:

Whereas ORS 21.682(2) (chapter 493, Oregon Laws 2007) allows a judge to waive or defer all or part of fees and costs payable to the court by a party in a civil action or proceeding, if the judge finds that the party is unable to pay all or any part of the fees and costs.

Whereas ORS 21.682(2) (chapter 493, Oregon Laws 2007) allows a presiding judge to delegate the authority to waive or defer fees and court costs to the court administrator if the delegation is made in writing and provides clear standards.

Whereas Chief Justice Order 07-056, pursuant to ORS 21.682(4), establishes standards and practices for fee waivers and deferrals, effective January 1, 2008.

IT IS THEREBY ORDERED that, effective January 1, 2008, authority to waive or defer fees and court costs, including the sheriff's service feeⁱ, in a civil action or proceeding are delegated to the court administrator and that pursuant to ORS 8.225(4) the court administrator may delegate these duties to court staff.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, effective January 1, 2008, the following standards must be followed by the court administrator and court staff on all requests filed with the court to waive or defer fees and court costs:

- 1. Mandatory waiver. A waiver of fees and court costs must be granted when the applicant, who has completed the Application form (copy attached), receives benefits from certain government programs, the applicants income is less than or equal to 133 percent of the federal poverty guidelines (copy attached), and the applicant provides proof of current eligibility for one or more of the benefit programs. The following benefit programs qualify for a mandatory waiver: food stamps, TANF, SSI, OHP Plus, OHP Standard, and OHP with limited drug. Applicants who fall into the mandatory waiver category do not need to complete the Declaration form (copy attached). The court clerk shall consider the following documentation to determine eligibility for a fee waiver:
 - Verification of Food Stamps
 - Verification of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
 - Verification of SSI (SSI computer-generated printout or bank statement showing SSI deposit

- Current Oregon Health Plan card
- 2. Waiver presumption. A waiver of fees and court costs is presumed to be appropriate when, after taking into account the applicant's household size, the applicant's income from all sources, including food stamps, is less than or equal to 133 percent of the federal poverty guidelines (copy attached).
- **3. Deferral presumption.** A deferral of fees and court costs is presumed to be appropriate when, after taking into account the applicant's household size, the applicant's income from all sources, including food stamps, is between 133 and 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
- **4. Denial presumption.** A denial of a deferral or waiver request is presumed to be appropriate when, after taking into account the applicant's household size, the applicant's household income from all sources, including food stamps, equals or exceeds 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
- 5. Judicial Discretion. Categories 2, 3, and 4 are "presumptions because they do not take into account assets and other factors relevant to the applicant's ability to pay. If the applicant identifies liquid assets (cash/savings) of \$500.00 or more or extraordinary expenses (medical expense/prescriptions) over \$500 the court clerk shall forward the request to a Judge for further review. (Pursuant to Chief Justice Order 07-056 the court may not consider available credit as an asset or source of income.)
- 6. Paperwork. The attached Federal Poverty Guidelines are the current-year poverty guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The State Court Administrators Office will annually provide the Federal Poverty Guidelines to the courts. The following documents (attached) will be provided by the court, free of charge, to all individuals seeking a fee waiver or deferral. The court shall also post these documents on the court's website:
 - Application. All applicants must complete and sign this document.
 The applicant must specify the fees he or she is requesting the
 court to waive or defer. If the applicant is requesting waiver or
 deferral based on eligibility for benefit programs, the applicant must
 identify the type of benefits received and show the court proof of
 current eligibility.
 - Declaration. If the applicant does not receive or is unable to show proof of current eligibility for the listed benefit programs, the applicant must complete the Declaration. The Declaration shows the applicants household size, household income, and assets, and provides an opportunity for the applicant to explain any extenuating circumstances. By law, the clerk must keep the personal financial information in the Declaration confidential and not subject to public inspection. (This will be done by the clerk placing the Declaration in a sealed envelope marked confidential inside the court file on the right hand side.)

The following forms are to be filled in by the clerk and, where indicated, submitted to the TCA in Coquille and the supervisor in North Bend or Gold Beach for signature:

- Recommendation and Order. The clerk will fill out the
 recommendation portion of the form documenting the clerk's
 recommendation and then complete the order portion of the form
 and then sign it. If the clerk has any questions about eligibility, that
 do not fall within the guidelines outlined under Judicial Discretion,
 the clerk shall consult with the TCA, a supervisor in North Bend or
 Gold Beach, or, in their absence, a judge prior to completing the
 form.
- Judgment. If fees are deferred the judgment form will be completed by the clerk and submitted to the TCA in Coquille or to the supervisors in North Bend and Gold Beach for their signature. (In the absence of the TCA or supervisor the Recommendation and Order should be forwarded to a judge for signature.) Once the signed Judgment is returned to the clerk the clerk will enter the Judgment and create a judgment lien. When paid in full the clerk shall note that fact in the judgment lien record and change the judgment status to "satisfied".

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that these procedures do not apply to a request for waiver or deferral of fees and costs filed by an inmate subject to the provisions of ORS 30.642 to 30.650.

It is so ordered this 27/Lday of December, 2007

Richard L. Barron, Presiding Judge

Fifteenth Judicial District

TNO longer Correct!

The forms include provisions relating to waiver or deferral of the sheriff's service fee. In Burgess v Holstedt, 156 Or App 436, 965 P2d 473 (1998), the Court of Appeals held that the sheriff's service fee is a "fee" within the meaning of ORS 21.605 that a circuit court has the authority to waive or defer. The Court also held that it is an abuse of discretion for a court to waive or defer other fees and costs at the request of an indigent person but to deny waiver or deferral of the sheriff's service fee.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF _____

Petitioner/Plaintiff,) Case No
V.)
Respondent/Defend	
The following information is complete ar	s in this case because I am unable to pay all or part of the fees. nd accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I may erifying this information. I understand that failure to do so could
1. I am applying for ☐ WAIVER ☐ □	DEFERRAL of the following fees (check all that apply):
☐ Arbitration Fee(s) ☐ Hearing Fe	ee(s)
☐ Filing Fee(s) ☐ Motion Fee	e(s)
I declare that (check one of the boxe	es below):
☐ I am receiving assistance from a	at least one of the following programs:
Food Stamps Oregon Health Plan Standar Oregon Health Plan Plus	Oregon Health Plan with Limited Drug Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
	x, you must be prepared to show proof that you are receiving . You do NOT need to fill out a Declaration for Waiver or
Deferral of Fees unless you a Beneficiary (QMB) program of	are enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan's Qualified Medicare or Citizen Alien-Waived Emergency Assistance (CAWEM) in QMB or CAWEM, you must complete and file the declaration

- 3. If the court defers fees, I understand that:
 - a. The fees are an obligation owed by me to the State of Oregon and that the court may place me on a payment schedule. I agree to pay the fees according to the payment schedule. If I fail to pay according to the payment schedule, the total amount of the unpaid fees are due immediately.
 - b. The court may enter a judgment against me for the unpaid amount of the fees that are deferred and the judgment will be enforced without regard to the outcome of the case.
 - c. If the court establishes a payment schedule or refers a judgment for collection, the law allows administrative and collection costs to be automatically added to the judgment without further notice to me or further action by the court.
- 4. I understand that if the clerk denies my application, I have the right to ask a judge to review my application.

Date	Signature of Applicant
	Name of Applicant (printed or typed)

INCOME GUIDELINES FOR WAIVER/DEFERRAL OF FEES January 2008

Monthly Gross Income

Household Size:	Waive if under:	<u>Defer if between</u> :	Must pay if over:
1	\$1,131	\$1,131 - 1,574	\$1,574
2	1,517	1,517 - 2,110	2,110
3	1,903	1,903 - 2,647	2,647
4	2,288	2,288 - 3,183	3,183
5	2,674	2,674 - 3,720	3,720
6	3,060	3,060 - 4,256	4,256
7	3,445	3,445 - 4,793	4,793
8	3,831	3,831 - 5,329	5,329

Each Additional Person add \$293

Monthly Net Income

<u>Household</u> <u>Size</u> :	Waive if under:	<u>Defer if between:</u>	Must pay if over:
1	\$ 870	\$ 870 - 1,211	\$1,211
2	1,168	1,168 - 1,624	1,624
3	1,465	1,465 - 2,038	2,038
4	1,761	1,761 - 2,450	2,450
5	2,058	2,058 - 2,864	2,864
6	2,356	2,356 - 3,277	3,277
7	2,652	2,652 - 3,690	3,690
8	2,949	2,949 - 4,103	4,103

Each Additional Person add \$225

The Income Guidelines are based on gross income calculated at 133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for presumptive waiver and between 133 percent and 185 percent for presumptive deferral. The FPL is the amount of income necessary to provide for basic living needs, including food. The FPL is adjusted by the Federal Government each year and will be updated by CPSD.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR	THE COUNTY O	F				
Petitioner/Pla	intiff,)) Cas	e No			
V.)	Petitioner/Pla Respondent/I	Defendant		
Respondent/	Defendant.		DEFERRAL			
	(TO BE COMPLI	ETED BY APPI	LICANT)			
	OCUMENT IS RESTR FCT THE PERSONAL				POLICY	
1. PERSONAL						
Full Name of Applicant	MIE	DI E NAME		LAST NAM	IF.	
				LAST NAIV		
		CITY	S1	ATE Z	ZIP	
flailing Address (if different) ADDDRESS						
ADDDRESS			ST	ATE Z	ZIP	
elephone Number	*SSN	ODL/ID		Marital	Status	
. EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME ☐ Currently Employed ☐ Not Cu	urrently Employed		ince last emp			-
Employer Name (use previous employ	yer if not currently e	employed)				
Employer Address			W	ork Phone_		
Occupation (job title)		loyment	Aı	mount of La	st Paycheck	\$
Hourly Wage \$ Hours Per V	Veek Mor	nthly Income:	Gross \$	Net	(after taxes)	\$
Spouse's Employment Currently Employed Mot Cu Employer Name (use previous employ						
Employer Address						
Occupation (job title)	Length of Empl	lovment	vv	mount of La	ot Dovobools	¢
Hourly Wage \$ Hours Per V	Length of Empl	othiv land	Cross C	nount of La	/affairte	Φ
Other income for you, spouse, deponderirement, public assistance, child surface of Income (describe)	endants, or house pport, workers' con Am \$	ehold membe npensation, d nount	ers (for examplisability, tribal How long r	ble: Social S benefits, e eceived?	Security, uner tc.): How often	mploymer
					-	
	\$					

Other household members who help pay your li Relationship		Amount \$	Payment	t for what (describe)?		
		\$				
3. MONEY ON HAND / IN BANK						
Cash \$						
Checking Account Number						ance \$
Savings Account Number					Balance \$	
Other Account Number		institution			Bala	ance \$
4. MOTOR VEHICLES						
Year, Make, and Model	Value		Amount Owing	Paymer	nts made	to:
	\$		\$			
	\$		\$			
5. REAL ESTATE						
	Year	Purchase		Amount		
Address (include city and state)	Purchased	Price	Value	Owing		ents made to:
		\$	\$	\$		
		\$	\$	\$		
6. ALL OTHER PROPERTY OR	ASSETS (for exa	mple: ATVs	, RVs, boats, gur	ns, jewelry, l	ivestock,	etc.):
Description	Value		Description			Value
	\$					\$
	\$					\$
	\$					\$
7. MONEY OWED TO YOU BY	OTHERS (for eya	mnle: tav re	funds judaments	trust funds	etc):	
Name of Debtor Owing You Mone		inpic. tax re	idildə, jadyilleritə	Amount O		Date Expected
				\$		
				Φ		
				\$	_	
8. MONTHLY LIVING EXPENSE	S					
Rent/Mortgage \$	Gas \$	EI	ectric \$	Vehicl	e Payme	ent \$
Credit Card Payment \$	Water \$		ewer \$			nce \$
Child Support Payment \$	Trash \$	Pł	none \$	Trans	portation	Costs \$
Court Fines \$	Medical \$	Fo	ood \$	_ Other		\$
9. LIQUIDATION OF ASSETS						
If you are unable to sell or liquidat	e vour assets inle	ace use this	s snace to evolair	a why:		
if you are unable to sell of liquidat	e your assets, pie	ase use tills	s space to explain	1 Wily		
I hereby declare that the above st	atement is true to	the best of	mv knowledge ar	nd belief. I u	understar	nd that it is mad
for use as evidence in court and is						
	Date	Signat	ure of Applicant			
		Signat	J Ci i ippiiodiit			
		Name	of Applicant (printe	d or typed)		

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF

V. Respondent/De)) FEE WAIVER OR DEFERRAL) RECOMMENDATION AND ORDER,
CLERK'S RECOMMENDATION O	R ORDER (to be completed by court clerk)
I have reviewed (applicant name) _ of fees and ☐ RECOMMEND ☐ OR	's application for waiver or deferral
	request for waiver or deferral of fees because: ancially able to pay the fees (see part of the Declaration);
☐ the application is n the Declaration);	not complete or contains insufficient information (see part of not shown proof of current eligibility for public benefits; or
☐ WAIVER of the applicant's	s fees in whole or in part
	Amount to be Waived \$
	ECOMMENDED
	☐ in full by (date)
	pursuant to a schedule to be established by court staff.
	☐ by a payment schedule of \$ today and
	\$ on the same day of each month until paid.
☐ DEFERRAL of the applica	ant's fees.
The applicant is ☐ RI	ECOMMENDED
\$	☐ in full by (date)
	pursuant to a schedule to be established by court staff.
	☐ by a payment schedule of \$ today and
	\$ on the same day of each month until paid.
Signature of Clerk	Name of Clerk (printed or typed) Date

JUDGE'S ORDER (May be completed and signed by clerk pursuant to General Order 07-04)

The clerk's recommendation	is AFFIRMED.		
The clerk's recommendation	is MODIFIED or I	ORDER as follows:	
☐ The applicant's requ	est for waiver or de	ferral of fees is DENIED bec	ause:
☐ the applicant	is financially able to	o pay the fees (see part	of the Declaration);
☐ the application the Declaration		or contains insufficient inform	ation (see part of
☐ The applicant's fees	are WAIVED in wh	ole or in part.	
Total Fees \$	Ar	mount Waived \$	
The applicant is	ORDERED to pay		
		date)	
		to a schedule to be establish	ed by court staff.
	☐ by a payn	nent schedule of \$	_today and
	\$	on the same day of each	month until paid.
☐ The applicant's fees	are DEFERRED.		
The applicant is	ORDERED to pay		
\$	in full by (date)	
		to a schedule to be establish	ed by court staff.
	☐ by a payn	nent schedule of \$	_today and
	\$	on the same day of each	month until paid.
☐ Other findings			
	Date	Signature of Judge/Clerk/Super	visor/Trial Court Administrator
	Date	Signature of Judge/Clerk/Super	vison mai Court Auministrator
		Printed or Typed Name of above	e Signature

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF _____

	Petitioner/Plaintiff,))		
V	, Respondent/Defendant.)		
	rrespondent belendant.) MONETAG	VAILD	
	s reviewed the application and unt shown below is unpaid an	d the applicant is ob	of the fees. A	As of the date of this
		EY AWARD		
Judgment Credito	r: State of Oregon			
	Address	City	State	Zip
Ludama d Balda				
Judgment Debtor:	Full Name	Social S	ecurity Number	Driver License # / State
	Address	City	State	Zip
	Address	City	Otate	Σιμ
	Name of Attorney (if represented by cou	nsel) E	Bar Number	Attorney Phone Number
	Attorney Address	City	State	Zip
	Filing Fee(s) \$	Trial Fee(s)	\$	
	Hearing Fee(s) \$	Other Fee(s	s) \$	
	Motion Fee(s) \$			
TOTAL	. DUE \$ Interest	Rate <u>0</u> %		
	☐ To be paid in full by (date)			
	☐ To be paid according to a	collection agreement.		
	☐ To be paid according to a on the same day of each u	선생님이 없는 아이들이 가장이 하나 보다 살아 있다. 그렇지 않	\$ too	day and \$
	Date	Signature of Judge/Tria	al Court Administ	rator/Supervisor
		Printed or Typed Name	e of above Signat	ture

NOTICE

When you are granted a partial or full deferral of fees, the deferred fees are an obligation owed by you to the State of Oregon. This obligation is payable according to the terms set out above. Failure to pay the amount shown within 30 days of entry of the judgment or failure to comply with the payment schedule may result in 1) additional amounts for administrative and collection costs to be added automatically to the judgment, and 2) your account being referred to the Department of Revenue for collection, without further notice to you from the court. When payment is received in full, the court will make a notation in the court records.

Checks or money orders are to be made payable to the **State of Oregon** and may be mailed to the following address:

	Court Name		
	Mailing Address		
	City	State	Zip
Cash or credit/debit	card payment must be	e brought to the a	address below:
	Court Name		
	Street Address		

State

Zip

City

In the Matter of Waiver or Deferral
of Fees and Court Costs in
Civil Actions or Proceedings Pursuant to
ORS 21.682

ORDER ESTABLISHING STANDARDS
AND PRACTICES FOR FEE WAIVERS
AND DEFERRALS IN CIVIL ACTIONS
AND PROCEEDINGS PURSUANT TO
ORS 21.682

Pursuant to my authority under ORS 1.002 and ORS 21.682, I ORDER all state courts to follow these standards and practices for all requests to waive or defer fees and court costs:

- These standards apply to all requests filed in a state court to waive or defer fees and court costs.
 - (a) The court must grant a waiver of fees and court costs when:
 - (i) the applicant receives benefits from a government program whose eligibility criteria account for the applicant's household income, assets, and size; and
 - (ii) the applicant's income from all sources is less than or equal to 133 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and
 - (iii) the applicant provides proof of current eligibility for one or more of the benefit programs listed in section (3)(a).
 - (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), after considering the applicant's household size, the court must apply the following presumptions and take one of the following actions:
 - (1) Waive fees and court costs if the applicant's household income from all sources, including food stamps, is less than or equal to 133 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
 - (2) Defer fees and court costs if the applicant's household income from all sources, including food stamps, is between 133 and 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
 - (3) Deny a request to waive or defer fees and court costs if the applicant's household income from all sources, including food stamps, equals or exceeds 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.
 - (c) The presumptions established by subsection (b) may be overcome if, after considering the applicant's entire financial situation, a judge determines that extenuating circumstances exist.
 - (d) A court may not consider available credit on a credit card as an asset or source of income.
- 2. A state court must make written findings to support an order denying an application for waiver or deferral of fees and court costs.

- 3. To be eligible for waiver or deferral of fees and court costs, an applicant must do one of the following:
 - (a) An applicant must file an application that lists the type of benefits received, and show proof of current benefit eligibility, if an applicant receives any of the following benefits:
 - (1) Food stamps.
 - (2) Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

(3) Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

(4) The following Oregon Health Plan (OHP) benefit packages:

(i) OHP Plus,

- (ii) OHP Standard, or
- (iii) OHP with limited drug.
- (b) An applicant must file a declaration that describes the applicant's household size, household income, and assets and explains all extenuating circumstances if an applicant:
 - (1) does not receive or is unable to show proof of current eligibility for the benefits listed in section (3)(a); or
 - (2) is enrolled in either of the following Oregon Health Plan (OHP) benefit packages:

(i) Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB), or

- (ii) Citizen Alien-Waived Emergency Medical Assistance (CAWEM).
- 4. The State Court Administrator will promulgate forms and instructions for state courts to use to implement this Order.
- 5. This Order does not apply to an application filed by an inmate subject to the provisions of ORS 30.642 to 30.650.
- As used in this Order:
 - (a) "Deferral" means either postponing an obligation to pay fees and court costs or establishing a schedule to pay fees and court costs.
 - (b) "Federal poverty guidelines" means the current-year poverty guidelines annually established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
 - (c) "Judge" means the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Chief Judge of the Oregon Court of Appeals, a judge of a circuit court, the judge of the Oregon Tax Court, and a tax court magistrate.
 - (d) "State court" means the Oregon Supreme Court, the Oregon Court of Appeals, a circuit court, and the Oregon Tax Court (Regular and Magistrate Divisions).

This Order is effective January 1, 2008.

DATED this 20 day of December, 2007

Paul J. De Muniz Chief Justice