

The Sykes Law Office

Types of Costs

The amount you are charged for legal services may include attorney's fees plus additional expenses and costs. If your lawyer will be representing you in a court proceeding, you will have to pay filing fees or other court costs as well.



There are number of costs that may appear on your lawyer's bill. Some lawyers may charge for these costs separately. Other lawyers may lump the expenses together as a separate item on your bill, while others may include some of these costs in their fee. Be sure to find out before you hire your lawyer if these types of costs are included and whether they will be itemized on your bill.

Costs in addition to the lawyer's time may include:

- Filing Fees and Court Costs
- Photocopying
- Telephone and Postage Charges
- Paralegal Time
- Messengers
- Computer or Research Related Costs
- Secretarial and Staff Time
- Deposition and Court Reporter Costs
- Facsimiles (faxes)
- Experts, Consultants, and Witness Fees
- Investigators
- Process Servers (delivery of legal documents relating to case)
- Travel Expenses

There may be other charges not listed above. It is a good idea to ask the lawyer for a written estimate of anticipated costs to make sure you understand all the different costs that you will have to pay. For example, you will want to find out if there is a set rate for some costs (e.g., \$0.15 per page for copying costs). If you are concerned about the costs building up, you can also tell your lawyer that any costs over a certain amount have to be approved by you in advance. You also may be able to negotiate in advance the amount charged for many of these costs.

The Sykes Law Office is a real estate conveyancing and estate-planning firm. We have broad experience in residential and commercial land transactions and in all areas of estate planning, including will and trust preparation, and planning. We understand the need for timely and satisfactory performance in all areas of the law, and we offer professional and efficient service from a knowledgeable and courteous staff.

I think our Mission Statement says it best: we regard our work as a service to our clients and expect to be a positive influence in helping our clients to meet their goals. We expect a high level of competence from all those who work here, and feel we have accomplished that objective.

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We hope this information has been informative and helpful (or at least amusing), and that you will consider this firm for your estate planning and real estate needs.

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