

LAPORTE COUNTY ORDINANCE 95-5

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CO-PAYMENTS
FOR HEALTH CARE RELATED SERVICES INCURRED
AT THE LAPORTE COUNTY JAIL

WHEREAS, Indiana Statute 11-12-5-5 provides for the imposition of co-payments by persons confined to a county jail for health care related services, and

WHEREAS, the LaPorte County Board of Commissioners has determined that it is cost effective and in the best interests of the citizens of LaPorte County to have persons lodged at the LaPorte County Jail pay a portion of their medical expenses incurred for non-emergency situations while incarcerated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of LaPorte County, Indiana, that:

Section 1. A person confined to the LaPorte County Jail, except as provided in Sections 2 and 3, shall be required to make a co-payment in an amount of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each provision of any of the following services:

- A. Dentist's Visit.
- B. Physician's Visit.
- C. Glasses.
- D. Ophthalmology/Optometrlist Visit.
- E. Prescription Handling Fee.
- F. Any Other Health Care Related Service.

Section 2. Section 1 does not apply to a person confined in the LaPorte County Jail who:

A. Maintains a policy of insurance from a private company covering:

- 1. medical care;
- 2. dental care;
- 3. eye care; or
- 4. any other health care related service;

provided said inmate provides complete and accurate information to allow the health care provider to file a claim for services rendered;

- B. Is willing to pay for the person's own medical care;
- C. Is committed to the Indiana Department of Correction; or
- D. Is housed at the LaPorte County Jail pursuant to contract

entered into with the U.S. Marshals' Service.

Section 3. A person confined at the LaPorte County Jail is not required to make the co-payment if:

- A. The inmate does not have funds in the inmate's commissary account or trust account at the time the service is provided and the inmate does not have funds in the inmate's commissary or trust account within thirty (30) days after the medical service is provided;
- B. The service is provided in an emergency;
- C. The service is provided as a result of an injury received at the LaPorte County Jail; or
- D. The service is provided at the request of the Sheriff.

Section 4. Only the original filling of a specific prescription shall be charged a co-payment for this medical service. All refills ordered when the original prescription was written shall constitute one service.

Section 5. If the original call for medical services is initiated by the Sheriff, follow-up care for the same illness or injury will not require a co-payment if follow-up service is rendered within thirty (30) days of the original medical service.

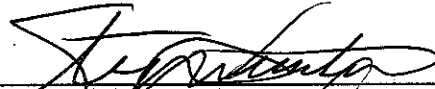
Section 6. Inmates at the LaPorte County Jail will never be refused medical treatment because of an inability to pay. Should an inmate have a zero balance in the inmate trust or commissary account, the transaction shall be carried on the books for a thirty (30) day period. Should the inmate receive money within the thirty (30) day period, the co-payment will be deducted from the inmate's account. If the inmate receives no funds, at the end of thirty (30) days an adjustment entry shall be made to negate the medical billing transaction. Within the thirty (30) day period if the inmate receives monies the outstanding co-payments shall be deducted prior to a commissary order being processed. Co-payments for medical services shall be deducted prior to any monies being released to the inmate for bonding or any other purposes.

Section 7. Monies collected shall be deposited into the County General Fund.

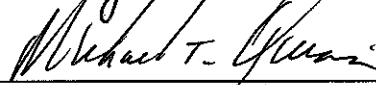
Section 8. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect beginning the 14th day of February, 1995, and after its enactment and publication as prescribed by law.

Dated this 14th day of February, 1995.

The Board of Commissioners of the County of LaPorte, State of Indiana.



Stephen J. Wurster



Michael T. Quinn



Richard J. Kruse

ATTEST:



Michael R. Schultz, Auditor

Please publish two (2) times in the Michigan City News-Dispatch and LaPorte Herald-Argus on Tuesday, February 21, 1995 & Tuesday, February 28, 1995.