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Legal Alert

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Court Costs Go Up for 2009

Despite the difficult financial times facing rental property owners and tenants, the California legislature has added yet another expense to the bottom line for owners by increasing fees to file unlawful detainer actions. The new fees will make it more difficult to provide tenants with affordable commercial or residential leases, as increased overhead costs are eventually passed on to tenants in the form of rent increases.

Filing fees for unlawful detainer actions will be increased by as much as \$50 per filing in some counties. Instead of \$195 to file an eviction in court, the new filing fees will range from \$215 to \$245, depending upon the county. If the amount in dispute exceeds \$25,000, the new filing fees range from \$340 to \$360.

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