BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COUNTY OF KITTITAS STATE OF WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 2018 - <u>008</u>

AN ORDINANCE ADDING A NEW CHAPTER TO TITLE 4 OF THE KITTITAS COUNTY CODE REGARDING ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO SUPERIOR COURT DOCKETS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Kittitas County hereby adopts this Ordinance pursuant to and by the authority of Chapter 36.23 of the Revised Code of Washington and RCW 36.18.016(24) to facilitate electronic access to superior court records and the set the corresponding rate for such access; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Ordinance is to provide for electronic access to superior court dockets, and not to create or otherwise establish or designate any particular class or group of persons who will or should be especially protected or benefited by this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, nothing contained in this Ordinance is intended to be nor shall be construed to create or form the basis for any liability on the part of the Kittitas County Clerk, Kittitas County, or any of its officers, employees, or agents, for any injury or damage resulting from the failure of any person subject to Chapter 4.18 of the Kittitas County Code to comply with this Ordinance, or by reason or in consequence of any act or omission in connection with the implementation or enforcement of the above referenced Chapter on the part of the Kittitas County Clerk, Kittitas County, or any of its officers, employees, or agents; and

WHEREAS, the Kittitas County Clerk desires to provide electronic access to superior court dockets in order to promote efficiency regarding access to information maintained by the Clerk's office and provide enhanced customer service to the public; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing will be held on May 15, 2018, and the public was provided due notice and opportunity to provide testimony on the proposed ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners believes that adopting this ordinance would be in the best interest of Kittitas County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Kittitas County that the following Chapter is hereby created and added to the Kittitas County Code:

Chapter 4.18

ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO SUPERIOR COURT DOCKETS

Sections:

4.18.010 Authority.

4.18.020 Fee Collection. 4.18.030 Access Contracts. 4.18.040 Established.

4.18.010 Authority.

Commencing May 15, 2018, the Kittitas County Clerk is hereby authorized and required to collect a nonrefundable registration fee of \$35.00 for each registration application received seeking electronic access to superior court dockets. This fee shall apply to all natural persons that enter contracts to access these records. The access fee will not apply to employees of not-for-profit organizations or corporations whose primary purpose is provide access to justice for the poor and infirm, courts of limited and general jurisdiction, and government agencies and departments accessing electronic superior court records while in the performance of their official duties.

4.18.020 Fee Collection.

The Kittitas County Clerk will determine and adopt the appropriate procedures for the collection of the access fee.

4.18.030 Access Contracts.

The Kittitas County Clerk shall have the authority to approve and sign access agreements with natural persons desiring access to electronic superior court dockets.

4.18.040 Established.

The access fee for electronic access to superior court dockets shall be set by resolution of the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners.

ADOPTED this 15th day of May 2018.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman

Viee-Chairman

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The Board

☐ Deputy Clerk of the Board