

# AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES



## COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

**Koren J. Widdel**

Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures  
P.O. Box 999 • 728 Heller Street  
Redwood City, CA 94064-0999  
(650) 363-4700 T  
(650) 367-0130 F  
[www.smcgov.org/agwm](http://www.smcgov.org/agwm)

October 29, 2024

TO: Owners/Operators of Commercial Weighing and Measuring Devices

FROM: Koren Widdel, Sealer of Weights & Measures

SUBJECT: Proposed Increase to Annual Device Registration Fees

The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors will consider amending Section 5.124.020 of the San Mateo County Code during their November 12, 2024, meeting. Section 5.124.020 authorizes the County Sealer of Weights and Measures to charge an annual device registration fee to offset program costs associated with the inspection and testing of commercial scales, gas pumps, taxis, and other commercial weighing and measuring devices. The proposal is to increase this fee to the maximum allowed by Section 12240 of California's Business and Professions Code (BPC) thereby making San Mateo County's device registration fees the same as neighboring Bay Area County Weights and Measures Departments. We are proposing to lower the late penalty from 100% to 50% and eliminate the location fee for non-fixed location scales brought into the office for testing.

BPC Section 12240 authorizes county boards of supervisors to charge device registration fees and specifies the maximum rate counties may charge. This regulation was amended in October 2023 to increase the maximum allowable fee for certain devices. The proposed amendment of 5.124.020 will generate an additional \$152,900 to supplement \$375,156 in revenue against \$614,212 in program costs.

If adopted, the proposed fees will be effective January 3, 2024. A chart outlining the proposed fee schedule is attached.

The full agenda and associated documents for the November 12, 2024, Board of Supervisors meeting will be posted to the County's website at [www.smcgov.org](http://www.smcgov.org) under Board of Supervisors/Board Meetings. Meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. and are held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers at 500 County Center, Redwood City, California.

We very much appreciate your support as weights and measures is the foundation for fair commerce and this program benefits both industry and consumers by ensuring equity for all business transactions involving any weighing and measuring device.

Please contact Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Jeremy Eide with the San Mateo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures at (650) 363-4700 if you have any questions concerning this proposal or would like additional information.

Enclosure

**San Mateo County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer**

**Current and Proposed Device Registration Fee Comparison**

<b>Device Type</b>	<b>Current Fee Schedule</b>	<b>Proposed Fee Schedule</b>
	<b>January 1, 2016</b>	<b>January 3, 2025</b>
Late Penalty	100%	50%
Business Location Fee	\$100	\$120
Maximum annual registration fee consisting of the business location and device fees for small computing scales and the Other Devices category	\$1000	\$1200
Vapor Submeters at marinas, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, and apartments	\$100/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$4 per Meter	\$120/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$10 per Meter
Water Submeters at marinas, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks, and apartments	\$100/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$3 per Meter	\$120/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$6 per Meter
Computing Scales and electronic counter scales interfaced with a POS <100lbs	\$100/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$20 per scale	\$120/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$25 per scale
All Other Commercial Weighing & Measuring Devices	\$100/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$20 per scale	\$120/Business Location <u>Plus</u> \$26 per scale