

## Legislation update for prosecuting agencies

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### Witness expenses and filing fees

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June 2019

The *Justice Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2019* has been passed, effective from 1 July 2019, amending a series of acts and regulations relevant to prosecuting agencies.

The principal changes for prosecuting agencies to bear in mind, are as follows:

- Increases to witness allowances and court fees; and
- Increases to the court offender levies.

#### Witness allowances and court fees

The *Criminal Practice (Fees) Regulation 2010* is amended to allow for a change in the fees associated with inspecting and copying documents and making an application to copy (for publishing) an exhibit.

That regulation is also amended to increase some prosecution witness allowances. For instance, meal, accommodation, and loss of earnings allowances have marginally increased.

Relevantly, the *Justices Regulation 2014* has also been amended in respect of filing fees, resulting in increased fees for the filing of complaints and witness summonses.

#### Offender levies

The *Penalties and Sentences Regulation 2015* has been amended to increase the court offender levies. The Magistrates Court levy is increased to \$125.80 and the District/Supreme Court levy to \$377.20.

**Prosecuting agencies should take steps to ensure any relevant internal documents are updated to reflect these legislative changes.**

**For further inquiries or assistance, please contact Sarah Ford, Associate, Gilshenan & Luton Legal Practice, on 3361 0222 or [gnl@gnl.com.au](mailto:gnl@gnl.com.au)**