



# Georgia Sheriffs' Association, Inc.

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Sponsored by the  
Georgia Sheriffs' Association, Inc.

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TO: All Sheriffs  
FROM: J. Terry Norris  
Executive Director  
DATE: June 19, 2012  
RE: Secondary Metals Recycler Registration Fees; Action Required

Effective July 1, 2012, your office must collect certain information along with a fee of up to \$200 from secondary metals recyclers operating in your county in order to meet registration requirements established under O.C.G.A. § 10-1-360. This required information must then be transmitted electronically to a statewide data base searchable by all law enforcement agencies, which will be maintained by the Office of the Secretary of State.

Through this correspondence, it is requested that you set the recycler registration fee at \$200 and immediately contact your county commission requesting that \$100 of the fee be used to offset the Secretary of State's cost of maintaining the recycler data base. The Georgia Sheriffs' Association has been asked by the Secretary to serve as the single point of contact for all counties which means that the GSA will need to collect the \$100 portion of the registration fee and pay the costs associated with the data base. As such, a Memo of Understanding outlining expectations of both parties is forthcoming.

This new law allows the sheriff to set the fee at \$200 or less, but does not grant the sheriff the authority to keep any portion of the fee for the task of registering the recycler or the costs associated with maintaining the data base. For this reason, **you** must obtain formal permission from the county governing authority if you expect your office to retain and remit to the GSA the \$100 portion of the registration fee. A more simple arrangement may be to transfer the entire fee to the commission and ask that they forward to the GSA \$100 for each registration. In either case, the commission may recognize the importance of allowing a portion of the fee to be used as suggested since the sheriff sets the fee. To do otherwise may result in the sheriff waiving the fee altogether.

In order to proceed with discussions about contracting with the Office of Secretary of State to maintain the data base, it is imperative to know which county governing authorities will authorize remittance of \$100 for each registration. Please advise Tonia Welch of your commission's decision by Tuesday, June 26, via email [twelch@georgiasheriffs.org](mailto:twelch@georgiasheriffs.org).

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter. Please contact Tonia Welch or me should you have questions or concerns.