

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECORDER

Carleen Bruning

Courthouse

105 E. Coolbaugh Street Box 469

Red Oak, Iowa 51566

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (10/29/2009)

Carleen Bruning, Montgomery County Recorder, announced effective November 2nd, 2009 her office will be able to accept Visa & MasterCard credit and/or debit card payments for the services her office provides. Whether recording a real estate document; applying for a marriage license; requesting a certified birth, death or marriage certificate; purchasing hunting/fishing licenses; registering and/or titling boats, snowmobiles, ATVs or ORVs; or applying for a US Passport; the customer now has the payment options of cash, personal/business check, money order, or Visa/MasterCard.

Ms Bruning noted that those customers who make payment with their credit/debit card will be charged an additional service fee. The service fee is for costs incurred by the Iowa County Recorders Association to provide this new credit/debit card payment option. These costs include various merchant fees and bank fees. The service fee does not provide any revenue to the County or the County Recorder's office. While businesses incorporate the merchant/convenience fee assessed by Visa and MasterCard into their product/service pricing, it is necessary for us to charge this additional service fee to make this payment option available. Customers who do not wish to pay this fee may choose instead to pay with cash, check or money order.

A flat \$2.50 service fee will be applied to credit/debit card payment amounts up to \$47.00. Costs above \$47.00 will be charged a formula-based amount. Prior to submitting payment, the customer will know the exact amount of the service fee which will also be itemized on the receipt.

“By working through the Iowa County Recorders Association, operational costs can be shared and service fees kept at a minimum. The primary goal is to offer this convenient payment option to our customers which have become so automatic in today's society.” Carleen Bruning stated.