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(B)

MAGISTRATES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

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No. 46 of 2023

MAGISTRATES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2023

AN ACT TO AMEND THE MAGISTRATES ACT

[Date of Assent - 11th August, 2023]

Enacted by the Parliament of The Bahamas

1. Short title.

This Act, which amends the Magistrates Act (*Ch. 54*), may be cited as the Magistrates (Amendment) Act, 2023.

2. Amendment of section 2 of the principal Act.

Section 2 of the principal Act is amended in the definition of the term “small cause” —

- (a) in paragraph (a), by the deletion of the words “four hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “five thousand”;
- (b) in paragraph (b), by the deletion of the words “four hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “five thousand”; and
- (c) in paragraph (c), by the deletion of the words “six hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “ten thousand”.

3. Amendment of section 3 of the principal Act.

Section 3 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (2)(e), by the deletion of the word “forty” and the substitution therefor of the words “two thousand”.

4. Amendment of section 15 of the principal Act.

Section 15 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the words “two hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “ten thousand”.

5. Amendment of section 18 of the principal Act.

Section 18 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1), by the deletion of the word “five” and the substitution therefor of the word “twenty”.

6. Amendment of section 23 of the principal Act.

Section 23 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the words “two hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “ten thousand”.

7. Amendment of section 25 of the principal Act.

Section 25 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (2) —

- (a) by the deletion of the word “forty” and the substitution therefor of the words “one thousand”; and
- (b) by the deletion of the word “twenty” and the substitution therefor of the words “one thousand”.

8. Amendment of section 26 of the principal Act.

Section 26 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the words “six hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “ten thousand”.

9. Amendment of section 43 of the principal Act.

Section 43 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the words “five hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “one thousand and five hundred”.

10. Amendment of section 48 of the principal Act.

Section 48 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the word “five” and the substitution therefor of the word “fifty”.

11. Amendment of section 49 of the principal Act.

Section 49 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the word “eighty” and the substitution therefor of the words “one thousand”.

12. Amendment of section 54 of the principal Act.

Section 54 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1)(a), by the deletion of the word “one dollar” and the substitution therefor of the words “one hundred dollars”.

13. Amendment of section 69 of the principal Act.

Section 69 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the word “fifty” and the substitution therefor of the words “five hundred”.

14. Amendment of section 78 of the principal Act.

Section 78 of the principal Act is amended by the deletion of the word “one” and the substitution therefor of the word “fifteen hundred”.

15. Amendment of section 101 of the principal Act.

Section 101 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (3), by the deletion of the words “five hundred” and the substitution therefor of the words “one thousand”.

16. Amendment of the First Schedule to the principal Act.

The *First Schedule* to the principal Act is amended in rule 6, by the deletion of the words “twenty cents” and the substitution therefor of the words “fifty dollars”.

17. Repeal and replacement of the Second Schedule to the principal Act.

The *Second Schedule* to the principal Act, is repealed and replaced as follows —

**“SECOND SCHEDULE
(Sections 112, 117, 152(2), 202)
FEES IN CIVIL PROCEEDINGS**

Court Fees

Summons and copy	\$10.00
Summons for witness	\$5.00
Hearing fee.....	\$10.00
Writ of execution.....	\$30.00
For taking any affidavit or declaration not intended to be used on any criminal charge and attesting the same.....	\$5.00

Officers' Fees

Extra mileage per mile	\$2.00
Seizure of property under writ of execution.....	\$30.00

For poundage on the net proceeds of sales under execution, five per centum, and upon the amount of all executions where levies are actually made and where the matter shall afterwards be compromised without sale, one half of the aforesaid poundage.”.