

## Circuit clerk's office now accepting credit, debit cards

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BLOOMINGTON — You now can use [credit and debit cards to pay fines and fees](#) at the McLean County Circuit Clerk's office.

[Government Payment Service Inc.](#) provides the option for fines and other mandated costs and the service has been well received, said Circuit Clerk Don Everhart.

"For some, this could eliminate or reduce the need for multiple trips to the clerk's office to make payments on a case," said Everhart.

One customer was able to make his entire payment by splitting the debt between a check and credit card, said Everhart.

Transaction fees will be paid by the customer, meaning taxpayers will not fund the program.

A 3.5 percent service fee, or \$3.50 minimum, will be collected and paid to GovPayEXP.

"The (credit or debit) holder pays the fee for using the service. On the next business day, we reconcile the payment with the government office and then forward the full amount of the base payment to the agency," said [Mark MacKenzie](#), CEO of [GovPayEXP](#), in a statement.

Everhart hopes the program will reduce delinquencies and the number of cases turned over to collection agencies in which people pay a 30 percent fee on the balance they owe.

A private agency handles those cases and retains the fees. Last year, the county office collected \$8.1 million in fines, costs, fees and restitution.

### **About Government Payment Service, Inc.**

Government Payment Services, Inc. (GovPayEXP) is a national leader in [electronic credit and debit card payment processing systems](#) for government agencies. Founded in 1997 by retired Sheriff Dale Conrad, GovPayEXP processes millions of dollars in government payments each year for nearly 1,500 jurisdictions in 33 states. The Internet-based payment processing software enables residents, constituents and offenders to pay cash bail, parking, speeding and traffic tickets, child support, court fees and fines, real estate and property taxes, utility bills or restitution via phone, online or on-site. For more information about the company, call 888-561-7888 or visit [www.GovPayEXP.com](http://www.GovPayEXP.com).

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