

## Where Do I Send The Money?

If you choose to plead "guilty" or "no contest", you may send a money order or pay by credit card (**NO PERSONAL CHECKS**) for the full amount of all fines, along with this form, to the court at the address shown below.

**The court must receive payment within 10 days of the date on the ticket or additional fines will be charged!**

### PLEASE PRINT!

CITATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF DEFENDANT AS APPEARS ON TICKET: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP AS APPEARS ON TICKET: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD:

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME AND ADDRESS ON CARD (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE): \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CIRCLE FORM OF PAYMENT:

MONEY ORDER



(A transaction fee will be added for payment by credit card.)

You may also make credit card payment online at: <https://www.cityofkingsville.com>

**Make sure to fill out both sides of this form completely, then send to:**

Municipal Court - City of Kingsville  
P.O. Box 1458  
Kingsville, TX 78364

## How Much Will It Cost Me?

This is a list of fines, including court costs, for some of the most common offenses. The fines for other offenses are available by contacting the court.

### **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT THE COURT TO VERIFY THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FINES AND COURT COSTS BEFORE MAKING PAYMENT!**

Speeding: 1-15 mph over limit \$ 299.10  
Speeding: School 1-15 mph over limit \$ 324.10

Disregarding stop sign/traffic light: \$299.10  
Failure to yield right-of-way: \$299.10  
No proof of financial responsibility: \$377-1000.  
No seat belt: Driver \$149.10  
No seat belt: Passenger \$149.10  
Unrestrained child, ages 4-15: \$299.10  
Unrestrained child, below age 4: \$299.10  
No driver's license: \$299.10  
Expired Registration: \$266.00

**\*\*CDL HOLDERS CALL THE OFFICE\*\***

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**What Happens If I Ignore This Citation?**

*A warrant will be issued, you will be arrested, taken to jail and forced to pay fines and court costs in addition to those listed.*

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# I Just Got a Ticket.

# Now What Do I Do?

Version 7 (8/2007)

An informational guide provided courtesy of The Municipal Court City of Kingsville

M. J. Krueger  
Judge

Questions (361) 592-8566

Fax: (361) 593-1736

For police matters, please contact City of Kingsville Police Department Chief Ricardo Torres (361) 592-4311

### **Do I Have To Appear In Court?**

The law requires you appear in court on your case. You must appear either in person or by mail, within ten days after receiving the ticket. A telephone call is not sufficient.

### **What If I Am A Juvenile?**

The Municipal Court has jurisdiction over juveniles, 16 years or younger, charged with Class "C" misdemeanor offenses except public intoxication. All juveniles are required to appear in open court for all proceedings in their cases. The parent or guardian of any juvenile charged in Municipal Court is required to be present in court with the child. Juveniles who fail to appear or who fail to pay their fine will be reported to the Department of Public Safety. The Department of Public Safety will suspend your driver's license. If you do not have a driver's license you will not be able to obtain one until you appear in court to dispose of the case.

### **Can I Take A Driving Safety Course?**

If you are charged with a traffic offense and do not hold a CDL, you may ask the Judge, within 10 days after receiving the ticket, to take a Driving Safety Course. If you were operating a motorcycle and request to take a Driving Safety Course you may take a motorcycle operator's training course. At the time of either request you must do the following:

1. Present a copy of your valid driver's license;
2. Present a copy of your current vehicle Insurance policy.
3. Plea either guilty or no contest; and
4. Pay court costs, administration fee and post a cash bond for the fine up to \$200.00 dollars; offense in school zone add another \$25.00 dollars.

Prosecution of the traffic offense will be postponed for 90 days to allow you time to complete the course. You are required to attend a Driving Safety Course approved by the Texas Education Agency or a motorcycle operator's course approved by the Department of Public Safety and present the completion certificate within 90 days.

You are eligible to request this course only if you:

Have not requested and taken a driving safety course for a traffic offense within the last 12 months.

Are not currently taking the course for another traffic violation;

Have not committed the offense of speeding 25 mph or more over the speed limit; and

Have not committed one of the following offenses:

- Leaving the scene of an accident;
- Failing to stop/render aid;
- Failure to report an accident;

- Reckless driving;
- Overtaking and passing a school bus;
- Fleeing or attempting to flee a peace officer.

If you fail, within 90 days, to provide proof you have completed the Driving Safety Course, you will be required to appear for a Show Cause Hearing. Failure to be present at the hearing will result in a Failure to Appear charge being filed and a warrant being issued for your arrest.

### **What Are My Options?**

Under our American system of justice all persons are presumed to be innocent until proven guilty. On a plea of not guilty a formal trial is held. The State is required to prove guilt of the offense charged in the complaint "beyond a reasonable doubt" before a defendant can be found guilty by a judge or jury. If you plead guilty or no contest, you should be prepared to pay the fine. A plea form is provided on the next page for your convenience.

### **Right to Appeal**

In certain circumstances, you have the right to appeal a conviction in Municipal Court. All appeals from Municipal Court result in a new trial in County Court. A bond is required to be posted which is valued at twice the amount of fines and costs assessed by the court.

An information sheet outlining the process for appeal is available upon request from the court.

### **PLEA FORM:**

**I plead guilty and waive my right to trial.**

Plea of Guilty: By a plea of guilty you admit

### **Special Notice to those under age 17:**

Article 45.057(h) of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure states, in part, :

A child and parent required to appear before the court have an obligation to provide the court in writing with the current address and residence of the child. The obligation does not end when the child reaches age 17. On or before the seventh day after the date the child or parent changes residence, the child or parent shall notify the court of the current address in the manner directed by the court. A violation of this subsection may result in arrest and is a Class C misdemeanor. The obligation to provide notice terminates on discharge and

the act is prohibited by law, you committed the act charged and you have no defense or excuse for your act. Before entering your plea of guilty, however, you should understand the following:

The State has the burden of proving you violated the Law (the Law does not require you prove you did not violate the Law);

You have the right to hear the State's evidence and to require the State to prove that you violated the Law; and  
A plea of guilty may be used against you later, in a civil suit, if there was a traffic accident (another party can say you were responsible for the accident because you pleaded guilty to the traffic charge).

**I plead no contest and waive my right to trial.**

Plea of Nolo Contendere (no contest): A plea of no contest means you do not contest the State's charge against you. You will almost certainly be found guilty, unless you are eligible and successfully complete the Driving Safety Course and/or court ordered probation. Also, a plea of no contest cannot be used against you in a subsequent civil suit for damages.

**I plead not guilty and request a trial by Judge or Jury (please circle choice).**

Plea of Not Guilty: A plea of not guilty means you are informing the court you deny guilt or you have a good defense in your case and the State must prove what it has charged against you. If you plead not guilty you will need to decide whether to hire an attorney to represent you. The Law does not require a Municipal Court to provide you with a court appointed attorney.

(See other side)