

## FAQ – Traffic Infractions-Penalty Assessments



### **Q. Can I pay my ticket without going to court?**

A. Yes, Tickets are payable until the DAY OF COURT (indicated on ticket) upon submission of a signed Waiver of Rights, Advisement and Plea of Guilty. Payment can be made on-line, by telephone with a credit or debit card and in person.

### **Q. Once I have appeared in court, or submitted a signed *Waiver of Rights, Advisement & Plea of Guilty*, how long do I have to pay the fines and costs?**

A. Until 4:00 pm the day of your appearance or the day you submit a signed Waiver of Rights, Advisement and Plea of Guilty. You can pay online with Master Card or Visa at <http://www.courts.state.co.us> on the web page of the Twelfth Judicial District. Failure to pay will result in a default judgment assessed on the case. This fee is \$30.00. Once the default judgment is assessed, you will be required to pay in cash or certified funds ONLY. Default judgment fees are not payable on line.

### **Q. Why do I have to pay my ticket the same day as my court appearance?**

A. There is a 60-90 day window between date of issuance and date of court appearance. Since all tickets indicate a fine and surcharges it is reasonable to assume you will owe money and the court expects you to be prepared.

### **Q. Do I have to pay court costs?**

A. Yes. Court costs are determined by the Colorado legislature. When 20 days have passed from the date your ticket was issued, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will no longer accept your payment. DMV forwards all tickets to the proper court. Once filed with the court additional costs are automatically assessed per statute.

### **Q. Can I have a deferred sentence?**

A. If you want to discuss the possibility of a deferred sentence, you may contact the court directly for information.

### **Q. What are my options?**

A. Accept the plea agreement presented to you OR set for Final Hearing (Trial to the Court) in which you appear before the County Court Judge. The officer who issued the ticket will be the prosecuting officer.

### **Q. How is the offer created?**

A. The offer is no different than that originally offered on the back of your copy of the ticket issued to you. Generally, it is a reduction to half the points indicated on the face of your ticket. Court costs, however, will be GREATER than indicated on your ticket per statutory authority.

### **Q. What are VAST, BRAI, GTSC, FAMF, CRTC and CSCF?**

A. These are statutorily assessed court costs determined by the Colorado legislature. The fees are non-negotiable and assessed in all traffic cases. The fees include victim assistance fund (VAST), brain injury fund (BRAI), genetic testing fund (GTSC), family friendly court fund (FAMF), and infraction court costs (CRTC) and Court Security Cash Fund (CSCF).

### **Q. How many points do I have on my license?**

A. The court does not know, or keep track, of any individual driver licenses or the status of points. Age is a determining factor. Points are evaluated at ages 16, 18 and 21.

### **Q. Can I change a final hearing?**

A. You may request a change in writing at least one week prior to the date of your trial. The Judge will make the determination.