

General Fines

Payable Citation/Method of Payment

To find out if your citation is payable without a court appearance, how much to pay, or to pay your fine, choose one of the following methods:

- **Online:** Using MasterCard or Visa, access www.mncourts.gov/fines. Have your citation number available.
- **By Phone:** Using MasterCard or Visa, call **651-281-3219** in the metro or **1-800-657-3611** outside of the metro area. Have your citation number available. Disponible por teléfono en Español.
- **By Mail:** Check or Money Order payable to Court Administration. Send to: **Minnesota Court Payment Center, PO Box 898, Willmar, MN 56201**. Include a copy of your citation or indicate the citation number on the check or money order.

You have the right to appear in court. Please refer to the front of this citation. **If a court date is noted**, you must either pay your fine by this date or you may choose to appear in court on the date, time and at the location indicated. **If no court date is noted**, you must pay the amount owed or you may schedule an appearance within 30 days from the date this citation was issued. To make a payment or schedule an appearance call: **651-281-3219** in the metro area or **1-800-657-3611** outside of the metro area. Please allow 10 business days (from the date you receive your citation) for processing before calling.

BY PAYING THIS FINE(S), YOU ARE ENTERING A PLEA OF GUILTY to this offense(s) and voluntarily waive your rights to the following: (Minn. R. Crim. P. 23.03)

1. To a court trial, if the offense is a petty misdemeanor, or a court or jury trial for all other offenses;
2. To be represented by counsel;
3. To be presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt;
4. To confront and cross examine all witnesses; and
5. To either remain silent or to testify on your own behalf.

A plea of guilty will result in a conviction. If convicted, you must pay a state imposed surcharge under Minn. Stat. § 357.021 subd. 6. The current amount of the required state surcharge is \$12 for parking related offenses and \$75 for all other offenses (Minn. Stat. § 169.99). Additionally, a law library fee will be owed. These surcharges and fees are included in the total payable amount provided to you by phone or web.

Under Minn. Stat. § 480.15, subd. 10c, unpaid fines may be referred for collections. You have the right to contest the referral.

Issuance of a worthless check to the court is a crime, and you will be subject to civil and criminal penalties. In addition, a charge of up to \$30 will be assessed on all returned checks (Minn. Stat. § 609.113 subd. 2).

Other important notices regarding your rights can be found on the Minnesota Judicial Branch website at: www.mncourts.gov/fines.

If a Court Appearance is Required

Certain offense(s) require you to appear in court. To verify if the charge(s) you have received require a court appearance, please call **651-281-3219** in the metro or **1-800-657-3611** outside of the metro area and refer to the front of this citation. If you must appear in court and a **court date is noted on the front of this citation**, your appearance is scheduled for the date, time and location indicated. If you must appear in court and **no court date is noted on the front of this citation**, a Notice to Appear indicating a court date will be mailed to the address on the citation. If this address is not correct, you must immediately notify

the court at the number noted above of your current address. Failure to Appear may result in a bench warrant being issued for your arrest. If you have questions regarding the charge(s), call the number noted above.

Penalties for Failure to Respond

Failure to respond as required for a **Misdemeanor** may result in:

- The Department of Public Safety and/or the Department of Natural Resources being notified of your failure to appear, depending on the offense(s) charged. These agencies may suspend your driver's license or DNR licenses for failing to appear.
- A warrant may be issued for your arrest.
- Late fees may be assessed.

Failure to respond to a **Petty Misdemeanor** by paying the amount due, appearing in court or contacting the Court Payment Center will be considered a plea of guilty and waiver of the right to trial unless the failure to appear is due to circumstances beyond the person's control (Minn. Stat. § 169.91; Minn. Stat. § 609.491). In addition, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Natural Resources will be notified of your failure to appear and conviction, depending on the offenses charged. These agencies may suspend your driver's license or DNR licenses for failing to appear.