

GATESVILLE MUNICIPAL COURT

HONORABLE TONYA K PLACE

110 N. 8th Street
GATESVILLE, TEXAS 76528
Phone: (254) 865-2227
Fax: (254) 865-8320
Email: court@ci.gatesville.tx.us

This form is furnished as a courtesy by the Court to provide information pertaining to your options for the charge(s) filed against you. Please read the form in its entirety in order to know all the options available to you. Not all fines are listed, please direct any questions you may have to the COURT CLERK, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

A conviction of an offense under a traffic law or political subdivision of the state may result in the assessment of surcharge(s) on your driver's license under the Driver's Responsibility Program. If you fail to respond in writing to the charge(s) by the appearance date shown on your citation, additional charges may be filed against you for failure to appear or violate promise to appear. A WARRANT(S) will be issued for your arrest.

*****A TELEPHONE CALL IS NOT AN APPEARANCE*****

SPEEDING VIOLATIONS: \$100.00 Minimum **PLUS** \$5.00 per mile over the posted speed limit. EXAMPLE: Charged with 75 miles per hour in a 60 mile per hour zone. 15 miles over posted limit = 15 x \$5.00 = \$75.00 **PLUS** \$100.00 for a total of \$175.00.

ALL SCHOOL ZONE AND CONSTRUCTION ZONE VIOLATIONS MUST BE REFERRED TO THE COURT CLERK AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER ABOVE.

FAIL TO CONTROL SPEED	\$209.00
RAN STOP SIGN OR RED LIGHT	\$197.00
**NO LIABILITY INSURANCE (first offense)	\$244.00
SEAT BELT VIOLATION	\$149.00
FAIL TO SECURE CHILD under 8 years of age (1st offense)	\$124.00
FAIL TO SECURE CHILD under 8 years of age (additional)	\$219.00
FAIL TO SECURE CHILD (UNDER 17)	\$199.00
OPEN CONTAINER	\$219.00
OBSTRUCTIVE VIEW	\$197.00
NOISE VIOLATION	\$130.00
MUFFLER VIOLATION	\$196.00
ANIMAL AT LARGE	\$164.00
VIOLATE DRIVERS LICENSE RESTRICTION	\$132.00
*EXPIRED DRIVERS LICENSE	\$131.00
*EXPIRED VEHICLE REGISTRATION	\$131.00
DRIVING WHILE LICENSE INVALID	\$399.00
**NO DRIVERS LICENSE (1st offense)	\$131.00

*Charge may be dismissed with a **small** fee. - CONTACT COURT CLERK IMMEDIATELY.

**Charge will be dismissed upon presentation of a valid document to the court, provided it was valid on date citation was issued, and a copy is presented to the court within the 10 day appearance period on the citation.

FOR ALL JUVENILES (16 and under) AND MINORS WITH ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO VIOLATION(S)

The law states that all juveniles and any minors with a alcohol or tobacco charge must enter their plea in open court directly to the judge and must have a parent or guardian with them when they come to court. Because of this law, the court has to set up the court dates. You will be notified by mail of your appearance date which will be different from what is on the citation.

NOTE: as per Subsection (h) of Article 45.057, Code of Criminal Procedure: A child and parent are required to appear before the court and 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 satisfaction of the judgment or final disposition not requiring a finding of guilt.

IF YOU ENTER A PLEA OF NOT GUILTY and desire a trial, you must indicate in the proper space provided below and mail, e-mail, or fax your plea to the Court no later than the appearance date shown on the citation. You will be notified by mail of the court date set for your hearing. You will have the right to a trial by jury, if you so request.

Note: If you enter a plea of **Not Guilty**, an appearance is required before the court in order to hear your case.

IF YOU WISH TO ENTER A PLEA OF GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE, please so indicate below in the space provided. Please return this letter no later than the appearance date shown on the citation. A plea of Nolo Contendere means that you do not contest the State's charge(s) against you. The fine for Nolo Contendere is the same as that for a plea of Guilty. Either plea indicates that you agree to waive appearance before the Court for trial.

OPTIONS:

Requesting 30 Day Extension

- Once requested you will have 30 days from the day you enter your plea to make the full payment.

Requesting Payment Plan

- Once requested you will have the ability to make payments on a monthly basis until the full amount is paid. There will be a \$25.00 fee added and a payment must be made EVERY month or a warrant will be issued.

Requesting Defensive Driving

NOTE: You are **NOT** eligible for defensive driving if you have one of the following violations:

- Failure to remain at scene of accident
- Passing a school bus loading or unloading
- Speeding 25 miles per hour or more over the limit
- Certain violations pertaining to operating a commercial vehicle
- Offenses cited in construction zone with workers present
- Persons who have a commercial driver's license at time of offense

Eligible to take defensive driving course must do the following:

- (1) On or before the appearance date on the citation, enter a plea in writing of **NOLO CONTENDERE** or **GUILTY**. Plea **MUST** be notarized and presented to the court in person, by mail, email, or fax.
- (2) A non-refundable fee of \$110.00 (\$135.00 for school zone) when you submit your plea/request.
- (3) Driving Record must not show DSC within 1 year preceding the date of alleged offense and copy must be provided to the court.
- (4) Copy of your current liability insurance and valid Texas driver's license (if military-copy of your valid DL and Military ID).
- (5) Include a self-addressed stamp if you would like a receipt sent to you.
- (6) You have 90 days from your plea date to complete defensive driving and send the court your certificate and driving record.

Requesting Deferral

NOTE: you are **NOT** eligible if you hold a commercial driver's license at the time of offense

- Once requested, your record will be pulled and shown to the judge. The judge will then decide if the deferral will be granted and if so what the deferral fee will be. The fee will range from \$50.00 to \$200.00 in addition to the original fine amount. Please provide the court with your current phone number in order to get back with you on the decision once it's made.

We do **NOT ACCEPT PERSONAL CHECKS** - make your remittance by **CASHIER'S CHECK** or **MONEY ORDER** payable to **CITY OF GATESVILLE**. We accept debit/credit cards and can be paid over the phone once written plea has been received by court.

Check one:

() I hereby enter a plea of **NOT GUILTY** and wish a trial on charge(s) filed against me.

Type: () Bench Trial () Jury Trial

() I hereby enter a plea of **GUILTY** or **NOLO CONTENDERE** (circle one) and waive appearance for trial.

Request _____ Phone # (_____) _____

() I hereby enter a plea of **GUILTY** or **NOLO CONTENDERE** (circle one) and I request to take a **Driving Safety Course**. I declare that I **have not** within the previous 12 months, had a citation dismissed by completion of a Driving Safety Course. **I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS FORM MUST BE NOTARIZED AND PRESENTED WITHIN THE 10 DAY APPEARANCE DATE ON THE CITATION.**

DATE _____ CITATION # _____

PRINTED NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____, 20 _____

(SEAL)

NOTARY PUBLIC