

RICHARD M. WEISS, CLERK OF COURTS POLK COUNTY TRAFFIC INFORMATION

Failure to pay the ticket (Option # 1), deny the charge (Option 2), or elect to attend a defensive driving school (Option 3) within 30 calendar days WILL result in suspension of your driver's license and assessment of delinquent fees. (Refer to your traffic citation for complete details.) Or, you may contact the Clerk to request a one time 60-day payment continuance. By requesting a payment continuance, this action waives your option to deny (plea not guilty) the charge. You would still be eligible for the defensive driving school if qualified. Please contact your nearest Clerk of Court's office for assistance. There are branch locations located in Bartow, Lakeland, Lake Wales, or Winter Haven for your convenience.

To ensure understanding of what's available, refer to the below Customer Hotline/Message Centers before a final decision is made. Using a touch-tone phone, dial **(863) 534** and enter one of the following extensions (please understand these lines are recordings only):

7710	Operating Hours and Locations	7711	Types of Traffic Tickets and Payment Schedules
7712	Request for an Arraignment Hearing	7713	Entering a Not Guilty Plea
7714	Credit Card Internet Payment and Toll-Free Payment Options *	7715	Defensive Driving School
7716	Extension of Time to Pay your Ticket	7717	Driving Directions to Courthouse
7718	Public Record Requests	To speak to an Attendant, you must press 0.	

-----NOTICE-----NOTICE-----NOTICE-----

*** Our credit card service provider is assessable for residents of the US only. You may contact your nearest Western Union office for remittance and Use the Western Union Quick Collect® OR the Western Union Quick Pay® service to send payments. By taking advantage of the "Quick" payment services will then come straight to us in the form of a check in U.S. dollars. By taking advantage of the Western Union Quick Collect® or Quick Pay® services, they will need the following information:**

**Pay to: Polk County Clerk of Courts Code City: CLERKCRIMPOLK Code State: FL
Account Number: Citation number and your last name**

-----NOTICE-----NOTICE-----NOTICE-----

As of July 2004 the Law authorized the Clerk to seek outside collection efforts for unpaid obligations. The Law authorizes 40% to be added onto the total amount of the unpaid financial obligations which remain unpaid 90 days or greater from the payment due date. To prevent suspension of your driving privilege and additional delinquent fees: **DO NOT FAIL TO PAY THE TICKET, DENY THE CHARGES, OR ELECT TO ATTEND A DRIVING SCHOOL WITHIN 30 CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE OF OFFENSE.** TO AVOID OUTSIDE COLLECTION EFFORTS, SUSPENSION FEES & AN ADDITIONAL 40% SERVICE FEE **PAY THE VIOLATION AS DIRECTED.**

----- REFER TO OTHER SIDE FOR FURTHER DETAILS -----

RICHARD M. WEISS, CLERK OF COURTS – IMPORTANT TRAFFIC CITATION INFORMATION – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

You have three options available to dispose of your traffic citation: 1. Pay the ticket 2. Contest the ticket in Court, or 3. Attend Driver Improvement School

**OPTION ONE – Pay the Ticket
SPEEDING VIOLATIONS**

Miles over	Penalty	School Election
1 to 5	Warning	
6 to 9	\$ 114.00	\$ 121.00
10 to 14	\$ 189.00	\$ 196.00
15 to 19	\$ 239.00	\$ 246.00
20 to 29	\$ 264.00	\$ 271.00
30 & over	Court required	Not eligible
Speeding in school zone or posted construction zone – penalty may be doubled as follows:		
6 to 9	\$ 139.00	\$ 146.00
10 to 14	\$ 289.00	\$ 296.00
15 to 19	\$ 364.00	\$ 371.00
20 to 29	\$ 414.00	\$ 421.00
30 & over	Court required	Not eligible

OTHER TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS

Violation	Penalty	School Election
Bicyclist < 14 yrs /Pedestrian	\$ 47.50	
Non-moving	\$ 99.00	
Moving	\$ 149.00	\$ 156.00
Chapters 320 or 322	\$ 86.50	Nonmoving
Child Restraint	\$ 149.00	Not eligible
Fail to obey traffic devices(red light)	\$ 214.00	\$221.00
Toll Violations	\$ 189.00	
Unknowing Driving with suspended or revoked license	\$ 136.50	

You may pay by credit card 10-13 business days following the date of the offense if you reside inside the United States by calling 1- 877-716-1781 or online at www.PolkCountyClerk.net. You may also mail your payment to:

**Richard M. Weiss, Clerk of Courts
PO Box 9000 Drawer CC-10**

Bartow, FL 33831-9000 or to the address listed on the payment envelope provided by the officer.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH. THE CITATION NUMBER MUST APPEAR ON ALL PAYMENTS.

● If you are charged with license, tag, or insurance violations, please read the back of the citation. You must furnish proof of same if valid at the time of offense with a \$10.00 dismissal fee payable to the Clerk within 30 days.

● If you are charged with improper equipment under F.S. 316.610, please provide proof of compliance (if corrected and signed off by law enforcement) within 30 days along with a \$81.00 reduced penalty fee payable to the Clerk.

The above two types of citations are NOT payable via our on-line services.

OPTION TWO – Contest the Ticket

To deny the charges, you must contact the Clerk of Court and request a formal hearing within 30 calendar days. (Please wait at least 10 business days from the offense date before contacting the Clerk.) You will be required to appear at an arraignment hearing before a Traffic Hearing Officer or County Judge and enter a Guilty, No Contest, or Not Guilty plea.

NOTICE: IF YOU ARE ASKING FOR ADJUDICATION TO BE WITHHELD (no points assessed to your driving record) YOU MUST CALL AND REQUEST AN ARRAIGNMENT HEARING - DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM.

If you enter a Not Guilty Plea at arraignment you will be required to reappear for a non-jury trial date at a later date.

Instead of appearing in court for arraignment, you may sign the form below and return it to our office.

By signing the form, you are stating:

- I am pleading Not Guilty to this offense
- I am waiving my right to have adjudication withheld and waiving my option to attend a Defensive Driving School
- I am waiving my personal appearance at the initial arraignment hearing and I understand I will be notified of a non-jury trial date.
- I will be responsible for all costs associated with this citation including witnesses subpoena fees (\$27 per subpoena) if I am found guilty of this offense.
- I understand that failing to appear for the non-jury trial as notified by the Clerk will result in suspension of my driving privileges, additional fees, and points being assessed on my record.

Ticket # _____ Date Issued _____

Print Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

/s/ _____ Signature

Sworn/Affirmed and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Produced ID: _____ Type of ID _____

/s/ _____

Notary Public, or Deputy Clerk

Name: _____

My Commission Expires: _____

Note: *It is your responsibility to make sure that this affidavit is in the court file within 30 calendar days from the offense date. Please cut along side and return to the Clerk's Office only if you are pleading not guilty and requesting a NON-JURY TRIAL date.*

OPTION THREE – Driver Improvement Course

I understand this option is available to me ONLY if:

- I have not made an election for Driving School within the last twelve months.
- I have not made five elections in the last 10 years.
- I am making this election within 30 calendar days of the date this citation was issued or before the payment date.
- I have not been charged with a driver license, registration, or insurance violation.
- I DO NOT HOLD A COMMERCIAL LICENSE.
- I was not traveling 30 miles or over the speed limit.

I understand to satisfactorily complete this election I must:

- Mail or bring this election form and PAY applicable costs (See School Election) to the Clerk of Court within 30 calendar days of the date this citation was issued.
- Attend and complete an approved driver improvement school in the State of Florida and present proof of completion to the Clerk of Court within 90 days of the date this election is received by the Clerk.

I understand that if I satisfactorily complete this election:

- My driver record will not reflect a conviction.
- Points will not be assessed against my driver's license.

I understand that if I fail to complete any requirement of this election:

- I will be guilty of the offense and my driver record will be changed to show a conviction of this offense.
- Points will be assessed against my driver license.
- Additional fines, costs, and fees will be due.

NOTICE: DO NOT SIGN THIS ELECTION UNLESS YOU UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE CONDITIONS FOR A DRIVING COURSE ELECTION. My signature indicates my intent to elect to attend a driver improvement course. By signing this form I understand that I must

complete the class or pay additional fees and points will be assessed on my record.

complete the class or pay additional fees and points will be assessed on my record.

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complete the class or pay additional fees and points will be assessed on my record.

Ticket # _____ Date Issued _____

Print Name: _____

/s/ _____ Signature

Sworn/Affirmed and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Produced ID: _____ Type of ID _____

/s/ _____

Notary Public, or Deputy Clerk

Name: _____

My Commission Expires: _____

My Commission Expires: _____

Note: *It is your responsibility to make sure that this affidavit is in the court file within 30 calendar days from the offense date or your continued payment due date. Please refer to your local yellow pages under Driving Instruction for a course provider nearest you.*