

## Mariyana T. Spyropoulos

Clerk of the Circuit Court Cook County

# All About Traffic

The Traffic Division for the First Municipal District is responsible for maintaining records and collecting fees and fines for all cases involving City of Chicago moving violations, conservation cases, and 15 other local agencies. The Division DOES NOT hear matters relating to parking tickets or other non-moving violation tickets.

Traffic Division, Room LL-01  
Daley Center, 50 W. Washington  
Chicago, IL  
(312) 603-5030

### Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

- If charged with a DUI offense, you will automatically receive a suspension of driving privileges in Illinois. Additionally, you could also face a fine, imprisonment or both if convicted.
- People charged with a DUI offense have the option of seeking Judicial Review, where a petition can be filed to rescind the suspension. In most cases, this must be filed no later than 90 days after the date of issuance. It must be based on specific grounds as provided in the Illinois Compiled Statutes and filed with the Clerk's Office before the first court date.

### Court Diversion Program

If you are charged with a traffic offense that is eligible for the Court Diversion Program, the officer will not assign you a court date, and will indicate on the face of the ticket that you must go online to [www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org](http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org) or mail in your request. This program provides you with three (3) options:

- Option A - Plead guilty, pay the fine and the conviction will be reported to the Secretary of State.
- Option B - Plead guilty, register for Traffic Safety School, pay the fine and fee and a conviction will only be reported to the Secretary of State if you do not successfully complete Traffic Safety School. (Traffic Safety courses are available online)
- Option C - Plead not guilty and request a court hearing. Your assigned court date and courtroom location will be e-mailed when choosing online or mailed to you.

### What should I do if I receive a Traffic Ticket?

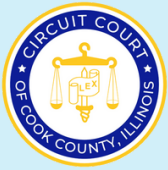
The bottom right corner of your ticket will indicate whether or not a court appearance is required. A ticket marked "YOU MUST PAY ONLINE" is issued for a violation that does not require a court appearance and is punishable by a fine only.

If the ticket is marked "YOU MUST APPEAR", note the courtroom, date and time listed. You or your attorney must appear in court at this time.

***The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County is barred by law from providing legal advice.  
This document is not legal advice.***

**Self Represented Litigant Center: (872) 529-1093**  
**Customer Service: (312) 603-5030**  
**[www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org](http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org)**





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### **Can I call or email to obtain information regarding my ticket?**

If you know the courthouse where the ticket was issued, please contact that courthouse. If your ticket was issued in Chicago, you may email [traffic1@cookcountycourt.com](mailto:traffic1@cookcountycourt.com) or call the Clerk's Office at (312) 603-5030 and give your last name, first name and date of birth or driver's license number to search for a ticket number.

### **Can I post a cash bond for my driver's license?**

You can post a cash bond prior to your court date. Please be aware of the following:

- The amount of the bond is set by Supreme Court Rule 526. Bonds can be posted only in cash or by credit card. Checks and money orders are not accepted.
- Bond must be posted at the Clerk's Office where your ticket is pending.

You may not post cash bond for your driver's license if you are charged with these offenses:

- Speeding 40 or more miles over the posted speed limit
- Fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer
- Leaving the scene of an accident involving death or injury
- Driving under the influence (DUI)
- Drag racing /Reckless driving
- Suspended driver's license

### **How can I pay my fine(s) and when will my driver's license be returned?**

You may pay your fine with cash, credit card, check, or money order. The driver's license will be returned after your payment is processed if taken by the police officer or per a Judge's Order.

### **I missed my response date, what do I do?**

If a person ignores the ticket or fails to appear in court, the judge may enter an ex parte judgment of conviction and assess a fine against that person. If a person fails to pay the fine they will be subject to their case being turned over to Collections until the fine is paid.

These judgments can be dismissed by filing a motion at [trafficmotions@cookcountycourt.com](mailto:trafficmotions@cookcountycourt.com), in person, or via attorney, with the Clerk's Office and by paying a non-refundable motion to vacate ex parte fee.

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 **The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County**