

MUNICIPAL COURT OF EAST TAWAKONI

288 BRIGGS BLVD * EAST TAWAKONI, TEXAS 75472 * (903)447-2444

The following are the options available to you to handle you case(s). The judge cannot speak to you prior to court or without you first entering a plea. Please read the following information (front and back), make your Choice and have the form filled out prior to being called before the judge.

- 1) If you do not want to speak with the judge, you may enter a plea of NO CONTEST or GUILTY, waive your right to a trial and take care of the case(s) with the court clerk, prior to court starting. If so, fill out this form and bring it to the clerk they will help you dispose of the case, i.e., Full payment, defensive driving, deferred disposition, extension to the next court date or payment agreement.
- 2.) You may enter a plea of GUILTY or NO CONTEST before the judge and waive you right to a trial. Upon entering a plea, you may talk to the judge about any extenuating circumstances which you feel may help your case. This does not mean that the fine will be lowered. You may still ask for defensive driving, deferred disposition, an extension to the next court date or a payment agreement.
- 3.) You may enter a plea of GUILTY before the judge and waive your right to a trial and choose to appeal the case to County Court. You may appeal the decision of the Court within 10 days of your court date. You will have to fill out an appeal bond and return it to the Court with 10 days. You will then be contacted by the County Court.
- 4.) You may enter a plea of NOT GUILTY and request a trial by Jury or a trial by Judge. You will have to fill out a P.R. bond and return it to the court within 10 days. The Court will provide you with the necessary forms. The trial will then be set at a later date and time, and you will be notified by mail as to the trial date. You have the right to defend yourself but the Court recommends that you have an attorney present. It is also your responsibility to keep the Court up to date with your most current address.

THE JUDGE HAS FINAL DECISION IN THE DESPOSITION OF ALL CASES.

PLEA YOU WISH TO ENTER (CHECK ONE) OTHER OPTIONS YOU ARE REQUESTING

GUILTY AND WAVE TRIAL _____	DEFENSIVE DRIVING _____
NO CONTEST AND WAIVE TRAIL _____	DEFERRED DISPOSITION _____
NOT GUILTY: TRIAL BY JUDGE _____	PAYMENT AGREEMENT _____
TRIAL BY JURY _____	EXTENSION REQUEST _____

_____	_____
NAME (PRINT)	SIGNATURE

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS

_____	_____
TELEPHONE NO.	DATE



NOTICE TO JUVENILE

- 1.) You must keep the court informed of your most current address until the case is finally closed and,
 - 2.) You must appear for all court dates concerning your case until the case is finally closed.
- Failure to comply with these requirements will result in further actions by the Court

_____	_____
Juvenile's signature	Parent's signature

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEFENSIVE DRIVING

Defensive driving is an option to take care of a moving violation such as speeding, running a stop sign, etc. If you complete the requirements of defensive driving, only the class will appear on your driving record, NOT THE VIOLATION. Request and payment MUST be made to the Court before taking the driving safety course.

You may be eligible for defensive driving if:

- 1.) You have a valid Texas driver's license. **If you have a commercial driver's license, you are not eligible.**
- 2.) You have not taken a defensive driving course in the past 12 months.
- 3.) You were not driving more than 24 miles per hour over the posted speed limit.
- 4.) You show proof of current financial responsibility.

If you are eligible, fill out the front of this sheet, have the \$144.00 court costs ready (you must pay this fee in full) and your driver's license and insurance so the judge may see them.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEFERRED DISPOSITION

Deferred disposition is an option to take care of many violations. Deferred disposition is a type of probation in which you may not receive any violations during your probation. You must pay a bond in the amount of the citation plus \$50.00 (you cannot payout this bond). If you complete the requirements of deferred disposition, the violation will not appear on your driving record.

Anyone under the age of 25 years of age on the date of the offense must contact the court prior to requesting Deferred.

Anyone going more than 24 miles over the speed limit must come before the judge on their court date to request a deferred disposition

To request deferred disposition you must:

1. Have a valid Texas Driver's license .If you have a commercial drivers you are not eligible for a deferred disposition.
2. Pay the amount of the violation plus \$50.00
3. Complete the front side of this form and return with the payment

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYMENT AGREEMENT

A payment agreement is an option to take care of violations that you cannot pay in full. Everyone is eligible for payment agreements. The agreement is paid once a month: \$50.00 a month on violations with a total under \$400.00 and \$100.00 a month on violations with a total of more than \$400.00. All payment agreements that are not paid in full within 30 days have a \$15.00 per violation time payment fee added on.

A payment agreement is a good option but if you fail to make a payment and do not contact the court, you will be called back before the judge. If you fail to show up when called back before the judge a warrant for your arrest may be issued and you will have to pay the warrant in full. You will also have a hold on your driver's license until the warrant is paid in full.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COURT DATE EXTENSION

You may ask for an extension to the next court date. You will only be granted one and failure to appear for the next court date will result in arrest warrants.

If you are interested in an extension fill out the front of this sheet and bring it before the Judge when you are called.