

YOUR RIGHTS IN COURT

1. You have been charged with a class C Misdemeanor.
2. All class C Misdemeanors are punishable by fines only.
3. No jail time is involved unless you are guilty and refuse to pay a fine.
4. You are entitled to an attorney to represent you in this Court.
5. You are not required to have an attorney. This is something you may handle for yourself if you so choose.
6. You are innocent until proven guilty.

NOT GUILTY: If you choose to plead not guilty;

1. It is up to the State of Texas to prove your guilt to either the Judge or a jury. As the defendant, you have the choice of a jury or bench trial;
2. Tell the Clerk of the Court, and she will supply you with the proper forms to set your case for trial;
3. You must appear at the next Docket Call; and
4. It is improper for the Judge to discuss any of the facts of the case with either you or the State, except in open court with both you and the State's attorney present.

GUILTY OR NOLO CONTENDERE: If you wish to plead guilty or nolo contendere;

1. Tell the Clerk of the Court, and she will supply you with the proper form;
2. But wish to discuss your case with the Judge before paying the fine and costs, tell the Clerk of the Court, and she will supply you with the proper forms and arrange for you to see the Judge;
3. If you possess a valid Texas Driver's License and current liability insurance, you may be eligible to take, under certain conditions, a driving safety course to have a moving violation dismissed. If you wish to exercise this option, tell the Clerk of the Court, and she will supply you with the proper forms;
4. If you need more than 10 days to pay fine, tell the Clerk of the Court, and she will direct you to the county's Judicial Enforcement Department to schedule payments. An additional fine may be added if your case is open more than 30 days;
5. If you are indigent and cannot pay a fine, the Clerk of the Court will arrange for you to see the Judge concerning your legal options to dispose of the fine and costs.