# NOTICE FOR ALL TRAFFIC AND NON-TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS

# The Court has implemented changes during the Coronavirus/ COVID-19 Emergency to provide immediate and temporary relief for all traffic and non-traffic infraction matters.

Additional information and specific forms are available at <u>lacourt.org</u>. You can also call your assigned traffic courthouse location for more information or to have a specific form mailed to you. Please see the list of phone numbers below. You can return completed forms by mail or at your courthouse drop box, or complete and submit the forms online at <u>lacourt.org</u>.

## Below are some frequently asked questions and answers...

## Q. I was ordered by the Court to pay a fine, complete community service or traffic school, but I am currently unable to do so.

All due dates have been extended by 90 days. Other options available include filing an Ability to Pay Petition, setting up a payment plan, or receiving a further extension of a due date.

### Q. I had a court date scheduled but it has been moved. When is my next court date?

All court appearances previously scheduled for any time between March 17, 2020, and June 15, 2020, on a traffic infraction or a nontraffic infraction case have been rescheduled to a new date. If you did not receive notification of your new date, you may visit the court's website at <u>lacourt.org</u>. <u>Please see below for additional options that are now available during the emergency if your matter</u> was previously set for a court hearing.

## Q. I received a ticket with a date to appear, what are my options?

All due dates have been extended by 90 days. Other options available may include paying your ticket and requesting traffic school, if you are eligible. If you would like to resolve your ticket without coming to court but are unable to pay the full amount or would like to request a reduction in sentence, you may complete a form to agree to pay, and submit it with your Ability to Pay petition or any other request such as traffic school, community service, a payment plan, or a further extension. You may also contest your ticket by submitting a trial by declaration, or by scheduling a trial date in court. For more information about either option, see below.

#### **Q**. How do I schedule a court date for trial?

During this emergency, you may request a court trial date by mail or by calling your assigned traffic courthouse, without paying any fines or fees in advance as previously required and without coming to court for a separate arraignment date. You must complete a form or call to request your court trial at least two weeks in advance, and you will be notified of the scheduled trial date.

You may also choose to schedule a court date to appear for an arraignment. At your arraignment, you may enter a "not guilty" plea, request a court trial, and then return on a different date for the scheduled court trial. Or, at your arraignment, you may enter a "no contest" or "guilty" plea and request to be sentenced.

## Q. What is a trial by declaration?

A trial by written declaration allows you to contest your ticket without coming to court. Your case is not heard in open court. Your statement and that of the officer who wrote your ticket and any evidence is reviewed by a judicial officer.

During this emergency, you may have your trial by declaration without paying any fines or fees in advance as previously required.

You may proceed by trial by declaration now whether you have a rescheduled trial date or a new ticket with a current date by which to appear. If you have a trial date, you must return your completed form to the court at least two weeks in advance.

#### Q. What do I do if my California Driver's License is suspended?

If your California driver's license is suspended due to unpaid traffic tickets, you can call the Court to set a future hearing date or resolve your ticket and the Court will request a release of the driver's license hold from the DMV.

Traffic Courthouse Locations	Clerk's Office Call	Automated Traffic
	Center Numbers	Assistance Numbers
Beverly Hills Courthouse	(310) 281-2499	(213) 742-6648
Chatsworth Courthouse	(818) 407-2200	(213) 742-1884
Compton Courthouse	(310) 761-8659	(213) 763-1644
Downey Courthouse	(562) 803-7046	(213) 763-1645
El Monte Courthouse	(626) 401-2299	(213) 742-1928
Glendale Courthouse	(818) 265-6499	(213) 742-1928
Gov. George Deukmejian Courthouse (Long Beach)	(562) 256-2313	(213) 742-8809
Inglewood Courthouse	(310) 419-1399	(213) 742-8860
Metropolitan Courthouse	(213) 745-3201	(213) 742-1884
Michael D. Antonovich Antelope Valley Courthouse	(661) 483-5799	(213) 742-8860
Pasadena Courthouse	(626) 396-3399	(213) 742-1928
Santa Clarita Courthouse	(661) 253-5600	(213) 742-1884
Santa Monica Courthouse	(310) 255-1964	(213) 742-6648
Torrance Courthouse	(310) 787-3699	(213) 742-8860
Van Nuys West Courthouse	(818) 989-6999	(213) 742-1884
West Covina Courthouse	(626) 430-2599	(213) 742-1928