

Safford Justice Court

800 W. Main Street Safford, AZ 85546 • Phone: (928) 428-1210
Business Hours: Monday through Thursday 7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M.

You have just received a ticket – What do you do now? – Follow the instructions below –

Are you under age 18? If you are under 18 you must come to court on any violation.

If you are a juvenile you will need to appear in court with a parent or legal guardian on your court date. Your court date may be the date listed on your complaint or the court may send you notice to appear at another date and time.

If you fail to appear for any court appearance or fail to comply with any court order, the court will direct the Arizona Motor Vehicle Division to suspend your driver's license or driving privilege until you have satisfied the court, or until your 18th birthday.

Are you age 18 or older? You may, or may not, have to come to court.

Whether or not you have to come to court depends on whether you have been cited for a civil traffic violation or a criminal violation. Look at areas **(A, B, C, D, and E)** on the "Arizona Traffic Ticket and Complaint." On the right hand side of each of those sections there are 4 boxes that an officer may check. If the officer checked the CRIMINAL, CRIMINAL TRAFFIC, or PETTY OFFENSE box on any of these sections you will have to come to court.* If, however, only CIVIL TRAFFIC is cited - you may not have to come to court.

*There are two exceptions to the "if criminal – you must come to court" rule. 1st, if you are otherwise eligible for defensive driving school and your speed was no more than 24 miles per hour over the speed limit the judge will allow you to attend defensive driving school for dismissal. Thus 89 in a 65 zone is eligible. 90 in a 65 is not. 2nd, if you live more than 100 miles from the court or have physical impairments that would cause extreme hardship, you may be able to plead guilty at a telephone hearing with the judge. You must submit bond, a guilty plea, a waiver of counsel form and be fingerprinted. Call the court for details on this.

A civil traffic violation may be taken care of by mail or in person at the court clerk's office on or before the appearance date on your ticket. (There is a box that points to your appearance date that looks like this: **AT THE DATE AND TIME INDICATED**) If you fail to respond by your appearance date: a default judgment will be entered against you, the fine imposed, a \$20 late or time payment fee added, your license will be suspended until the entire fine is paid, and the case may be turned over to a collection agency, which will add additional fees.

If 18 years or older and have only been charged with civil traffic offenses you may:

Pay the fine(s): (See section 1 on this side of this paper for details) **or**

Contest the ticket: (See section 2 on this side of this paper for details) **or**

Attend Defensive Driving School: (See reverse side of **Plea/Payment Insert**)

Section 1: Instructions to Pay the Fine

Step A: Determine the Bond/Fine amount:

Look for the section number of the violation on your copy of the complaint. This is the box located immediately to the right of the **A** on the complaint and is labeled "SECTION". Enter that number in the "Section" column on the **Plea/Payment Insert**. Look at the Bond/Fine Schedule on the other side of this paper to find the amount for the section number on your complaint. Enter the amount in the "Bond/Fine" column on the **Plea/Payment Insert**.

Repeat for any other violation on your ticket, **(B, C, D, and E)**. Then total all bonds/fines and write the total in "Total amount due" box.

Note: If your bond/fine amount is not paid in full by your appearance date a \$20 time payment fee must be added.

Step B: Check the box that says you wish to plead **Responsible**. Sign where it says "Sign Here." Then fill in the required info below the "Sign Here" line.

Step C: Prepare and enclose payment:

You may pay by money order, cashier's check or credit card. Payable to **Safford Justice Court**. You may pay cash if you come to the court window. (Please do not send cash in the mail.) The Safford Justice Court does not accept personal checks. Fill out the **Payment Section**. Mail the **Plea/Payment Insert** along with the payment to the court.

Section 2: Instructions to Contest the Ticket

Step A: Determine the Bond/Fine amount:

Follow the instructions under Section 1, Step A to determine the Bond/Fine amount.

Step B: Check the box on the **Plea/Payment Insert** that says you wish to plead **Not Responsible**. Sign where it says "Sign Here." Then fill out the required information below the signature line.

Step C: Prepare and enclose payment:

Fill out the **Payment Section**. Mail the **Plea/Payment Insert** along with the payment to the court. Pay by money order or cashier's check to **Safford Justice Court**. You may pay cash at the court window. (Do not send cash in the mail.) No personal checks.

BOND / FINE SCHEDULE / (Effective beginning 1-1-19)

28-448A (Failure to notify department of address change)	\$137
28-644A (Failure to obey traffic control device).	\$137
28-645A(3)a (Red Light Violation)	\$192
Note: If you have been cited for a red light violation and are found Responsible for the violation by the court (either by pleading responsible or by challenging the ticket at a hearing and losing), you will be required to attend a Traffic Survival School (TSS) class by the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD). (TSS is a separate class from Defensive Driving School). If however, you are eligible for Defensive Driving School and complete the class, the violation will be dismissed and you will not be subject to the MVD requirement to attend a TSS class.	
28-645 (Traffic light violations)	\$137
28-646 (Pedestrian control signals or pedestrian loitering while crossing) . .	\$137
28-647.1 (Flashing Red Stop Signal violation)	\$192
The note under 28-645A(3)a regarding TSS also applies to this violation	
28-647.2 (Flashing yellow caution signal)	\$137
28-648 (Display of unauthorized signs, signals or markings)	\$137
28-651 (Use of private property to avoid traffic control device)	\$137
28-701A (Failure to Control to avoid collision)	\$315
28-701A (Speeding) . . . <u>See Miles per Hour over the Speed Limit chart below</u>	
1 - 9	\$137
10 - 14	\$192
15 - 19	\$226
20 - 24	\$264
25 - 29	\$315
30 - 34	\$404
35 - 39	\$493
40 - 44	\$582
45 ↑ call court	
28-701E (Speed less than reasonable and prudent)	\$137
28-701.02 (Excessive Speed) (Criminal - Appear in court unless DDS eligible)	
If you are otherwise eligible for Defensive Driving School and your speed was no more than 24 miles per hour over the speed limit the judge will allow you to attend defensive driving school for dismissal of a 28-701.02 charge. If you were doing 25 mph over the speed limit or higher you are not eligible for DDS.	
28-702.01A (Waste of Finite Resources) (56 to 65 in a 55 zone)	\$103
No points on license. Also an insurance company may not consider a Waste of Finite Resources citation as a moving traffic violation.	
28-702.01C (More than 65 mph in a 55 mph zone) . . . <u>See 28-701A chart above</u>	
28-702.04 (Speeding) . . <u>See 28-701A chart above</u>	
28-704A (Speed Impeding Traffic)	\$137
28-721 (Failure to drive on the right side of the roadway)	\$137
28-722 through 28-725 (Failure to pass properly)	\$137
28-726 (Driving left of center)	\$137
28-727 (Passing in no-passing zone)	\$192
28-729.1 (Unsafe lane change)	\$192
28-730 (Following too closely)	\$137
28-751 (Improper turn)	\$137
28-754B (Failure to signal at least 100 ft prior to turn)	\$103
28-771 through 28- 776 (Failure to yield right of way, etc.)	\$137
28-791 through 28-796 (Pedestrian violations)	\$137
28-811 through 28-817 (Bicycle violations)	\$103
28-851 (driving through a closed railroad gate or barrier)	\$192
28-852 through 28-854 (Other Railroad crossing violations)	\$192

28-855 (Stop sign / Yield sign violations)	\$137
28-856 (Emerging from alley, driveway or building improperly)	\$137
28-857 (Passing a School Bus)	\$582
If 2 nd or 3 rd offense within 36 months call court	
28-871, 28-873 or 28-874 (Improper stopping, standing or parking)	\$137
28-904 (Driving on sidewalk)	\$137
28-907A (Child passenger restraint system)	\$192
If 1 st offense the Court may suspend the fine if you make a sufficient showing to the court that the vehicle is now equipped with a child seat.	
28-909A (Seat belt violation)	\$103
28-921 (Equipment violation)	\$137
28-955 (Muffler violation)	\$315
If 1 st offense the Court may suspend the fine if you prove to the court that you have now repaired or installed an adequate muffler.	
28-959.01B (Window tint violation)	\$137
28-2153A or 28-2532 (Registration violation)	\$671
If you had valid registration at the time you received the ticket but couldn't show it to the officer you may have the violation dismissed if you show proof to the court <u>by your court date</u> .	
If you didn't have valid registration at the time of the ticket, but have subsequently registered the vehicle, you may have the fine amount reduced to \$192 if you bring proof of registration to the court.	
28-3151 (Driving without a valid or properly endorsed license)	\$192
28-3169 (Driving without license in possession)	\$192
This charge may be dismissed if the Defendant shows the court proof that they had a driver's license that was valid at the time of the violation.	
28-3473 (Driving on a Suspended License) Criminal - must appear in court.	
If the only reason your license is suspended is because a court suspended your license for not paying a fine (pursuant to 28-1601), you may be able to have this violation dismissed if you get your license reinstated and bring proof to the court.	
28-3482 (Driving on a Suspended License) Civil	\$315
28-4135 A,B, or C (No proof of insurance)	\$1027
If 2 nd within 36 months . . \$1472 If 3 rd within 36 months . . \$1917	
If you had valid insurance at the time you received the ticket but couldn't show it to the officer - you may have the violation dismissed if you show proof to the court (<u>by your court date</u>). If you did not have insurance at citation time but then prove to the court that A) you have now acquired a 6 month or longer policy, and B) you bring the court a copy of your MVD driving record that proves that you have not been found responsible for a violation of 28-4135 in the past 24 months or not more than one violation within the past 36 months, you may have the fine reduced to \$122 \$137	
28-4139A (License plate violation)	\$582

The above figures include the Base Fines to which are added several state and county mandated surcharges: a \$20 Graham County Fee, a \$10 Court Security Fee, a 78% surcharge, a \$20 probation assessment, a \$13 additional assessment, a \$9 Victim Rights surcharge, a \$2 Victim Rights Enforcement surcharge, a \$4 Peace Officer Training assessment.

Items in **bold** are eligible for Defensive Driving School (DDS). For additional information on DDS and DDS eligibility see reverse side of **Plea/Payment Insert**.

Plea/Payment Insert

	Section #	Bond/Fine
A.	_____	_____
B.	_____	_____
C.	_____	_____
D.	_____	_____
E.	_____	_____

add \$20 time payment
fee if late _____

Total Amount Due:

I plead **Responsible** to the charge(s) listed on my complaint. I am enclosing the amount listed on the bond schedule, and I do not want a hearing. If I choose this option, this case will be finished and I do not have to appear in court.

I plead **Not Responsible** to the charge(s) listed on my complaint and wish to have a hearing. I understand that if I choose this option I will be unable to attend Defensive Driving School for dismissal of this violation.

I have read the instructions and have entered a plea by checking the appropriate box above.

Sign Here: _____

Printed name: _____
(as it appears on the citation)

Birthdate: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Complaint #: _____

Payment Section: Write in the box the amount enclosed.

Amount enclosed Money Order Cashier's Check

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Defensive Driving School Information

Defensive Driving School (DDS) is a court administered program which presents traffic safety classes through court certified commercial schools. Attending DDS allows you to get one eligible violation dismissed.

What are the benefits?

- No points are assessed to your motor vehicle record
- Your insurance rate does not go up
- You will learn valuable traffic information, driving techniques and laws

Some details:

- You may only attend DDS for one eligible violation every 24 months (violation date to violation date)
- You may not attend DDS if you have a Commercial Driver's license (this is the case even if you were not driving a commercial vehicle when cited)
- You are not eligible if the violation resulted in death or serious physical injury.
- You must schedule DDS at least 7 days before the appearance date on your citation. You must call the court at (928) 428-1210 to notify the Clerk of your date to attend DDS. You must complete the course within 30 days of your appearance date.
- DDS will cost between \$155 and \$255.

What violations are eligible for DDS?

- The violations that are eligible are denoted in the Bond/Fine Schedule in **bold**.
- On violations of 28-701.02 the court will give permission for you to attend DDS if you are otherwise eligible and your speed was no more than 24 miles per hour over the speed limit. Thus 89 in a 65 zone is eligible. 90 in a 65 is not.

I don't think I am responsible for the violation the officer cited me for. Can I have a hearing before a judge and then go to DDS later if I lose?

- **No.** You may ask for a hearing or attend DDS but you cannot do both.

For more information about DDS or on DDS providers call 1-888-334-5565 or consult the Supreme Court's Website: www.azdrive.com

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