

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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MEMORANDUM TO: Municipal Court Judges
Municipal Court Directors
Municipal Court Administrators

FROM: Richard J. Williams, J.A.D. *RJW*

SUBJECT: **Revised Statewide Violations Bureau Schedule**
Revised Local Supplemental Violations Bureau
Schedule
Revised Uniform Traffic Ticket and Instructions

DATE: October 9, 2003

Attached are the revised versions of the Uniform Traffic Ticket (UTT) and Statewide Violations Bureau Schedule. I have also attached instructions regarding the Local Supplemental Violations Bureau Schedule that require additional assessments to traffic and parking related payable amounts on your Local Schedule. **These revisions have been approved and are effective December 21, 2003.**

The modifications to these Schedules and the UTT are necessary because of the recent passage of three laws:

- P.L. 2003, c. 131, which, among other provisions, creates safe corridors in which fines are doubled and amends laws concerning commercial motor vehicles. This law also creates the "Highway Safety Fund."
- P.L. 2003, c. 183, which, among other provisions, requires a \$2.00 assessment for deposit in the newly-created "New Jersey Forensic DNA Laboratory Fund" (DNA Fund).
- P.L. 2003, c. 144, which requires a \$1.00 assessment for deposit in the "Autism Medical Research and Treatment Fund" (Autism Fund).

Below I have highlighted the primary changes to each of these documents and outlined the reasons for each modification:

1. **STATEWIDE VIOLATIONS BUREAU SCHEDULE**

A. **DNA and Autism Legislation**

The recent DNA and Autism legislative changes have required modification of the Statewide Violations Bureau Schedule. In general, the changes have been limited to increasing the payable amounts for all traffic-related offenses by \$3.00 to reflect the new assessments. ATS/ACS accounting procedures necessary to implement the financial record keeping aspects of this legislation will be distributed separately.

B. **Safe Corridor Legislation**

Select offenses have been designated as "Safe Corridor" violations, as required by the passage of P.L. 2003, c. 131. The Violations Bureau Schedule has been updated to reflect the doubled fine amount for those violations that occur on roadways designated as safe corridors. The doubled portion of the fine will be distributed to the new "Highway Safety Fund." ATS/ACS accounting procedures necessary to implement the financial record keeping aspects of this legislation will be distributed separately.

C. **Increase in the Payable Amount for Littering Violations Issued on Toll Roads**

The payable amount for littering violations issued on the Garden State Parkway (N.J.A.C. 19:8-2.1), NJ Turnpike (N.J.A.C. 19:9-1.10) and the Atlantic City Expressway (N.J.A.C. 19:2-5.1) have been increased to \$226.00. This change was made to make those offenses consistent with the payable amount for N.J.S.A. 39:4-64 (Littering).

D. **The Removal of Speeding Violations of 20 MPH or More Occurring in a Safe Corridor or Construction Zone**

Speeding violations (N.J.S.A. 39:4-98) of 20 MPH or more that occur in a safe corridor or construction zone have been removed from the Statewide Schedule. As a result, a mandatory court appearance is now required for speeding violations of that kind.

In addition, the payable amounts of several marine shellfish offenses have been increased.

2. REVISED UNIFORM TRAFFIC TICKET

Effective December 21, 2003, several changes have also been approved for the UTT. In order to permit existing supplies to be exhausted, the previously prescribed UTT may be used until February 1, 2004, provided that a stick-on label containing the increased payable amounts is placed on the back of the defendant's copy of each ticket issued after December 21, 2003. Please note that there are two different payable amounts listed for "Failure to Wear a Seatbelt": \$44.00 through February 1, 2004, and \$45.00 on or after February 2, 2004. The \$45.00 payable amount reflects the addition of the \$1.00 assessment for the Autism Fund. Due to the maximum statutory fine for this violation, the payable amount could not be increased simultaneously.

The front of all copies of the UTT have been changed to include check boxes for "Safe Corridor" and "Out of Service" violations. The "Safe Corridor" box will allow the police officer to indicate when a violation took place in a safe corridor, as created in P.L. 2003, c. 131. The "Out of Service" box will allow the officer to indicate that a commercial motor vehicle has been immediately taken out of service.

The back of the defendant's copy of the UTT has also been changed. Specifically, in addition to the new payable amounts outlined above, instructions to the defendant have been simplified and streamlined.

The back of the court's copy has also been modified to allow the judge to record in more detail how a case was disposed. These new disposition codes were developed by the Conference of Presiding Judges-Municipal Courts. ATS/ACS is being modified to record these new codes. Municipal court judges will receive more information on the new disposition codes, including when ATS/ACS will be modified, at the upcoming Annual Judicial Conference of Municipal Court Judges.

3. LOCAL SUPPLEMENTAL VIOLATIONS BUREAU SCHEDULE

The instructions and requirements for your Local Schedule have also been changed to reflect the new legislation. The format of the attached Local Schedule parallels that of the revised Statewide Violations Bureau Schedule. As a result of the DNA and Autism legislation, a total of \$3.00 must be added to the fine amount for each traffic and parking related offense listed on Local Schedules. Effective December 21, 2003, \$2.00 of the payable amount will be distributed to the DNA Fund and the minimum payable amount for traffic or parking matters will increase to \$9.00. Effective February 2, 2003, \$1.00 of the payable amount will be distributed to the Autism Fund and the minimum payable amount increases to \$10.00. As in the past, payable amounts from your Local Schedule may be selectively printed on the back of the UTT as a convenience to defendants and the municipal court.

Please contact John Podeszwa, Chief, Technical Services Unit, Municipal Court Services Division, at (609) 292-5286 if you have any questions regarding these matters.

Attachments

c: Assignments Judges
Presiding Judges-Municipal Courts
John P. McCarthy, Jr., Director, Trial Court Services
Trial Court Administrators
Municipal Division Managers
Robert W. Smith, Assistant Director, Municipal Court Services
John Podeszwa, Chief, Technical Assistance Unit, Municipal Court Services
Lawrence E. Walton, Chief, Judicial Services Unit, Municipal Court Services