

43rd District Court
Hazel Park Division

43 East Nine Mile Road
Hazel Park, Michigan 48030
Phone: (248) 547-3034
Fax: (248) 546-4088

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Diana Nimmoor
Phone: (248) 547-3034

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HAZEL PARK COURT GRANTS AMNESTY FOR FORGOTTEN TICKETS

Traffic or parking tickets that somehow slipped under the car seat or civil infraction fines that somehow missed the regular bill paying schedules can now be paid without penalty at Hazel Park's 43rd District Court – if the violator makes a personal appearance during the Court's "Amnesty Period" from May 2nd through May 31st, 2011.

Judge Charles Goedert has instituted this Amnesty Program to encourage individuals to clear up any delinquent payable citations. In many cases, these delinquencies have gone long enough to cause bench warrants or default judgments to be issued. Judge Goedert has authorized that for this period of amnesty, the \$100 bench warrant fee and the 20% late penalty fee will be waived as an incentive to clear up these matters. In addition, the \$35 default judgment fee will be waived on suspended civil infractions (for those who have had their license suspended by the Michigan Department of State, the \$45.00 clearance fee must still be paid).

"Often violators have made an honest mistake, were in a difficult situation, or simply forgot to pay the ticket and, after time has passed, are embarrassed or find it financially more difficult to pay the added penalties and fees," Judge Goedert explained. "While the Court will ultimately pursue these delinquencies through more rigorous methods, this program gives individuals a chance to have those additional fees "forgiven" – and ultimately saves the Court and the City the additional cost of pursuing the delinquencies. To my knowledge, Hazel Park's 43rd District Court has never conducted an Amnesty Program before, so this is a rare opportunity for people to achieve payment compliance and save money while also reducing the Court's cost of pursuing delinquent violators."

Individuals can present themselves in person at the 43rd District Court – Hazel Park Division, 43 E. Nine Mile Road, Hazel Park, Michigan 48030, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the month of May, 2011. Payable traffic violations, parking tickets and civil infractions are included and tickets must be paid in full, in cash or by major credit card. No payment plans or personal checks will be accepted. There will be no exceptions made regarding these conditions and, after this Amnesty Period, no further consideration will be given.

Garnishment of wages and bankruptcy cases do not qualify under the Amnesty Program.

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