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CALIFORNIA COURTS
THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF CALIFORNIA

Request a Fine Reduction

This online system is an optional way to request a fine reduction for your traffic ticket in cases of financial need.

Use this tool to:

- Request a reduction in your traffic fine
- Request a payment plan
- Request Community Service
- Request more time to pay your ticket

If you wish to contest the ticket or resolve the matter in person, please contact your Court.

Refer to your reminder notice

MyCitations:
Ability to Pay
Determinations
and Online Traffic

Background

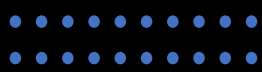
- 2016-2019 USDOJ “Price of Justice” Grant
 - \$455,000 in funding to study ability to pay and prototype an online system
- 2018-2019 State Budget
 - Formalized a pilot program
 - Tulare
 - Fresno
 - Shasta
 - Santa Clara
 - Ventura
 - San Francisco
 - Monterey

Background

- 2021-2022 State Budget Proposal
 - Authorizes the pilot to expand statewide
 - Includes backfill funding for Ability to Pay adjustments
 - Further supports online trial options

Ability to Pay Determinations

- Over 3 million traffic infraction citations issued statewide each year
- More than 17% of Californians live in poverty
- Average amount owed per citation \$600-\$700



Making a Request

For the Litigant:

- Collects personal information similar to fee waiver form, but streamlined
- Provides chat bot help
- Designed to address new and old violations, including online plea
- Provides an emailed court order approximately 10 days after submission



Reviewing a Request

For the Court:

- Judicial Officer and Court Clerk modules
- Organizes litigant request and calculates a reduction recommendation
- Interfaces with CMS

MyCitations Demonstration

System Use to Date:

*April 2019 through
November 2020*

The Litigants

- 10,935 requests
- 6,865 litigants
- Over half reported receiving public benefits
- Over 85% reported incomes below poverty line
- Average of 447 days with outstanding debt

Results to Date:

*April 2019 through
November 2020*

The Fines and Fees:

- \$7,531,329 initially owed
(average \$689 per ticket)
- 76.5% approved for a
reduction
- Adjusted to \$4,728,262
(average \$347 per ticket)

MyCitations: Future Features

- Online Trial by Declaration
- Access to MyCitations data with business intelligence tools for analysis
- Continued user-centered design enhancements