

DOS Drivers License Suspensions for Non-Payment of Costs

Criminal & Traffic Suspensions/Withdrawals & other related issues

Presented by Amanda Hughes
Administrative Office of the Courts
Sept 2022 State Court Clerk's Conference



2019 Public Chapter 438

2019 Public Chapter 438 was passed as a response to the federal lawsuits filed in 2017 halting suspensions due to Failure to Pay (FTP) court cost.

Thomas Suit Filed January 2017 - Criminal \ Robinson Suit Filed Sept 2017

PC438 made changes in both TCA 55-50-502 (j) - Traffic & TCA 40-24-105(b) - Criminal to reactivate processes

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DL Suspensions for Non-Payment of Criminal & Traffic Costs

Requires payment plan on any that do not pay in full.

TCA 55-50-502 (j) - Traffic

"The court shall require every licensee who is convicted of a driving offense and who does not pay the assessed fines and costs in full on the date of disposition to make payments pursuant to an installment payment plan."

TCA 40-24-105(b) - Criminal

"Any person who is issued a license under title 55 and who has not paid all litigation taxes, court costs, and fines assessed as a result of disposition of any offense under the criminal laws of this state within one (1) year of the date of the completion of the sentence shall enter into an installment payment plan with the clerk of the court ordering disposition of the offense to make payments on the taxes, costs, and fines owed."



Court Payment Plans

Various ways courts are meeting this requirement:

- 1. Judge announces in open court a set amount per month (i.e. \$50.00/M)
- 2. Judge writes the pay plan on the judgment doc/citation
- 3. Clerk in court sets pay agreement with defendant (payment sheets)



Amount of payment must be what the defendant can pay.

Any court payment plan must be reasonable and based on a person's income and ability to pay.

If the defendant requests a lower payment amount, the clerk must reset the amount due.

"A person may request, and the court clerk shall grant, modifications to a payment plan upon a change in the person's financial circumstances or upon good cause shown."



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRAFFIC AND CRIMINAL

- o Traffic Suspends based on Next Due Date in Payment Agreement
- Criminal Can not be suspend until 1 year from the completion of the sentence

TnCIS - New Field on Payment Agreement 'Suspension Date - DOS CC' this field is required if criminal charges are on the case. Criminal charges will NOT pick up until that date is missed.

Party Name:	(Select one)
Payment Schedule:	(Select one)
Begin Date:	
Next Due Date:	
Suspension Date (DOS CC):	
Agreement Date:	
Agreement Number:	
Payment Amount:	



Defendant can be re-reported multiple times.

- Missed payment DOS issues 30-day notice to pay in full or reestablish the payment plan (make a payment).
 - o If done within the 30 days NO ACTION
 - Past 30 days suspended
- Once suspended, the Defendant may reestablish a payment plan by making a payment.
- Fails to comply again and does not comply until after the 30-day DOS notice
 - Required to obtain a court order for a restricted license and must apply for the restricted license at the drivers service center. The restricted license will maintain in effect until paid in full.

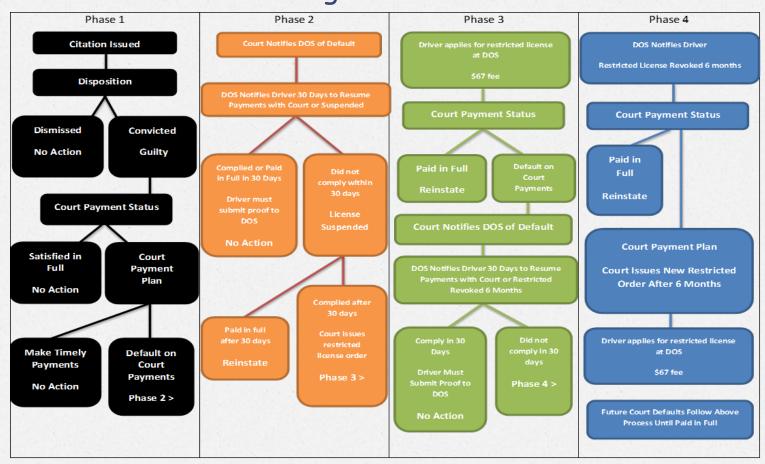


Defendant can be re-reported over and over again. (cont.)

- o If they default again on the payment plan, while on restricted, they again have 30 days to comply by paying in full or reestablishing the payment plan (i.e. make a payment).
- If they do so within the 30 days NO action the restricted license is still good.
- If after the 30 day window their license is then revoked for 6 months.
- If they pay in full and pay reinstatement fees, 6 month revocation can be lifted.
- If not, after the 6 months, they can reapply for a restricted license.



Public Chapter 438 Timeline 111th Legislative Session





Payment Plan Forms in TnCIS

- Print Reports DOS Withdrawal Request
- 3 Options (important to choose correctly)
 - 1. Criminal Cost
 - 2. Traffic FTP
 - 3 Traffic FTA
- O Case Number Search for Case Number
- Satisfied Date Date Payment Received
- Paid in Full Checkbox Places label on bottom of report
 - Checked = 'PAID IN FULL'
 - Unchecked = 'PAYMENT PLAN ESTABLISHED'





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Selection Criteria	
DOS Interface Type:	Department of Safety
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Reporting Type:	(Select one) Criminal Cost
Case Number:	Traffic - Failure to Pay
Satisfied Date:	Traffic - Failure to Appear
	Paid in full

Approved Request for Criminal Cost Withdrawal Form

Clerk Name Court Title Court Address Court Phone

Request for Criminal Cost Withdrawal



Request Pursuant to Criminal Cost Suspension Only T.C.A. 40-24-105 (b)(1)

Defendant's Name		
Driver's License Numbe	er	
Violation Date (must match v	violation date reported on suspension request)	
Disposition Date (must make	ch disposition date reported on suspension request)	
Court Satisfied Date		
006 – Court Satisfied		
	(must match case number reported on suspension request) nverted case, please report the converted refere	
Courts 5-digit Court Cod	de	
Comments (Optional):		
I certify the above to be true a	and accurate	
		Clerk/Deputy Clerk
12/2019	Withdrawal	Version 1.0

Approved Request for Traffic Cost Withdrawal Form

Clerk, Any County Circuit Crt Clerk Any County GS Court PO Box 488 Any City, TN 33333 (999)999-9999

Request for Traffic Cost Withdrawal



Request Pursuant to Traffic Cost Suspension Only T.C.A. 55-50-502(j)

Court Satisfied Date:	02/08/2022				
3 Digit Reason Code:	004				
004 - Payment Plan 006 - Court Satisfied	Established with the Court Lin Full				
Judge / Clerk Signature		Date			
VIOL	ATION INFORMATION	DI	EFENDANT INFORMATION		
LOCATION:	Any County	NAME / ADDRESS:	Defendant Name Address 1		
DATE (VIOLATION): COURT CASE #:			Address 2 City, State, Zip		
CITATION #:	2110048471	DL NUMBER:	12313139		
OFFICER NAME:	Not Specified	DL STATE:	TN		
OFFICER AGENCY:	Tn Highway Patrol	DATE OF BIRTH:	02/16/1976		
TCA CODE:	55-8-152	RACE:			
TCA DESC:	SPEEDING	SEX:	M		
DATE (DISPOSITION):	02/07/2022				
TOTAL DUE:	\$0.00				

DATE: 02/09/2022 COURT ID: 20011

CLERK: Clerk, County Circuit Court Clerk

COURT: County GS Court

PAYMENT PLAN ESTABLISHED



Law also provides for indigency affidavit being filed

"Court to determine if taxes, fines and cost should be suspended. After reevaluation, if the court finds the person cannot pay, cost can be waived by the court."

Mandatory Suspensions where payment plans are not allowed:

- * DUI
- * Implied Consent
- Hit and Run/Leaving the Scene of an Accident, Personal Injury or Property Damage with a CDL license and not insured on the date of the crash
- Fleeing/Evading Police Roadblock
- * Reckless Endangerment by Vehicle (Felony)
- Vehicular Assault, Aggravated Vehicular Assault
- Vehicular Homicide/Manslaughter, Aggravated Vehicular Homicide/Manslaughter
- Human Trafficking
- Using Motor Vehicle in a Felony
- ❖ Two Reckless Driving Violations within a 12-month period
- Driving off without paying for fuel
- Driving While Possessing Meth
- Speed/Contest Racing
- Driving after Convicted of Habitual Offender (Only if violation occurred prior to 1/1/2019)
- ❖ Habitual Offender (Only if violation occurred prior to 1/1/2019)
- * Altered/Counterfeit License
- * Theft of a Vehicle or Part of a Vehicle
- Using Motor Vehicle in Felony



Questions Answered:

Restricted License and Multiple Cases

Defendant is only eligible for a restricted DL on one case. For example, if you have an FTP Citation and a criminal case. One must be cleared before a restricted can be allowed on the other.

TnCIS Corrections Filed

We no longer send any corrections to DOS including the following:

Driver Disposition
Driver's License Number
Driver's License State
Driver's License Type
Last Name
First Name
Address State
Date of Birth

Per DOS, Corrections must be sent and processed manually to email.court@tn.gov or faxed to 615-401-2523. Corrections are not processed electronically.

Most courts make copies of the court action report and email them to DOS.



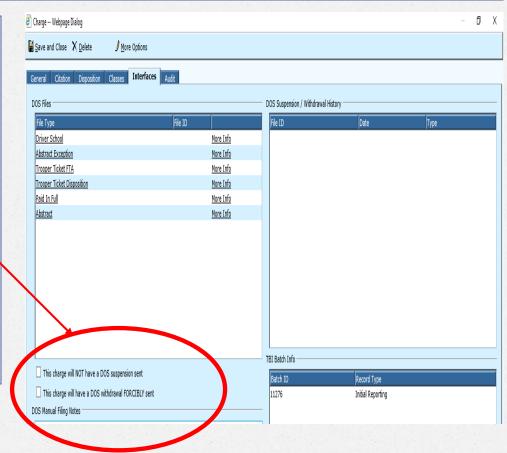
Court Access to Driving Records - eServices Portal

- Allows access to view driver reinstatement statuses at Department of Safety
- To acquire access, contact <u>Tiffanie.Morgan@tn.gov</u> or (615)251-5248
- * Each user must sign an Acceptable Use Policy
- ID and temporary password will be assigned to access the court portal https://dl.safety.tn.gov/_/
- * A Court Portal account will automatically close if 60 days of inactivity



TnCIS Don't's:

Never use the following checkboxes to force withdrawal or force something not to send without discussing with support.





Questions? Feedback?

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Liaison

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