

Superior Court of California County of Orange

NEWS RELEASE

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Superior Court Announces New Program Allowing People to Reserve a Court Date in Advance for Traffic Cases

Santa Ana, CA – It used to be you had to drive to the courthouse and wait in line at the clerk's office to schedule a traffic or minor offense hearing. This is no longer necessary with the court's new automated hearing reservation system. Now you can simply schedule an appointment online at the Superior Court website: www.occourts.org or by phone at 877-872-2122. This saves litigants a trip to the courthouse and the time waiting in line. It also helps balance the court's workload and reduces the clerical work associated with scheduling hearings.

"The new system, tested at the West Justice Center in Westminster, was a resounding success and long lines at the traffic window were all but eliminated," said Judge Steven D. Bromberg.

Currently, individuals requesting a hearing regarding their traffic citation must come to the court between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. to get on the calendar for a hearing that day. If there are a lot of cases already scheduled, people still in line after the cutoff time at 10:00 a.m. must return another day. The new reservation system helps resolve the morning rush problem, the hassle of finding a parking space, and eliminates the risk of having to come back another day.

Web access to the court date reservation system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To reserve a court date, go to the web site and enter a citation number or an OC Pay Number, along with either a drivers' license number, vehicle license number, or a date of birth. Once you log on, the reservation system offers six court days from which you can select a court hearing date most convenient to you. If you provide an email address, the court will send a confirmation regarding the court hearing that displays the case information, date and time of the appearance, and reservation number.

Cancellations can also be done through the new reservation system, either online or by phone. You can also come to the clerk's office. Cancellation must be requested at least four days before the scheduled court hearing.

If you do not want a hearing, and admit guilt, no personal appearance is required. Paying the fine can be handled by telephone, by mail, or at the court's website by paying or posting the bail amount and/or providing proof of correction.

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