

GETTING YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE BACK

Disclaimer: *The forms and information provided on here are for general informational purposes only and are not legal advice. They should not be considered a substitute for professional legal advice. Metropolitan Public Defender, Inc., does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, or applicability of the information provided, and does not guarantee that you will obtain the relief sought by use of these forms. Your use of these forms (and this information) is at your own risk. Use of these forms does not create an attorney-client relationship between you and the Metropolitan Public Defender, Inc. Each legal situation is unique, and you should consult with a qualified attorney to obtain advice tailored to your specific circumstances.*

Step 1: Call the Oregon DMV at 503-299-9999

- Ask about why the license is suspended.
 - Find out the court(s) where money is owed. Write down the information that the DMV gives you.
-

NOTE: An unpaid traffic citation is the most common reason for license suspension. However, licenses can be suspended if child support is owed, accident reports were not filed, or a person was driving while uninsured.

Step 2: Call the Court

- Call each court and get the following information:
 - Citation Number and Date
 - Reason for Citation
 - Citation Amount
 - What the Court's policy is for getting the license reinstated
 - Whether the Court has programs or processes for waiving fees
 - Whether the Court sent the citation to a collections agency
 - If yes, gather the name and phone number of the collections agency, and the date it was sent to them. Then go to **Step 3**
 - If no, skip to **Step 4**
-

Step 3: Call the Collections Agency

- Call the collections agency and confirm the current citation amount
 - **Do not** make payment arrangements with the collections agency. Work directly with the Court instead.
-

Step 4: Draft the Court a Letter

- Write the Court a letter. See the **Letter Template** on page 2
- Mail the letter to the Court
- Check back with the Court if it has not sent a response in 30 days.

Request to Waive Fines

Court Name: _____

Court Address: _____

Citation Number(s): _____

Your Honor,

I owe \$_____ to the Court because of traffic citation(s). My driver's license has been suspended because of these unpaid traffic fines.

I am unable to pay this amount. Here is my **monthly income**:

	Monthly Amount
Employment	
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	
Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)	
Child support	
Disability benefits	
Other	
Total	

Here are my estimated **monthly expenses**:

	Monthly Amount
Car payment, car insurance, gas	
Medical expenses	
Costs related to children	
Rent	
Utilities (electricity, water, garbage, internet, gas)	
Food	
House supplies (including pet supplies)	
Other	
Total	

Based on my income and expenses, I cannot afford to pay the traffic citation(s). I need my driver's license because _____

Under ORS 153.021 and ORS 161.685(5), courts may waive or reduce fines when such relief is requested. I respectfully ask that the Court (1) pull my fines back from collections (if applicable); (2) waive or reduce the amount I owe; (3) place me on a monthly payment plan of no more than \$_____ per month; and (4) send a notice of reinstatement to the DMV so that I may regain my driving privileges.

Sincerely,

Name

Phone

Email

Mailing address

COURT NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS

Traffic tickets can be issued from circuit courts, municipal courts, or justice courts. Oregon is divided into 27 judicial districts. Every judicial district has a **circuit court**, which hears criminal, civil, traffic, and many other types of cases. **Municipal courts** and **justice courts** are local, city courts. There are approximately 180 municipal and justice courts in Oregon.

County Circuit Courts

Baker County Circuit Court 541-523-6303	Gilliam County Circuit Court 541-256-1008
Benton County Circuit Court 541-243-7850	Grant County Circuit Court 541-575-1438
Clackamas County Circuit Court 503-655-8447	Harney County Circuit Court 541-573-5207
Clatsop County Circuit Court 503-325-8555	Hood River County Circuit Court 541-386-3535
Columbia County Circuit Court 503-397-2327	Jackson County Circuit Court 541-776-7171
Coos County Circuit Court 541-396-8372	Jefferson County Circuit Court 541-475-3317
Crook County Circuit Court 541-447-6541	Josephine County Circuit Court 541-476-2309
Curry County Circuit Court 541-373-6894	Klamath County Circuit Court 541-883-5503
Deschutes County Circuit Court 541-388-5300	Lake County Circuit Court 541-947-6051
Douglas County Circuit Court 541-957-2470	Lane County Circuit Court 541-682-4020

Lincoln County Circuit Court 541-265-4236	Tillamook County Circuit Court 503-842-2596
Linn County Circuit Court 541-967-3845	Umatilla County Circuit Court 541-278-0341
Malheur County Circuit Court 541-523-6303	Union County Circuit Court 541-962-9500
Marion County Circuit Court 503-588-5105	Wallowa County Circuit Court 541-426-4991
Morrow County Circuit Court 541-676-5264	Wasco County Circuit Court 541-506-2700
Multnomah County Circuit Court 971-274-0500	Washington County Circuit Court 503-846-8888
Polk County Circuit Court 541-623-3154	Wheeler County Circuit Court 541-763-2541
Sherman County Circuit Court 541-565-3650	Yamhill County Circuit Court 503-434-7530

Municipal and Justice Courts

There are 180 municipal and justice courts in Oregon. This list only includes courts in the Portland metropolitan area. For a complete list of all municipal and justice courts, visit <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/pages/other-courts.aspx>.

Beaverton Municipal Court 503-526-2290	Oregon City Municipal Court 503-905-1303
Canby Municipal Court 503-266-4027	Sherwood Municipal Court 503-625-4225
Clackamas County Justice Court 503-794-3800	Tigard Municipal Court 503-718-2478
Fairview Municipal Court 503-674-6210	Tualatin Municipal Court 503-691-3025
Gladstone Municipal Court 503-656-5225 ext. 3	Troutdale Municipal Court 503-674-7236
Happy Valley Municipal Court 503-783-3822 or 503-783-3848	Washington County Justice Court 503-846-6600
Hillsboro Municipal Court 503-681-6157	West Linn Municipal Court 503-656-4263
Lake Oswego Municipal Court 503-635-0217	Woodburn Municipal Court 503-982-5222 opt. 1
Milwaukie Municipal Court 503-786-7543	