



# eCITATION

## IMPORTANT STATISTICS AS OF JUNE 30, 2020

1,152,843 eCitations issued in past 12 months

16,772,879 eCitations processed since program's inception (1999)

91% of all non-arrestable citations statewide processed through eCitation (electronic vs. paper)

26,952 Law enforcement officers with system access (new officers added weekly)

520 Law enforcement agencies implemented (new agencies added monthly)

Implemented in all 100 county clerk of court offices

## PARTNERS

- eCitation Advisory Committee
- Governor's Highway Safety Program
- Local law enforcement agencies
- N.C. Criminal Justice Information Network
- N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles
- N.C. State Highway Patrol

## WHAT USERS ARE SAYING

### Cary Police Department Senior Officer

"After 18 years in this job, I can say this is one of the best advancements the law enforcement community has gotten."

### Orange County Clerk of Superior Court

"It is truly a system that from theory to implementation has been thoroughly thought out and meets or exceeds expectations in its actual use. The benefits to all users of the system are immeasurable."



In the past 12 months, more than 1.1 million eCitations have been issued in North Carolina. These citations were issued for both criminal and non-criminal violations, such as motor vehicle and seat belt, traffic, hunting and fishing, underage drinking, and speeding violations.

eCitation, the first system of its kind in the nation, fully automates the citation process, producing the North Carolina Uniform Citation in an electronic format and reducing data entry to a single iteration. Using existing wireless connections, eCitation allows officers to create citations and schedule court dates electronically from the patrol car. A portable printer produces a copy of the eCitation for the cited person.

After issuance of the eCitation, the officer transmits the data directly to the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (NCAOC), where it can be immediately accessed by court users statewide. The statewide system, which was custom developed as a joint venture between the NCAOC and the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, includes the following:

- **Officers Component:** This component is loaded on the computer in the patrol car for entering and printing eCitations. It is capable of operating with or without communication coverage.
- **Clerks Component:** Browser-based component used by county clerk staff to monitor and print judgment copies of transmitted eCitations and set court schedules.
- **Interface to Law Enforcement Records Management Systems (RMS):** Provides law enforcement agencies with the capability to electronically download eCitation data for use in local RMS systems, which eliminates dual data entry. It also provides an eCitation printing function.
- **Interface to NCAOC Court Information System:** Receives and stores eCitation data in the Court Information System, making the information available to court staff statewide.
- **Interface to North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles:** Allows officers to query and automatically populate defendant and vehicle information using the driver's license or vehicle plate number
- **Interface with NCAWARE:** Allows transmission from eCitation into NCAWARE that streamlines the process for Law Enforcement Officers in the field by providing a seamless electronic transition from the nonarrest violation process in eCitation to the arrest process in NCAWARE.

The nation's first fully automated system that enables law enforcement officers to create citations and schedule court dates electronically from patrol cars



*eCitation received the 2007 Digital Government (Government-to-Government) award from the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO).*

## INTERAGENCY COMMITMENT

eCitation, a volunteer program that is highly popular and well received by both court and law enforcement communities, is distributed at no cost to participating agencies. NCAOC has further assisted agencies with their implementation by providing grant-funded printers for patrol cars. This successful initiative automates a complex criminal justice process.

The program receives strong commitment from all agencies involved, which makes it an excellent example of collaboration among multiple state and local government agencies, including those in constitutionally separate branches of government.

## BENEFITS

### Speed

- eCitations are written faster, which means officers spend more time patrolling

### Cost Savings

- The elimination of paper citation books saves the state thousands of dollars per year

### Improved Accuracy

- eCitation provides features that enable accurate completion of the citation, auto-population from the NCDMV database, and single data entry, eliminating errors due to re-keying

### Officer Safety

- The “point-and-click” method and speed of creating the eCitation allow the officer to be more vigilant about the defendant and surroundings

### Significant Enhancements Underway

- Integration with NCAWARE to support traffic stops resulting in arrest, such as DWI

### Future Enhancement Opportunities

- Bar code scanning of a driver’s license to assist law enforcement officers
- Provide eCitation for arrest processes, such as DWI
- Inclusion of GPS coordinates to facilitate law enforcement agency citation analysis
- Mobile application for handheld devices

## IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

*(only major releases shown)*

