



TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
WAKE COUNTY
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MEMO

To: Criminal Defense Bar

From: Judge Paul Ridgeway, Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
Judge Robert Rader, Chief District Court Judge
Chris Graves, Chief Magistrate
Lorrin Freeman, District Attorney
Chuck Caldwell, Public Defender
Blair Williams, Clerk of Superior Court
Kellie Myers, Trial Court Administrator

As you are aware, Chief Justice Beasley previously entered an order suspending most court sessions until June 1, 2020 due to the health risks associated with COVID 19 and mass gatherings. In anticipation that some courts will begin to operate again in June, we have developed the following process to allow attorneys representing clients on simple traffic matters with current court dates for June and July 2020 to begin disposing of those cases. Specifically, beginning immediately, attorneys may submit a list of cases to the District Attorney's Office with a proposed negotiated disposition by completing the attached form and emailing it Assistant District Attorney Ashton Slagle. Once a disposition has been accepted, attorneys may either request to be assigned a time to appear in 101 in front of the magistrate, or, attorneys may ask that the judgments be entered into the clerk's system so that they can be paid online through Onlineservices.nccourts.gov.

Cases eligible for consideration include:

- Speeding tickets with speeds no more than 25 miles in excess of the posted speed limit not over 90 miles per hour
- Stop light and stop sign violation cases
- Compliance matters to include registration violations, inspection violations, accident cases with insurance letter, etc.
- Must be currently set in June or July 2020
- Must be ready for disposition

Process

- Complete the attached form listing client name, file number, current charge, requested plea, etc.
- Indicate whether the case will be paid online or if you are requesting to appear in 101.

- Payment online can ONLY be done once case has been updated in Clerks' system. A representative from the District Attorney's Office will email you to notify you when your cases have been updated.
- Payment online will incur a convenience fee to cover the credit card fee. This fee is set by AOC and at this time is not avoidable.
- If you need your client to be considered for a prayer for judgment continued or you wish to appear in 101 to avoid incurring additional fees, you must request to be assigned a time to come on a Monday, Thursday or Friday between 9am-12pm. So that we can control the number of people in court at once, you must appear during this time. Attorneys should wear masks or other appropriate face coverings to court.
- Submit with the form any required documentation including driving record for improper equipment requests, proof of compliance, driving school certificate for drivers under the age of 21
 - During this limited time, the District Attorney's Office will accept online driving courses such as that offered through the National Safety Council

Forms and accompanying documents should be emailed to Ashton Slagle at Mary.A.Slagle@nccourts.org.

Attorneys may begin to submit lists as soon as they have identified their cases that are appropriate to be handled in keeping with these guidelines. Court times will be assigned for days beginning May 4th.

We appreciate your cooperation as we navigate unprecedented times for our courts and our community.

Stay well.

