

CHAPTER 48.

Traffic Violations Bureau.

§ 48.01. Established; hours of operation; establishment of schedule of fines.

§ 48.02. When person charged may elect to appeal at bureau or before city judge.

§ 48.03. Duties generally.

§ 48.04. Records and reports.

§ 48.05. Procedure generally.

Sec. 48.01. Established; hours of operation; establishment of schedule of fines.

(a) The city judge shall establish a traffic violations bureau to assist the court with the clerical work of traffic cases. The bureau shall be in charge of a person and shall be open at such hours as the city judge may designate.

(b) The judge who hears traffic cases shall designate the specified offenses under the traffic ordinances of this city and the state traffic laws in respect to which payments of fines may be accepted by the traffic violations bureau in satisfaction thereof, and shall specify by suitable schedules the amount of such fines for first, second and subsequent offenses; provided, that such fines are within the limits declared by law or ordinance, and shall further specify what number of such offenses shall require appearance before the magistrate. (Code 1960, § 16-136.)

Sec. 48.02. When person charged may elect to appeal at bureau or before city judge.

(a) Any person charged with an offense for which payment of a fine may be made to the traffic violations bureau shall have the option of paying such fine within the time specified in the notice of arrest at the traffic violations bureau upon entering a plea of guilty and upon waiving appearance in court; or may have the option of depositing required lawful bail and upon a plea of not guilty shall be entitled to a trial as authorized by law.

(b) The payment of a fine to the bureau shall be deemed an acknowledgment of conviction of the alleged offense, and the bureau upon accepting the prescribed fine, shall issue a receipt to the violator acknowledging payment thereof. (Code 1960, § 16-137.)

Sec. 48.03. Duties generally.

The following duties are hereby imposed upon the traffic violations bureau in reference to traffic offenses:

(a) It shall accept designated fines, issue receipts and represent in court such violators as are permitted and desire to plead guilty, waive court appearance and give power to attorney.

(b) It shall receive and issue receipts for cash bail from the persons who must or wish to be heard in court, enter the time of the appearance on the court docket and notify the arresting officer and witnesses, if any, to be present.

(c) It shall keep an easily accessible record of all violations for which each person has been guilty during the preceding twelve months whether such guilt was established in court or in the traffic violations bureau. (Code 1960, § 16-138.)

Sec. 48.04. Records and reports.

The traffic violations bureau shall keep records and submit summarized monthly reports to the city court of all notices issued and arrests made for violations of the traffic laws and ordinances in this city and of the fines collected by the traffic violations bureau or the court, and of the final disposition or present status of every case of violation of the provisions of such laws and ordinances. Such records shall be so maintained as to show all types of violations and the totals of each. Such records shall be public records. (Code 1960, § 16-139.)

Sec. 48.05. Procedures.

The traffic violations bureau shall follow such procedure as may be prescribed by the traffic ordinances of this city or as may be required by any laws of this state. (Code 1960, § 16-140.)