

Frequently Asked Questions for Justice of the Peace Courts

- 1. Do I have to drive to Denton to the Collection and Compliance Department?** No, you may complete an application at the Justice of the Peace (JP) office or you can download the application and plea/notice of show cause hearing form from the Justice of the Peace web site. You may mail or fax the completed application to the court. They will verify at least 2 contact phone numbers. You will then be contacted by the Denton County Collection and Compliance Department within 3 to 10 business days. Once a payout agreement is established you will be mailed a copy of your payment agreement. You must sign a copy of the payment agreement at the Justice of the Peace office when your first payment is made or mail a signed copy along with your first payment. In the event you have not heard from the compliance department you **must** contact them either in person or by phone, **1450 E. McKinney St., Suite 1400, Denton, TX 76209, (940)349-2030. Failure to pay your fines and court costs will result in a warrant for your immediate arrest.**
- 2. Do I need to make a payment today? How much?** In most cases, you will have 10 days from the date of sentencing to pay your fine in full or request a payment plan. If you request a payment plan, **a significant payment will be required the day of sentencing or within 72 hours.** A \$25 “time payment fee” is assessed per case for with a balance due on the 31st day after your conviction date.
- 3. What happens if I do not contact the Collection and Compliance Department and execute my court ordered payment plan?** A warrant will be issued for your immediate arrest.
- 4. What happens if I do not fill out my application in full?** You will be asked to complete the application and failure to do so will delay the process. If you do not know the answer to the question write “I do not know” or place a question mark where your answer should be. If a question does not apply to your circumstances write N/A (non-applicable) or place a dash (-) in the space. All the spaces must be filled in for the application to be complete.
- 5. Will the information I give on the application be verified and checked?** Yes, some of the information will be verified before you leave. Other items will be checked after your payment plan is signed and executed.
- 6. What happens if I do not tell the truth on the application?** Giving wrongful or false information on your application may result in your prosecution for the offense of aggravated perjury, a felony punishable by imprisonment not to exceed ten (10) years and a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or both fine and imprisonment.
- 7. During the 10 days after sentencing and before I must enter a payment plan, can I pay it off in full early? How?** Yes, go to the J P Office where you can pay your fines, fees and court costs in full. You may pay with cash, money order, or cashiers check in person or by mail. You may pay on-line with a Master Card or Visa credit card, however; you must contact the court for information on your case before doing this, and there is a 2.75% convenience fee added. **No personal checks accepted.**