

# NEWS RELEASE

## SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

### COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



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## **CONTESTING YOUR TRAFFIC CITATION IS EASY AND CONVENIENT WITH THE COURT'S NEW ONLINE TRIAL BY DECLARATION OPTION**

**More Than 460 People Have Used the New Online Trial by Declaration Tool  
Developed Jointly by the Court and the Judicial Council of California**

A successful pilot program launched in San Francisco to provide people with an easy, convenient option to contest their traffic tickets is now available to expand to other trial courts, Court Executive Officer Brandon E. Riley announced today.

"Launched in mid-December, this pilot program is proving to be a popular choice for people who want to contest their traffic ticket from home or any other convenient location," Riley said. "This online option is another way the Court is making it easier and less expensive for people to conduct court business without having to pay for parking, childcare and travel to a courthouse."

Riley thanked the Judicial Council of California (JCC) for its partnership in developing the online Trial by Declaration tool with the Court's Traffic Department team.

"As a recognized leader in public service innovation, the Court continues to pioneer new technologies to better serve our communities," Riley said. "With the expertise

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of the JCC and Traffic Department team, this tool will help thousands of Californians who want to contest their traffic tickets without having to travel to a courthouse in their county.”

The online Trial by Declaration tool is currently available in San Francisco and Nevada Counties, with 10 additional courts planning to add the option later in the year. This new option builds on the Court’s existing online [Ability to Pay program](#), and is part of the JCC’s broader [MyCitations initiative](#).

“Now available statewide, the California Courts MyCitations site allows defendants to look up their traffic citation remotely, answer a series of simple questions and submit a request to the court for a reduction in the amount owed,” said JCC Representative Blaine Corren. “And now, users can also contest eligible citations by submitting a written statement and uploading evidence online, saving them a trip to the courthouse—this latest upgrade is available in two counties, with plans to add more this year.”

This online system is an optional way to contest a citation by requesting an online trial by declaration for infraction violations for which a personal appearance is not required. The simple, step-by-step tool allows the person contesting the ticket to submit to the Court a statement, along with any evidence, to explain what happened. The officer who wrote the ticket also submits a written statement. A judge then reviews both statements, and makes a decision, which is emailed to the person contesting the infraction.

Use this tool, available [here](#), if:

- You were issued a ticket for infraction violation(s) only;
- You wish to contest the violation (plead not guilty) and conduct your trial online;
- The due date to take care of your ticket has not passed; and

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- Your ticket or courtesy notice does not say that you must appear in court.

Do not use this tool if:

- You have already appeared in court; and/or
- You have already been sentenced, fined or paid your ticket.

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