



City of Beaumont Municipal Court

WARNING: OBLIGATION FOR PAYMENT OF FINES AND COSTS

Unless otherwise granted by the court, payment of all fines and court costs is due at the time judgment is entered. A fine is the punishment for a Class C misdemeanor in this court. The fact that a fine may cause some financial hardship or inconvenience does not excuse payment of the fine. If you are unable to pay in full at the time judgment is entered, there may be options available to you to satisfy payment of all fines and costs including the following:

Option #1 – Request a time payment plan

To be eligible for this option you must have some form of income. Income of friends or relatives (other than your spouse) will not be considered. If granted a time payment plan, you will be assessed a onetime fee of \$25 for each charge that is placed in a payment plan. If paid off within 30 days, the \$25 fee will be refunded. You must fully and accurately complete a detailed financial statement to set up a time payment plan. Information provided in the financial statement will be verified by the court. False or inaccurate information will lead to a denial of you time payment plan request. Payments must be received by the court by the due date.

Option #2 – Request Community Service if eligible

If you are totally financially unable to pay the fine and court costs assessed, you may be able to request community service to pay your fine. You must make the request for community service at the time of judgment or before you default on payment. Community service must be performed at a court approved non-profit agency within the time period specified by the court. Before being granted community service, you must complete a financial statement reflecting your inability to pay your fine and costs. Community service to pay a fine must be approved by the judge before community service will be granted. **You are solely responsible for verifying that your community service hours are turned into the court on time.**

Any person who contends they cannot pay the fine and claims they are also unable to do community service to satisfy the fine *must* seek a hearing in the court and prove that the person is indigent and that doing community service would cause an undue hardship. Persons alleging the inability to pay fines must bring financial records supporting such contention and medical records or other relevant records to the hearing demonstrating that doing community service would cause undue hardship on defendant.

If you fail to timely pay a fine, timely pay a time payment installment or timely perform all community service ordered, all fines and fees will become immediately due in full and a *capias pro fine* warrant for your arrest will be issued. In addition to the warrant for arrest, you may also have additional warrant and collection fees to pay added to existing amounts owed. You cannot bond out of jail on a *capias pro fine* warrant.