

WHAT DO I WEAR & HOW DO I ACT IN COURT?

Courts are respectful and formal settings. You are trying to present and win your side of the issue. Dress, speak and conduct yourself appropriately.

- Wear clean, mended clothing that does not bring undue attention to you.
- Do not wear hats, caps, shorts, bare midriffs, tank tops or revealing clothing.
- No food, drink or gum chewing is allowed in the courtroom
- Turn off cell phones.
- Speak clearly & respectfully. Address the court not the opponent.. Do not interrupt another person who is speaking to the Judge.
- Do not chew gum, yell, swear, or use improper language.
- No weapons are permitted.
- Sit quietly in the courtroom whenever court is in session. The proceedings are being video taped and background noise may interfere with the quality of the taped record.
- Reading the newspaper in the courtroom, particularly if this causes a distraction, generally is not allowed.
- Avoid bringing small children to court. If you must, please monitor their behavior so that they remain quiet at all times. Parents may be asked to leave the courtroom if their child becomes noisy or unruly.
- Under some circumstances, a defendant may be booked into jail immediately after a court appearance. In such cases, provision should be made in advance for care of children.

List of Helpful Phone Numbers & Websites:

Goodyear Police (non-Emergency)

(623) 932-1220

Impound Line

(623) 882-7400

Victim Advocate

(623) 882-7677

Prosecutors Office

623-882-7201

MVD

(602) 255-0072

Commercial License

(602) 712-4978

www.azdot.gov/mvd

Defensive Driving School

www.azdrive.com

Jury Line

(623) 882-7272

Jury Commission

(602) 506-5879

Counseling Agencies

Western Judicial Services (623) 936-8828

Estrella Counseling Services (623) 925-8420

Justice Courts

<http://justicecourts.maricopa.gov>

Superior Court

www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

MCSO

(602) 876-0322

Court staff members are not attorneys and are restricted by law from giving legal advice

You will only be able to see or talk to a judge about your case when you appear before the judge in court.

GOODYEAR MUNICIPAL COURT



***14455 W. Van Buren St.
Suite B101***

Goodyear, AZ 85338

(623) 882-7200

(623) 932-6936 Fax

Hours of Operation:

8:30 - 4:30

Monday – Friday

www.goodyearaz.gov/court



The Goodyear Municipal Court is a Limited Jurisdiction Court

The Municipal Court has jurisdiction over a limited variety of cases. The Municipal Judge presides over civil traffic, misdemeanor crimes, petty offenses, city ordinances and codes committed within the City, such as the following;

- Moving violations (speeding, running a stop sign, traffic signal, etc.)
- Driving Under the Influence
- Reckless driving
- Vehicle insurance and registration violations
- Leaving the scene of an accident
- Drag racing
- Child restraint violations
- Assault
- Shoplifting
- Prostitution
- Indecent exposure
- Trespassing
- Issue Arrest Warrants and Search warrants
- The court also handles Orders of Protection and Injunctions Against Harassment.



Visit our Court Website for additional Information at www.goodyearaz.gov/court

Court Interpreters are available upon request.

CIVIL CASES—

What to do if you receive a traffic ticket for a civil or minor criminal traffic violation.

You may enter three possible pleas:

- **Responsible/Guilty** - This plea means that you committed the violation stated on the complaint. The word "responsible" is used with civil traffic violations, while the word "guilty" is used with criminal violations.
Admit and Explain/No Contest - This plea means that you do not wish to contest the charge(s) against you. You are allowing a Hearing Officer or Judge to enter a ruling of responsible/guilty against you without you admitting your responsibility/guilt.
- **Not Responsible/Not Guilty** - This plea means that you deny that you committed the violation stated on the complaint and that the state must prove its charges against you at a trial or hearing. If you received a complaint with more than one charge, you will need to enter a plea for each charge. You are not required to enter the same plea for all charges. Hearings are scheduled four weeks from your first court date.

OR

- **Defensive Driving School-** Must be Eligible
 - ⇒ The program can be attended only once within a two-year period from violation date to violation date.
 - ⇒ The traffic ticket is for a minor moving violation
 - ⇒ The charge did not result from an accident where a death or serious physical injury was involved.
 - ⇒ The DDP class must be completed at least seven (7) calendar days before your court date if taking an in-person class; and at least ten (10) calendar days before your court date if taking an on-line class.
 - ⇒ The violator does not hold a commercial driver license (CDL).

Upon completion of the class the charge will be dismissed and points will not be assessed on your driver license by MVD .

CRIMINAL CASES—

What to do if you receive a traffic ticket for a criminal violation.

Your first court date is referred to as your arraignment. The date will be the appearance date on your ticket. You **MUST** appear in Court on the date and time indicated. Your failure to appear at any scheduled Court appearance could result in the issuance of a **WARRANT** for your arrest.

At your Arraignment there are three possible pleas: Guilty, No Contest (nolo contendere) or Not Guilty.

If you plead not guilty, you must decide whether to hire an attorney or ask the Court to appoint one to represent you. You may represent yourself, but no one except you and your attorney may represent you at Court.

When you plead not guilty, a pre-trial disposition conference (PDC) will be scheduled, and will be followed by a trial setting, if your case is not resolved at the PDC.

Diversion Programs—for some types of offenses, diversion program are offered by the City Prosecutor's Office, which provide an alternative to the normal trial process, and which may result in a dismissal of the criminal charge against you.

WHAT WE DON'T DO

Type of cases that we do not handle include:

Bankruptcies, Divorce Proceedings, Custody Cases, Felony Cases and Marriage Licenses—**(Superior Court)**
Civil Lawsuits -**(Justice Court)**

Tickets issued by Maricopa County Sheriff's

Municipal Court Judges **DO NOT** hear civil lawsuits between citizens.
For civil lawsuit information please contact the nearest Justice Court .