

Should your name appear on the warrant list herein, you may have an unresolved citation with the City of Rusk, Texas. This list is updated once per week. If you do not respond in a timely manner, it may result in the following actions being taken against you.

- \* Issuance of a Warrant for your arrest and your Wanted Status being reported to

Appropriate Law Enforcement Agencies

- \* Warrant Fee and other fees totaling up to \$50.00 being added

- \* Arrest and Detainment (Arrest can be made at your home, while driving or at your place of business. If arrested while driving, YOU will be responsible for charges assessed for the towing and storage of your vehicle.)

- \* Collection Fee equal to 30% of the unpaid balance being added to the total owed

- \* Hold placed on your Driver's License renewal

You may contact the court at (903) 683-2213 for specific information concerning your case. If you are financially unable to pay the fine, there are alternative methods of disposition, i.e., a payment plan or community service. You may also request indigency. If no judgment has already been entered, you may always request a trial – either a jury trial or a bench trial (a trial by the judge, without a jury). **Please note that the Judge CANNOT discuss the merits of a pending judicial proceeding prior to trial. (Canon 3(5), Code of Judicial Conduct). This means that the judge shall not discuss your case prior to trial. Also note that no one connected with this court receives any part of your fine. All fine money is deposited directly with the city, with that portion assessed by the State being transferred accordingly on a routine basis.**

To help facilitate the disposition of your case, you may resolve your citation by mail or online without need for appearing in person before the judge. You may plead either **“Guilty,”** wherein you admit that you violated the law and have no lawful defense/excuse for committing the act, or **“No Contest,”** wherein you are not admitting Guilt, nor are you admitting Innocence. You are simply not contesting the State's charge. (A plea of “No Contest” has the same consequence as a plea of “Guilty.”) A plea of **“Not Guilty”** means you are either denying Guilt or that you have a lawful defense, and the State must prove the charge beyond a **reasonable** doubt. You may hire an attorney to represent you; however, the Court is **not** required to provide you an attorney.

Some citations may be able to be dismissed by the Court via the mail without appearing before the Court. There may be an administrative fee assessed in lieu of the fine. Examples include Failure to Maintain Proper Insurance, Expired Inspection/Registration, Expired or No Driver's License, Failure to Change Address and/or Defective Equipment. You may contact the court to determine whether you may qualify for any dismissal options.

An additional method allowed for disposition of your case would be via a Payment Plan. The time frame allowed will depend upon the fine assessed on your citation, normally it would be for approximately 3 months. By State law, there will be a \$15.00 time payment reimbursement fee assessed for any plan in excess of 30 days. You must request this option and sign an agreement setting forth the details of the plan in order to qualify. Failure to timely make the payments according to the written payment plan in full may result in the citation being referred to a collection agency (with an additional fee equal to 30% of your total accrued balance being added) and/or a warrant being issued for your arrest (with an additional \$50 warrant fee being added).

Should you wish to dispose of your case via payment, you may use any of the following options:

- Pay in person at the municipal court located within City Hall. If a warrant has already been issued for your arrest, and you voluntarily come in or otherwise contact the court to resolve your case, you will NOT be arrested, the warrant will be WITHDRAWN, and the warrant fee will NOT be assessed.

- Pay by mail at Rusk Municipal Court, 108 E 5<sup>th</sup> St. Rusk, Texas 75785-1332.

(Payment may be made by check, cashier's check, or money order. **DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL!** Please note: There is a \$30.00 administrative fee for any returned check and a criminal complaint may also be filed, should your check be returned unpaid.)

- You may also pay over the phone at (903) 683-2213 directly with the court. A fee for this service will be added. Pay by Credit Card over the internet. To use this option, please go to <https://www.fastgovpay.com/rusk>, or over the phone at [1-903-683-2213](tel:1-903-683-2213). Payment may be made at any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A convenience fee for this service will be added to your credit card directly by the agency. The citation or account number would be the number on your ticket. You would then enter the amount to be paid (your fine). Your payment will be posted immediately.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated