



OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE CITY

**Citation Initiative FAQs**

**Who can issue a citation?**

Baltimore Police, Baltimore City Sheriffs, Morgan State University Police, University of Maryland Police, MTA Police, MDTA Police, Amtrak, and ATC officers can issue citations.

**What offenses qualify for citations?**

- Driving or Riding a Dirt Bike in Baltimore City on public or private property of the city
- Possessing an Un-immobilized (not locked) Dirt Bike
- Permitting Another to Drive or Ride a Dirt Bike
- A Parent/Guardian Knowingly Permitting a Minor to Drive, Ride, or Possess an Un-immobilized Dirt Bike
- Drinking in Public Places
- Minor in possession of alcohol
- False Representation
- Disorderly Drinking
- Disorderly Intoxication
- Loitering
- Loitering - Liquor establishments
- Aggressive Panhandling
- Soliciting on highways "Hackee"
- Hacking i.e., "providing taxi services without a license"
- Urinating in Public
- Street Vendors without a License
- Littering
- Fail to Obey Reasonable/Lawful Order
- Disorderly Conduct
- Theft up to \$1500
- Trespassing
- Malicious Destruction under \$1000
- PWID (Marijuana)
- CDS Possession

**How many times can you receive a citation for an offense before being prosecuted?**

Eligible defendants will be offered community service and a referral to wrap-around services for a first offense. They will be offered increased community service and another referral to wrap-around services for a second offense. On the third citation, they will be prosecuted.

**Who is eligible to complete service hours in lieu of prosecution?**

To be eligible for community service alternatives, a defendant must be:

- (A) 18 years of age or older,
- (B) have no pending charges for a crime of violence or handgun offense
- (C) not currently on probation for parole for a crime of violence
- (D) have no outstanding warrants.

**What does the criminal justice process look like after receiving your first citation?**

Individuals who receive a citation from a law enforcement officer will be given an initial court date listed at the bottom of the citation. This court date will serve as an arraignment date where the defendant will be given a 30 - 45 day trial date. Defendants will also be advised to report immediately to the Commissioner's Office after the arraignment to be qualified for the Office of the Public Defender services before the trial date. At the arraignment date, an Assistant State's Attorney will offer eligible defendants an opportunity to complete community service instead of prosecution pending the trial date. They will refer defendants to voluntary wrap-around services as needed. If a defendant accepts the offer to complete community service and complete the hours by the trial date, the State's Attorney's Office will drop the case. If a defendant does not accept the offer or fails to complete their community service hours, the State's Attorney's Office will proceed with the case in the normal course on the trial date.

**Who does the citation docket apply to?**

All individuals who receive a citation in Baltimore City are eligible, even if they are not a resident of Baltimore City.

**What organizations are providing wrap around services?**

Baltimore City Department of Social Services

Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement

Baltimore Community Mediation Center

B-360

The District Court Re-Entry Project

**Which courthouse would I go to after receiving a citation?**

Citations issued for the Northeast, Southeast Police BPD Districts, Morgan State University, MTA, ATC: Eastside Courtroom 04 @ 8:30 a.m. 1400 East North Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21213

Citations issued for Central, Southern, Southwest BPD Police Districts, Casino District; Amtrak; University of MD, MTA, MDTA, ATC: Hargrove Courtroom 3 @ 8:30 a.m. 700 East Patapsco Avenue, Baltimore, MD

Citations issued for Northern, Northwestern and Western Districts, MTA, ATC: Wabash Courtroom 1 @8:30 a.m. 5800 Wabash Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21213

**Who should I contact if I want to file a complaint against an officer regarding citations?**

BPD - Visit <https://www.baltimorepolice.org/misconduct-complaint>

Sheriff's Office - Call (410) 396-1155

**What should I do if I want to contest a citation?**

Individuals who wish to contest a citation should appear at the scheduled arraignment and request a trial date