

### City of El Paso Municipal Court

Revision to the Omnibase (Failure to Appear FTA) 2023 Contract

Strategic Goal 2 – Set the standard for a safe and secure city

# What is Omnibase Failure To Appear (FTA) Program

- Omnibase Failure To Appear (FTA) & Texas Department of Public Safety program.
- Enforcement program that may deny renewal of driver license if an individual failed to appear for a citation or failed to satisfy a judgement ordering the payment of a fine.
- License is <u>not suspended</u> > Renewal of the license is placed on hold
- Licenses are renewed every 8 years



## Omnibase (FTA) Program Contract revision

- Municipal Court has been utilizing the program since 2010
- The last contract was renewed March of 2023.
- Contract change: INDIGENCY status will "immediately" release driver license hold
- <u>Contract change</u>: Individuals can now apply for an occupational license if regular license is on hold.
  - Provides option to acquire an occupational license for 2 years and additional option to renew for 2 more years (4 years total)



#### **Program Benefits**

- Tool to assist courts with enforcement, case resolutions, and closure of cases
- Opportunity to assist individuals to resolve pending cases and remove warrants
- The hold is placed 180 days after the warrant date
- Court does not require FULL payment of warrant to release the hold
  - > Statutory \$10 per case required
- Prior to the hold, the court attempts to communicate at least 15 times and available at any given time to provide options at every stage of the process



### Historical Data: Omnibase 2016 - 2023

Omni Hold Status for cases placed from 2016 to 2023



El Paso Municipal Court Full Court Enterprise data as of 02/12/2024 for holds placed up to 12/31/2023

#### Omni Holds Placed 2016-2023



El Paso Municipal Court Full Court Enterprise data as of 02/12/2024 for holds placed up to 12/31/2023

Total closed cases
Balance on Open cases

\$ 22,138,076

\$ 20,703,317

\*\*Raw data on holds placed = Fines/Fees and State fees



## **Texas Municipal Courts Utilizing OMNI Contract**

Texas Municipal Courts	Cases Entered January – December 2023
Houston	40780
Corpus Christi	28029
El Paso	21824
San Antonio	17354
Tyler	11916
Laredo	10316



#### **Court Customer Program Data** 2016-2023

- Average number of cases placed with Omnibase per individual = 2
- Average fines/fees (including state fees) for <u>2 cases</u> = \$ 600
- To clear the hold, an individual will pay \$ 10 for each case = \$ 20
- If individual is unable to pay, they may request an indigency hearing.
- Warrant will be recalled immediately
- Individual will request an option to resolve the case.

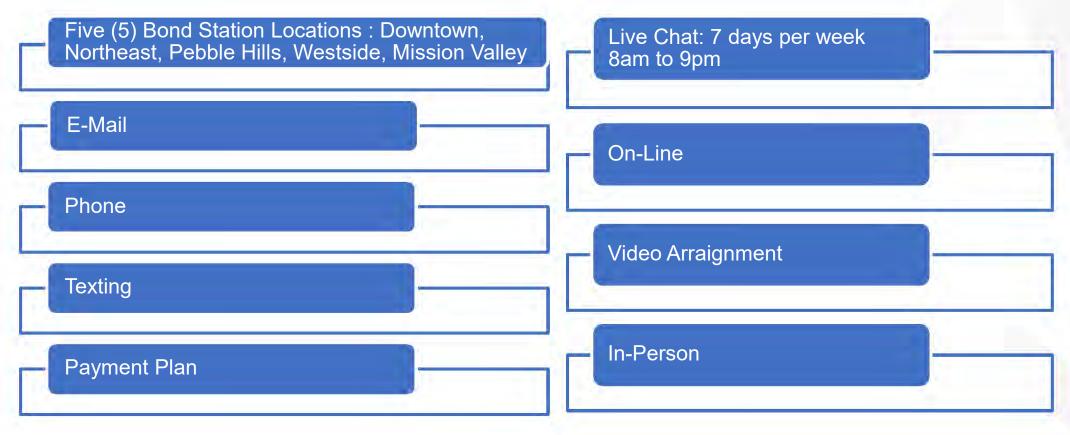


### **Customer Service Options Printed on the Citation / Website**

- > 180-day payment plan at any time
- ➤ Driving safety course, if individual qualifies at any time
- ➤ Pay the citation in full at any time
- > Submit proof on paper violations *prior* to the arraignment
- Waive arraignment prior to the arraignment date and request a trial date
- Request an indigency hearing at any time



## **Municipal Court Customer Service Contact Options**



Option: 180 Day Payment Plan is available at any time since citation(s) issued



#### MISSION



Deliver exceptional services to support a high quality of life and place for our community.

#### VISION



Develop a vibrant regional economy, safe and beautiful neighborhoods and exceptional recreational, cultural and educational opportunities powered by a high performing government.



Integrity, Respect, Excellence, Accountability, People