



Winnetka Police Department
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The Village Council passed ordinance MC-1-2014 at the February 18th Council Meeting establishing an Administrative Adjudication System. The ordinance was passed after significant staff research and council deliberation. The Administrative Adjudication System will result in two key changes:

First, citations issued by the Police Department for most Village Code violations will include a fixed fine and be payable by mail without having to make an appearance at Cook County Circuit Court in Skokie.

Secondly, the ordinance establishes a process allowing persons who are issued citations for parking and Village Code violations a local venue to challenge such tickets.

The new ordinance does not affect the enforcement of criminal laws or moving vehicle violations. Those matters will still be adjudicated at the Circuit Court in Skokie. The ordinance also does not prohibit any new conduct not already restricted by Village Code or State Law.

The new Administrative Adjudication System will produce several improvements and efficiencies to be realized by persons receiving a citation, complaining witnesses and police staff. As an example most persons who receive a citation for a Village Code violation, other than parking, under the current system are required to appear in court, even if they do not wish to contest the ticket. Appearing in court comes with a minimum \$194 fee paid to the County, in addition to any fine imposed. Under the Village's Administrative Adjudication System most persons will be able to pay a set fine without having to appear at a hearing. Persons wishing to contest a citation or who otherwise require an appearance, will attend a hearing at the Village Hall for a \$40 hearing fee. Citizens pay nothing if found not responsible at either Court or an Administrative Hearing.

The Village is working to implement the Administrative Adjudication System and hire a Hearing Officer. The new system is expected to be implemented later this spring. More specific information will be available prior the issuance of any citations under the new system.

More details about the ordinance can be found on the Village website under the Government Tab/ Boards and Commissions/Agenda Packet/February 18, 2104, page 73.

http://www.villageofwinnetka.org/assets/1/20/02-18-14_Council_Packet.pdf