

# Municipal Courts

## Explanation Of Case Categories

### **TRAFFIC MISDEMEANORS**

This category includes all non-jailable misdemeanor violations of the Texas traffic laws and other violations of laws relating to the operation or ownership of a motor vehicle. Maximum punishment is by fine and such sanctions, if any, as authorized by statute not consisting of confinement in jail or imprisonment.

### **NON-PARKING**

This includes all violations that do not involve offenses for improper parking (for example, Exceeding the Speed Limit, Failure to Stop at a Traffic Control Device, Expired or No Driver's License or Inspection Sticker, etc.).

### **PARKING**

This includes violations of state law or municipal ordinance involving the improper standing of a vehicle (for example, Parking on Highway Right of Way, Parking Within an Intersection, Overparking, etc.).

### **NON-TRAFFIC MISDEMEANORS**

This category includes all other non-jailable misdemeanor violations:

#### **STATE LAW**

Violations are those usually found in the Texas Penal Code and other state laws (for example, Public Intoxication, Disorderly Conduct, Simple Assault, Theft Under \$50, etc.). Maximum punishment is by fine and such sanctions, if any, as authorized by statute not consisting of confinement in jail or imprisonment.

#### **CITY ORDINANCE**

Violations are those non-traffic offenses found in municipal ordinances (for example, Dog Running at Large, Plumbing Code Violation, etc.). Ordinance violations involving litter, fire safety, zoning, public health, and sanitation are punishable by fines only, up to a maximum of \$2,000. Punishment for violation of other types of city ordinances is limited to fines only, not to exceed \$500.