
New Handheld Device Speeds Along Traffic Tickets

by Katie Baker

CLACKAMAS COUNTY, Ore. -- Getting a speeding ticket is rarely a pleasant experience. But police in Clackamas County are trying to make it a little bit better through electronic ticketing.

It's faster, easier -- and police say drivers should like it better.

Just before sunrise Tuesday, people were in a hurry to get to work -- maybe too much of a hurry. Of course, getting pulled over never helps. But now deputies are making getting a ticket much faster, thanks to electronic ticketing.

"Some big advantage we're seeing is half the time in the field for the officer on the stop and the person being stopped. They've got places to go," Sgt. John Naccarato said.

Instead of manually writing out a ticket, police use a handheld device. It scans the driver's license and plugs in your vehicle information, your violation, your location and your scheduled court date. It even prints the ticket.

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office is the first in the state of Oregon to use the technology. So far, they like it.

"The data is accurate. You can actually read the citation. You're not going to have a bad court date."

Naccarato said the first driver to get an electronic ticket was actually happy about it.

And the electronic ticket is supposed to be much easier to read. The ticket is typed out instead of handwritten. And it's waterproof, so if it rains on your citation, you should still be able to read it.

