

Traffic tickets are never fun. You may have to show up to court and possibly pay a fine which costs you time and money. Not to mention that tickets can add points to your license and affect your car insurance rates.

However, did you know there are steps you can take to fight your traffic tickets? Depending on the severity of your ticket, you may need the help of an experienced traffic attorney like our team at The Rosenblum Allen Law Firm. We can help you to fight your traffic ticket and get the charges lowered or dismissed.

Knowing your rights and the laws can help you fight a traffic ticket in Nevada. There are a few steps you can take to help in your case. The following is a list of things you should know before you pay your traffic ticket.

Know What Type of Violation You Have

There are two types of traffic violations that can result in a ticket. These are moving and non-moving violations. Each of these categories has its consequences and can vary depending on the severity of the violation.

Moving violations are caused by the driver being in motion. These types of violations include speeding, DUI, and failure to stop at a light or stop sign. The consequences of these violations can result in either a fine or arrest depending on the circumstances.

A non-moving violation consists when the vehicle is parked or has faulty equipment. These can include driving with a broken taillight or expired tags, parking in a no-parking zone, or parking in a handicap zone. These violations typically result in fines along with the ticket.

Make a Mental Note of the Conditions

When you are pulled over or stopped by an officer, begin making a mental checklist:

- ◇ Time and date of the traffic stop
- ◇ Traffic flow and other traffic conditions
- ◇ Roadway Signs
- ◇ Weather and road conditions

Check the Ticket for Mistakes

Any error can put into question the accuracy of the ticket that the officer has written. Pay attention to the time of day, location, make and model of your vehicle, plate numbers, etc. If any errors can affect the officer's accuracy, you have a good chance of dismissing the ticket.

Check RADAR and LIDAR Calibrations

Ensure the radar reading and any notes the officer has as part of the discovery process. You want to compare these to the information written on your ticket.

Police forces are required to calculate their equipment and record the maintenance regularly. These devices record a driver's speed accurately, so they should be working correctly. Any lapse in care can put into question the accuracy of the speed recorded by the issuing officer in your case.

Gather Any Witnesses that Can Make a Statement

Get details from anyone who witnessed the traffic stop. Their information can help your case if it contradicts anything in the officer's report.

Be Polite and Co-operative

You do not want to say or do anything that can make your situation worse. When interacting with the officer, you want to be as unmemorable as possible as this can keep details of your stop vague in their memory.

Remember, you have the right to remain silent. You do not have to offer any information you feel is essential or could incriminate yourself.

Use Pre-trial and Trial Tactics

This tactic is a little tricky, but it can work to your advantage. By rescheduling your hearing, there is a chance the issuing officer will not show up. If this happens, there is a good chance your case will get dismissed as the officer is not available to give their statement.

Be mindful that this will not work in all cases. While it may be helpful in a typical traffic stop, if you have aggravating factors such as a DUI, the officer will most likely be there. Your attorney can help to advise you on the usefulness of this tactic.

Confirm Your Identity on Video

Police vehicles have dash cams that record any incident and traffic stop. Many police forces also require officers to wear body cameras. This fact can be useful if you can confirm that the person on the recording is not you. Sometimes videos get mixed up, and if the video presented as the evidence does not show your face, you can deny that it is you in the video.

Again, this can be a tricky tactic. You should seek the advice of an attorney, as they can request to view records before going to trial.

If it is a School Zone Violation, Verify Signage

School zone violations can carry heavier penalties as there is a risk for injury to children. Therefore, it is important to note any signage displaying the time the school zone fines are in effect. If your ticket is given before or after posted times or on a day that school is not in session, you may be able to get the ticket dismissed.

Why You Should Plead “Not Guilty”

Fighting a traffic ticket can be stressful and can take up a lot of time. Many people would rather pay the fine and get past the situation. However, once you pay the fine, that is an admission of guilt, and you will have that on your record.

Some benefits pleading “not guilty” can provide.

You should consult your attorney to help strategize your plea to make it stick. The benefits of a “not guilty” plea include:

- ◇ Bargaining for a lesser penalty
- ◇ Reduced fines
- ◇ Fewer points on your driving record
- ◇ Minimal increase on your auto insurance rates

Seek the advice of an Attorney

Do not try to fight your traffic ticket on your own. An experienced attorney can help build your case and save you money and long-term damage to your insurance and license.

If you have a traffic ticket in Nevada, you should seek the team’s help at The Rosenblum Allen Law Firm. The experienced team of traffic attorneys will work for you to find the best results for your case.

Give us a call at (702) 433-2889 or email us at staff@rosenblumlawlv.com with any questions.