

City of South Padre Island Municipal Court
4601 Padre Blvd., South Padre Island Texas 78597
(956)761-3225 FAX: (956)761-3224

www.MySPI.org

Online Payments: <https://municipalonlinepayments.com/southpadretx>

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Cause Number: _____

Citation Number: _____

Offense Date: _____

Offense: _____

Minimum Fine Due: _____

The Court received your plea of **NOT GUILTY**.

When a defendant enters a not guilty plea, the Judge sets a bond which must be posted to ensure your presence at the upcoming trial. The Judge set your bond at: _____. This amount must be delivered to the Court within fifteen days (15) of the date of this letter.

Please complete the attached "Request for Trial" form and return it to the Court within seven (7) days of the date of this letter. You must also contact the City of South Padre Island Prosecutor, Stuart Diamond to begin court proceedings.

Mr. Diamond's telephone number is: **(956) 761-4400**.

We have included a copy of the "*Municipal Court Procedures*" for your information. If you have questions, please feel free to call 956-761-3225 or visit our website www.MySPI.org. Review the Departments/Municipal Court sections of our website.

Sincerely,

Court Clerk

ONLINE PAYMENTS:

<https://municipalonlinepayments.com/southpadretx>

Appearance

The law requires you to make an appearance on your case. Your appearance or Court date is noted on your citation. You (or your attorney) may do this in person before the Judge or in writing **by mail or fax. For your convenience, there is a signature line and a plea line on the bottom of the citation which can be used as a written "appearance" or written notification.**

Pleas

You must enter one of these three pleas:

Guilty - means you admit guilty and either wish to give an explanation or just pay the fine. Once the fine is paid the case is closed.

No Contendere (*no contest*) means that you personally do not want to admit guilt, but you do not want to contest the charge(s) in a trial. You may pay the fine; give an explanation or present proof of compliance. The Judge will review your case and will determine whether he finds you guilty, sets a fine or dismisses the charge(s).

Not Guilty - Means you deny guilt and want a bench or jury trial to be set at a later date in this Court. You must post a bond set by the Judge to ensure that you will be present for the trial.

Driver's Safety Courses (DSC)

If you charged with a traffic offense, you may request DSC. The request must be made before the appearance date on the citation. You must enter a plea of guilty or no contest; present a Texas DL and current insurance to the court; pay a fee of \$109. You will have 90 days to complete DSC. Upon presenting a certificate of completion to the Court, the Judge may dismiss the offense.

Deferred Disposition

The judge may grant deferred disposition (place on probationary period 30-60-90 or 180 days) most offenses. The request must be made in writing before the appearance date on the citation. If you do not violate any laws of the US during the probationary period, the Judge may dismiss the offense. The deferral fee for traffic/ABC violations are \$280, \$300 for Public Intoxication and Ordinances, and \$400 for all other offenses.

Inspection/Registration/No DL

Expired Vehicle Inspection, Invalid Registration or Failure to Display Driver's License/Expired DL cases may be dismissed at the Judge's discretion *if the defect is remedied by your appearance date and **proof** is presented in writing to the Court (a \$20 fee is required).*

Failure to Provide Financial Responsibility

If you present evidence of financial responsibility (insurance), valid at the time of the offense, to the Court on or before your appearance date this violation may be dismissed at Judge's discretion.

FINES

The following is a list of common offenses and the minimum fines for each:

No Proof of Financial Responsibility	\$370.00
No Valid DL	\$200.00
Red Light or Stop Sign	\$200.00
Disregard Traffic Control Dev	\$200.00
Fail to Control Speed	\$200.00
Registration Invalid	\$200.00
Inspection or MVI Invalid	\$200.00
Fail to Yield ROW	\$200.00
Safety Belt (Adult)	\$149.00
Safety Belt (Child)	\$250.00
Pass Emergency Vehicle	\$200.00
Minor in Possession of A/B	\$250.00
Impede Traffic	\$200.00
Illegal Backing / Backing Not in Safety	\$200.00
City Ordinances	\$270.00
Assault (Class C)	\$370.00

Speeding:

Gulf / Laguna Blvd (30 mph)

01-10mph - \$180.00

11-15mph - \$210.00

16-20mph - \$250.00

Padre Blvd (30 mph / 35 mph)

01-15mph - \$180.00

16-30mph - \$200.00

21-30mph - \$250.00

Padre Blvd (45mph)

01-10mph - \$180.00

11-15mph - \$200.00

16-20mph - \$230.00

21-25mph - \$250.00

TRIAL REQUEST FORM

Date: _____
Cause Number: _____
Citation Number: _____
Offense Date: _____
Offense: _____

I the undersigned _____ do hereby enter my plea of NOT GUILTY and I am requesting (select one of the following):

___ BENCH TRIAL or ___ JURY TRIAL

If you selected BENCH TRIAL, choose one of the following:

- __ 1. Bench trial with judge only Set Date: _____
- __ 2. Bench trial with legal counsel (to be set for trial within 30 days).

If you selected JURY TRIAL, choose one of the following:

- __ 1. Jury trial with legal counsel (to be set for trial within 30 days).
- __ 2. Jury trial without legal counsel. Set Date: _____

If you are represented by legal counsel the court must receive a *letter of representation* from him/her. The letter must be sent to the SPI Municipal Court **within seven (7) days from date of entering your plea.**

Signature of Defendant Print Name Email

Address City State Zip

Mailing Address City State Zip

Telephone Number Business/Work Number Cell/Other

Attorney Attorney Address, City, State, Zip Phone #

APPEARANCE BOND SET AT \$ _____ **RECEIPT #** _____

CAUSE NO. _____

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§	IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT
VS.	§	OF SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
_____	§	CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS

WRITTEN WAIVER OF JURY

NOW COMES the undersigned defendant in this cause and represents to this Court that I understand that I have the right to have my case heard by a jury, both on the question of guilt or innocence, and if found guilty, on the question of punishment. I hereby waive the right to trial by jury and request that the Court decide all issues of fact as well as law in connection with this above-referenced case.

APPROVED:

_____	_____	_____	_____
Attorney for Defendant	Date	Defendant	Date

The above Waiver of Jury having been examined by the Court, and it appearing to the Court that the Defendant, in fact, wishes to waive the right to trial by jury and that the Defendant is doing so knowingly and that the Defendant possesses the mental competence to do so:

IT IS ORDERED THAT THE ABOVE WAIVER OF TRIAL BY JURY BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY APPROVED.

SIGNED this _____ day of _____, _____.

Judge Presiding