

KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

) NO. 22-03
) GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
)
) Replaces GAO 21-01
)
) FTA Failure to Appear Infractions
)

WHEREAS, the Court recognizes that persons may have an inability to appear in person or remotely for infraction hearings and access to justice is important. Non-appearance in these matters results in a Failure to Appear (FTA) Court Minute Entry, additional fees being imposed, and, when required, reporting of such FTAs to the Department of License which can result in license suspensions; and

WHEREAS, the failure to appear or respond and license suspensions for non-criminal matters has had a negative economic impact on individuals across the state; and

WHEREAS, access to public transportation is limited and where available, may pose an increased risk to some populations.

WHEREAS, there are many populations for whom the utilization of a vehicle is the only means of transportation for employment, medical needs, and essential services; and

THEREFORE, it is now ORDERED:

When an FTA has been issued due to not responding to the citation or appearing for a requested hearing, if a defendant or their attorney contacts the court within one year of the date of the citation being issued by telephone, or in writing, and requests to have their ticket status reviewed; AND, the FTA was referred to DOL as an FTA, the clerk shall remove the FTA order, remove the \$52.00 FTA penalty and reset the matter for either a contested or mitigation hearing as requested by the defendant.

This GAO replaces GAO 21-01 upon the signing of this Order.

DATED this 22 day of July 2022


Matthew York, Chief Presiding Judge
King County District Court