

THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT YOUR PUBLIC TRUSTEE



Hon. Ken Burke

Q. I got a ticket yesterday, and today I wanted to sign up for traffic school online, but was not able to. A friend told me you could handle traffic tickets online these days.

A. You are obviously a prompt and conscientious citizen, perhaps too prompt! In Pinellas County you can take care of paying your traffic ticket online at the Clerk's website, <http://www.pinellasclerk.org>, as well as electing to attend traffic school. We also offer an automated phone system to pay a ticket at 727-464-4846. In addition, payment kiosks are available at both the Clerk's Tyrone Branch Office located at 1800 66th Street North, St Petersburg, FL 33710, and the North County Traffic Branch located at 29582 U.S. 19 North,

Clearwater, FL 33761.

However, it may take several days before your citation is available online. This process is not instantaneous. The data must be sent from the law enforcement agency to the Clerk's office, and then entered into the systems before it can be made available online.

If you wish to attend a basic driver improvement school, a list of providers is available on the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' website at <http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/ddl/bdis.html>. Please note that you can only make the election once in a 12-month period, and only five times in a lifetime. There are classroom-based and Internet courses available.

I hope this helps, and that you will take advantage of the new technology we are so fortunate to have available in Florida!

If you have any questions or comments about this column, please forward them to: Hon. Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court, 315 Court St., Rm. 400, Clearwater, FL 33756.