

Los Angeles County Juvenile Court Ticket Amnesty



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LA Chapter of the Dignity in Schools Campaign www.dignityinschools.org

- Youth Justice Coalition
- Labor Community Strategy Center
- CADRE
- ACLU
- Public Counsel



Fight to decriminalize “truancy”

- Labor Community Strategy Center and DSC-LA were successful:
- Changed LAMC 45.04 to ensure that students on the way to school weren’t ticketed
- LAPD & LASPD directives
- LAUSD-LA City partnership: community diversion of all daytime curfew tickets
- IJTC reform: community service available for all tickets



Context on Juvenile Ticket Amnesty Order

- DSC LA Groups Advocated with Judge Nash leading to closing in 2012 of Informal Juvenile Traffic Court
- Currently:
 - Probation has responsibility for all non-traffic juvenile citations
 - Juvenile traffic citations (all vehicle code) go to adult traffic court.
 - In August, 2014, Youth Justice Coalition won a diversion for all tickets issued on MTA to youth to Probation Diversion

Community Advocacy to clear old tickets

- 2012-2015: Youth Justice Coalition, Labor Community Strategy Center and Public Counsel partner:
 - Community legal clinics
 - Assist over 200 young people in LA County
 - Document challenges in clearing pre-2012 tickets efficiently.
- December 2015: These groups were successful in getting Judge Levanas to grant amnesty to nearly 250,000 pre-2012 tickets issued to youth under 18.

Summary of the Order

- The order applies only to a specific list of “juvenile” tickets in Los Angeles County.
- It covers over 245,000 juvenile citations.
- The cases were filed originally in the informal and juvenile traffic courts before 2012 closure.
- Many of these cases resulted in a young person receiving a “hold” on their driver’s license – some have been in place for decades – and these holds will be cleared by the DMV under this order.

Do you have an old ticket?

- If you got this ticket before 2012, the amnesty order may apply to you.
- Only certain, more serious offenses were excluded from the order.
- Go to the DMV, ask for a print out of your record, and check whether there is still a hold.

Challenges in clearing tickets

- If you believe your ticket should be cleared, but isn't, please call Public Counsel at 213-385-2977 x502 or attend a free legal clinic at the Youth Justice Coalition of the 2nd or 4th Saturday of each month, 10AM - Noon.
- Note – The Public Counsel # above is not an intake number, we're just collecting info and will communicate to Court and DMV if necessary. The YJC's legal clinic is free and can help you follow up with DMV to clear your ticket.

Probation Processing of Current Citations (Diversion Program)

Telephone numbers

General Info	(818-901-3001)
Supervising Clerk	(818-901-3006)
Clerical Staff	(818-901-3005)
Clerical Staff	(818-901-3008)
Calendar Clerk	(818-901-3005)
Spanish Speaking	(818-901-3001)
Spanish Speaking	(818-901-3006)
E-mail	Citationdiversion@probation.lacounty.gov

Decriminalization of Fare Evasion and Free Student Metro Passes

- 2013 – Youth Justice Coalition (YJC) released report on fare evasion ticketing – 10,000 a year, #1 cause of youth ticketing in LA County – and the need for free student Metro passes. Passed a resolution in support at County Education Coordinating Counsel.

YOU CAN GET WITH THIS...



OR YOU CAN GET WITH THAT.



FREE **LA** METRO PASS

TRANSPORTATION

IS AN EDUCATIONAL

RIGHT



Decriminalization of Fare Evasion and Free Student Metro Passes

- 2013-2014, YJC surveyed more than 2,000 youth on their challenges with transportation and experiences with school and Metro police. Worked with Public Health to release fiscal impact of ticketing vs. free student Metro pass.



Decriminalization of Fare Evasion and Free Student Metro Passes

- 2014 YJC won Fare Evasion Diversion for all youth under 18. Ensure a free Metro pass for all students in LA County who need one, pre-school through college, (with a specific request that County Supervisors champion this on the MTA Board).
- 2016 – YJC wrote, co-sponsored and passed SB 882 (Hertzberg) decriminalizing fare evasion for youth under 18 statewide.
- Next steps – eliminate fines statewide; challenge increased funding for law enforcement on MTA system, and secure free Metro pass for all students K through college; and pass legislation statewide to secure student transportation.

Contact us with Questions

- Public Counsel Statewide Education Rights Project:
 - Juvenile Ticket community voicemail line:
 - 213-385-2977 x502
 - www.fixschooldiscipline.org
- Youth Justice Coalition for help in getting your tickets cleared and to join the movement to further decriminalize youth behavior and win a free Metro pass for all students:
 - action@youth4justice.org
 - 323-235-4243
 - Facebook: Youth Justice Coalition / Instagram and Twitter: @youthjusticeLA