

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN 180 E. Weber Avenue Stockton, CA 95202 (209) 992-5695 <u>www.sjcourts.org</u>

PRESS RELEASE

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SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT NOW OFFERS ONLINE ABILITY TO PAY TOOL FOR INFRACTIONS

Stockton, CA — As part of the San Joaquin County Superior Court's ongoing effort to increase access to justice, the court became the newest California court to begin using MyCitations: an online option for people struggling to pay fines related to infractions.

In October 2016, the U.S. Department of Justice "Price of Justice Initiative" grant, was awarded to the Judicial Council of California. Grant funds were used for development and implementation of the MyCitations: Ability to Pay Tool to be used by all courts in California.

The tool is currently available in 14 counties with additional courts offering the tool in the coming months. The tool allows court users to look up citations online, answer a series of simple questions and submit a request to the court for a possible reduction in the amount owed based on their financial situation. Users can also request a payment plan, more time to pay, or community service.

This new option saves both time and resources, and allows the public to make requests without the need to appear in court. A link to the MyCitations tool can be found on the court's website or reached directly at <u>https://mycitations.courts.ca.gov</u>.

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