

Plea by Mail Form

COURT I.D.

PREFIX

TICKET / COMPLAINT NO.

Municipal Court

PLEA BY MAIL (R. 7:12-3 and R. 7:6-3)

Charge: _____ NOTE: This form may only be used to enter a plea for one charge, i.e., one charge per form. Please complete all sections of this form and return it to the court by _____. If you fail to return the enclosed form by the date listed, you may be required to personally appear in court to resolve your case.

State of New Jersey

vs.

Defendant's Name: _____

FIRST

M.I.

LAST

Defendant's

Defendant's

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Section 1. Reason for Hardship

I am the defendant in this case and certify that it would be an undue hardship for me to come to court for the following reason(s):

(Continue on the back of this form, or use additional sheets, if necessary. You must date and sign each additional sheet.)

Section 2. Advisement and Plea Instructions

This form may only be used to plead not guilty or guilty in traffic or parking cases or guilty in non-traffic cases.

I have been fully informed of my right to a reasonable postponement. I give up my right to have an attorney, to apply for a public defender, and to remain silent. I also give up my right to be present at the trial and to cross-examine any witnesses.

I understand that if I plead guilty or the judge finds me guilty for an offense, other than parking, a record of the conviction may be sent to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and, if my license was not issued by New Jersey, to the motor vehicle agency of the state that issued my driver's license.

I understand that the judgment of the court will be sent to me by ordinary mail at the above address and that if I plead guilty or am found guilty, I must pay all fines, penalties and costs imposed by the court. If I plead not guilty and I am found guilty or if I disagree with the sentence, I may appeal my case or I may appeal the sentence within 20 days of the date of the decision or sentence. Information on how to appeal the municipal court's decision may be obtained from the municipal court or the Judiciary's website at www.njcourtsonline.com.

If I plead "Not Guilty," the judge will hear the testimony of the complaining witness or other witnesses, review the facts I present below in my defense, and decide the case based on the testimony and facts presented.

If I plead "Guilty," the judge will consider the facts I present below to explain what happened before imposing any penalty against me.

Before determining the penalty, the judge may consider comments from the complaining witness, other witnesses or from the prosecutor.

Section 3. Plea

FOR TRAFFIC OR PARKING CASES ONLY (please check one):

FOR NON-TRAFFIC CASES ONLY (please check):

I plead "Not Guilty" to the above charge

I plead "Guilty" to the above charge

I plead "Guilty" to the above charge

I present the following facts in defense or explanation:

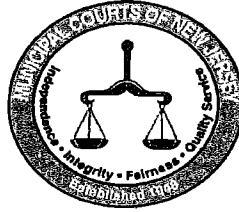
(Continue on the back of this form, or use additional sheets, if necessary. You must date and sign each additional sheet.)

Section 4. Certification

I have read and acknowledged the above. I agree and certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are wilfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Date

Defendant's Signature



Under R. 7:12-3, use of the Plea by Mail form is permitted in all traffic and parking cases except:

- (a) Those traffic offenses or parking offenses that require the imposition of a mandatory loss of driving privileges on conviction;
- (b) Those involving an accident that resulted in personal injury to anyone other than the defendant;
- (c) Those related to non-traffic matters that are not resolved; and
- (d) Any other offense when excusing the defendant's appearance in municipal court would not be in the interest of justice.

Under R. 7:6-3 the Plea by Mail form may be used to enter a plea of guilty in non-traffic and non-parking cases, except:

- (a) Cases involving the imposition of a mandatory term of incarceration on conviction, unless defendant is currently incarcerated and the mandatory term of incarceration would be served concurrently, and would not extend the period of incarceration;
- (b) Cases involving an issue as to the identity of the defendant;
- (c) Cases involving acts of domestic violence;
- (d) Cases where the prosecution intends to seek the imposition of a custodial term in the event of a conviction, unless defendant is currently incarcerated, and the proposed term of incarceration would not extend the period of incarceration and would be served concurrently; and
- (d) Any other case where excusing the defendant's appearance in municipal court would not be in the interest of justice.