

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council - Commissioner's Court Meeting	Item ID	34805	Agenda Number	39.
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Meeting Date:	9/25/2014	Department:	Municipal Court
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Subject

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Section 1-3-4 to require the printed name of the non-peace officer issuing a citation instead of a signature.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Rebecca Stark, Clerk of the Municipal Court, (512) 974-4690
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

City Code § 1-3-4(7) pertaining to non-peace officers being authorized to write citations under specified conditions requires the **signature** of the person writing the citation. This is not a requirement for peace officers writing citations in state law. The name of the officer must be given but not an actual signature. The non-peace officer's name legibly printed on the citation should be sufficient.

Some advantages are:

- (1) Hand held ticket writers, which are becoming more and more widespread, can easily print the name of the officer logging into the device. But to also collect a signature, the current software in the handheld ticket writer would have to be modified to store the officer's signature.
- (2) Paper citations will continue to be used where they are a more efficient use of resources. Cursive signatures are often difficult to read and a printed name would be preferable.
- (3) In this technological age, printed names are becoming more and more acceptable, especially when the person has a personal password as is the case with handheld ticket writers.

The Law Department has favorably reviewed the proposal.