

THE SAN FRANCISCO FINANCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT



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S A N F R A N C I S C O



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A first-in-the-nation
countywide effort to
alleviate the inequitable
burden of financial
penalties on struggling
San Franciscans.



FINANCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT

Accomplishments to Date



Launched **payment plan & community service** options for low-income people who receive **parking citations**



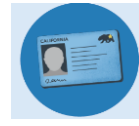
Cut towing fees in half for low-income people



Reduced boot removal fees by 80% for low-income people



Created new ability to pay process with the San Francisco Traffic Court to allow low-income people to apply for discounts



Cleared 88,000 holds on driver's licenses for people who missed a traffic court date



Allow people struggling with homelessness to **resolve quality of life citations** by receiving social services instead of fine



Eliminated water shutoff fees, which originally totaled \$110



Eliminated criminal justice administrative fees and waived \$33 million in debt owed by 21,000 people



Eliminated overdue library fines, and waived \$1.5 million in debt stemming from overdue fines



Announced SF would make **phone calls from county jail free**; stop marking up items in jail store



Launched **San Francisco Museums for All** - allows free entry to museums with a public benefits card



Conducted pilot to **eliminate government-owed child support debt for 32 parents**, so all their future payments would go to their kids.



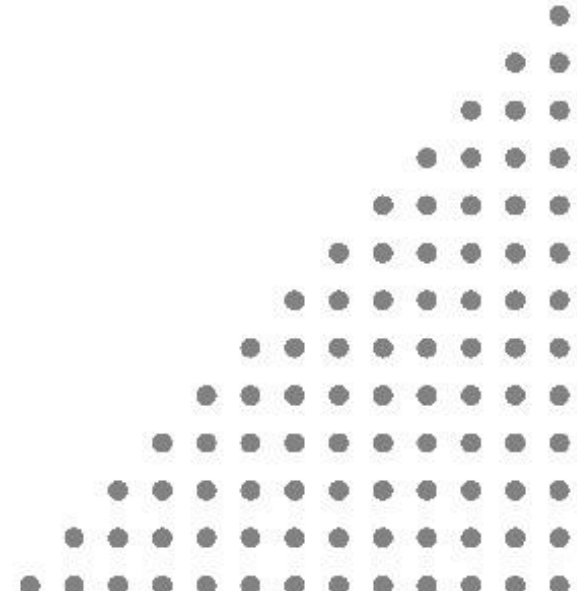
Authored report calling for **reform to money bail system in San Francisco and statewide**



Developed and advanced statewide legislative reforms



A deeper dive:

- Quality of Life Citations
 - Traffic Tickets
 - Driver's License Suspensions
- 

THE CONNECT PROGRAM



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About the **CONNECT Program**

Through the Connection to Services (CONNECT) program, homeless or at risk homeless individuals may be eligible to have certain quality of life citations dismissed by receiving help from an approved social services provider.

The consequences that result from these citations can create barriers to employment and housing. Unpaid citations - and the added on \$300 civil assessments for missing court dates - can add up to court debt that can make it hard to secure housing, and can limit access to some supportive programming.

This program allows homeless individuals get the assistance they need, and frees up needed resources at the courts and the District Attorney's office.

See the attached instructions and Frequently Asked Questions for more information. For additional information, visit: sfdistrictattorney.org/CONNECT-program

Allows people struggling with homelessness to resolve quality of life citations by receiving social services, instead of paying a fine.

For more information, visit:

sfdistrictattorney.org/CONNECT-program

TRAFFIC TICKETS

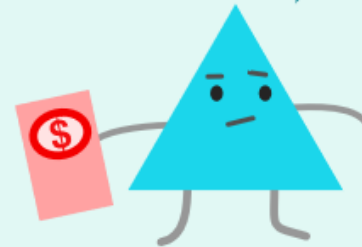
Ability to Pay in San Francisco Traffic Court

If you cannot afford to pay your ticket, you have a right to ask the traffic clerk or judge to consider your financial circumstances.

The court will look at your financial information, and then will decide whether to:

1. **Reduce** Your Fine, and/or
2. Offer you **Community Service**, and/or
3. Offer you an Affordable **Payment Plan**

I can't afford to pay for my traffic ticket.



DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSIONS



If your driver's license was suspended for failing to appear in the San Francisco Traffic Court, you may be able to get your license back.

The City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco Superior Court worked together to remove driver's license suspensions for up to 88,000 people who failed to appear in San Francisco Traffic Court. People who had their license suspended for failure to appear in traffic court can now go to the DMV and request to have their driver's license reinstated.

TOWING FEES & POTENTIAL NEW DISCOUNTS

The SFMTA Board of Directors will be considering additional fine and fee discounts at their **board meeting tomorrow, March 3rd at 1:00 at SF City Hall.**

Current Tow Discounts	Proposed Additional Discounts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low-income tow fee: \$238<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fee waiver for 4 days of storage fees, flatbed, dolly fees, etc.• First-time tow fee: \$450• Repeat tow fee: \$537	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New, additional discount for people struggling with homelessness.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced fee of \$100 fee for customers certified by Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing• Increase storage waiver for low-income clients from 4 days to 15 days (Currently \$52 a day)

THANK YOU!

Contact Us!

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sftreasurer.org/financial-justice-project



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**Can't Afford to
Pay Your Fine,
Fee, or Ticket in
San Francisco?**

San Francisco Fine and Fee
Discounts for Low-Income People