

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1393

By: Paulk

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to cities and towns; amending 11 O.S. 1991, Section 28-113, which relates to prosecutions in municipal criminal courts of record; authorizing governing bodies for municipalities having courts of record to prescribe a schedule of fines; permitting defendants to pay fine in lieu of appearance before the court; providing that such payment constitutes final determination of the cause against the defendant; amending 11 O.S. 1991, Section 28-123, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 265, O.S.L. 1993 (11 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 28-123), which relates to sentences imposed in municipal criminal courts of record; extending time for which a judge of a municipal criminal court of record may continue or delay imposing judgment and sentence; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 1991, Section 28-113, is amended to read as follows:

Section 28-113. A. All prosecutions commenced in a municipal criminal court of record shall be by information, pursuant to Section 16-108 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for traffic offenses and by information as in the district courts in other cases, which shall be subscribed by the person making complaint and shall be verified before a judge, the court clerk, or a deputy court clerk. All prosecutions for the violation of municipal ordinances shall be styled, "The City of _____ (naming the municipality) vs. _____ (naming the person or persons charged)".

B. Upon receipt of a traffic ticket or complaint by the court clerk, other than a traffic ticket which has been signed by the arrested person as a plea of guilty, the court clerk shall either

prepare a copy of the ticket or complaint and deliver the original or duplicate original to the municipal attorney, or record the ticket on a list maintained in the clerk's office and deliver the ticket to the municipal attorney for his disposition. After disposition of the ticket by the municipal attorney, the name shall be removed from the list by the court clerk. A traffic ticket or complaint that is certified by the arresting officer, the complainant, or the municipal attorney, shall constitute an information against the person arrested and served with the traffic ticket or complaint. The ticket or complaint shall be endorsed by the municipal attorney before it is filed with the court clerk; except if the person arrested and served with a traffic ticket or complaint either at the time he is arrested or at a subsequent time shall indicate in writing on the ticket or complaint, above his signature, that he elects to plead guilty to the violation charged, the traffic ticket or complaint shall be filed with the court clerk, as an information, without the endorsement of the municipal attorney, and it shall be the duty of the court clerk to notify the municipal attorney as to the fact of such filing.

C. The municipal governing body, by ordinance, may prescribe a schedule of fines which a defendant may pay in lieu of an appearance before the municipal court, and such payment shall constitute a final determination of the cause against the defendant.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 1991, Section 28-123, as amended by Section 2, Chapter 265, O.S.L. 1993 (11 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 28-123), is amended to read as follows:

Section 28-123. A. All sentences of imprisonment shall be executed by the chief of police of the city, and any person convicted of a violation of any ordinance of the city and sentenced to imprisonment shall be confined in the jail, farm or workhouse, of the city, in the discretion of the court, for the time specified in the sentence. All persons who shall be convicted in the court of

violation of any ordinance of the city and sentenced to pay a fine and costs, who shall refuse to pay such fine or costs, shall be imprisoned in the jail of the city for one (1) day for each Two Dollars (\$2.00) of the fine and costs assessed.

B. The judge of the municipal criminal court of record imposing a judgment and sentence, at his discretion, is empowered to modify, reduce, or suspend or defer the imposition of such sentence or any part thereof and to authorize probation for a period not to exceed six (6) months from the date of sentence, under such terms or conditions as the judge may specify. Upon completion of the probation term following a deferred sentence, the defendant shall be discharged without a court judgment of guilt, and the verdict, judgment of guilty or plea of guilty shall be expunged from the record and said charge be dismissed with prejudice to any further action. Upon a finding of the court that the conditions of probation have been violated, the municipal judge may enter a judgment of guilty.

C. The judge of the municipal court of record may continue or delay imposing a judgment and sentence for a period of time not to exceed ~~six (6) months~~ one (1) year from the date of sentence. At the expiration of such period of time the judge may allow the city attorney to amend the charge to a lesser offense.

D. If a deferred sentence is imposed, an administrative fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) may be imposed as costs in the case.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 1999.

47-1-6004 SD 6/12/15